



## **Support Local Control of Cigarette Sales! Vote Yes on House Bill 15-1257**

### **The Challenge**

- Cigarettes are the deadliest consumer product in the world today, resulting in thousands of deaths in Colorado and hundreds of thousands of men and women dying in the U.S. each year.
- Tobacco use is the number one preventable cause of death in our state and nation, costing billions in health care treatment and lost productivity in the work place.
- Why then does current Colorado state law protect cigarette sales?
- Local communities in Colorado – cities, towns, and counties – seeking to require a license to sell cigarettes, contemplating a fee on cigarette products sold there, or considering a tax on cigarettes via the TABOR process, would face a stiff financial penalty for doing so.

### **The Solution – Remove One Sentence From State Law**

- Remove one outmoded sentence from state law that discourages local communities from enabling strict enforcement against cigarette sales to minors and raising the price of cigarettes, leading to reduced cigarette use by minors.
- The sentence protecting cigarette sales in Colorado is located in C.R.S. 39-22-623 (a)(II)(A), and reads “In order to qualify for distributions of state income tax moneys, units of local government are prohibited from imposing fees, licenses, or taxes on any person as a condition for engaging in the business of selling cigarettes or from attempting in any manner to impose a tax on cigarettes.”

### **Here’s Why**

- Local governments are flexible and responsive in dealing with emerging tobacco products and finding innovative solutions when it comes to tobacco control.
- Local governments are closer to the community and have been very effective in addressing the problem of tobacco use by minors.
- Local enforcement agencies are easily accessible.
- Local residents have a higher level of awareness of local ordinances, leading to higher compliance rates.

**The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network respectfully asks that you support House Bill 15-1257 and enable effective local cigarette and other tobacco product control in Colorado.**

**Organizations Supporting  
Local Control of Cigarettes  
HB15-1257**

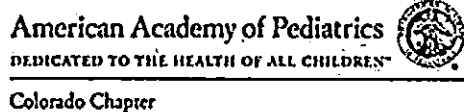
**American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**  
**Colorado – Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids**  
**Denver Health**  
**The City & County of Denver**  
**Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO)**  
**The Colorado Tobacco Education and Prevention Alliance (CTEPA)**  
**American Heart Association**  
**American Stroke Association**  
**Colorado Academy of Family Physicians**  
**Colorado Dental Association**  
**Colorado Children's Hospital**  
**Preventing Addiction Caused by Tobacco (P.A.C.T.)**  
**American Academy of Pediatrics, Colorado Chapter**  
**American Lung Association**  
**Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment**  
**Healthier Colorado**  
**Group to Alleviate Smoke Pollution (GASP) of Colorado**  
**Advanced Health Directions**  
**National Stroke Association**  
**Denver Public Health**



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**CALPHO**  
Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials



**COLORADO**  
Department of Public  
Health & Environment

