

THE LAYFTC POST

CA passed a bill to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products

On August 28, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill 793 into law, prohibiting retailers from selling or possessing flavored tobacco products with the intent to sell. SB 793 was introduced in response to the skyrocketing number of teenage vapers, the increase in marijuana vape-related deaths, and increased concerns over respiratory health due to COVID-19. The bill was passed with the objective of promoting health equity and preventing tobacco addiction among youth. The ban included flavored juices, menthol cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and flavored cigarillos, but excluded hookah and premium cigars. The bill will come to effect on January 1, 2021.

California is a prime example of a state that has taken efforts to reduce youth-access to tobacco products by passing policies that restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products and e-cigarettes. Hopefully, more states, cities, and counties will join California in the effort to protect youth from tobacco-related health complications.

However, the fight is not over, because tobacco companies have submitted a referendum to nullify the law to the Attorney General's Office. If this referendum qualifies for the ballot, SB 793 will be suspended until the referendum vote in the November 8th 2022 general election.



On August 28th of 2020, Governor Newsom signed SB 973 via Zoom



Orange Coast College announced it will be a 100% Smoke-Free Campus starting Fall 2020

By Michael Jung

On September 7, 2020, Orange Coast College (OCC), a community college in Orange County, implemented a new smoke- and tobacco-free policy on its campus. The new policy prohibited all tobacco- and smoking-related products on the OCC campus, including the parking lots and student housing. In 2018, OCC created its Smoke and Tobacco Free Task Force in response to receiving a letter grade "F" on the CYAN Smoke- and Tobacco-Free Policy Report Card. In a study conducted by OCC, one third of students and one third of faculty mentioned that they faced immediate health effects from second-hand smoke on campus such as coughing or asthma attacks. The goal of the task force was to protect the health of students, faculty, and staff from tobacco-related harms by ultimately pushing for a non-smoking policy. Ultimately, a 100% smoke-free policy was successfully passed at OCC with the help of the OCC Smoke and Tobacco Free Task Force and campus community support.

Hopefully, moving forward, OCC can develop a strategic plan in maintaining a 100% smoke-free campus as well as achieving a letter grade "A" from the CYAN Smoke- and Tobacco-Free Policy Report Card.



**Member
Highlight:
Song Yi Baik**



Hi, my name is Song Yi Baik. I am looking forward to working with LAYFTC to make a better community for our future. I think being part of LAYFTC is a great opportunity to learn about the importance of drug prevention for teens. I believe we can make changes in LA by spreading awareness and bringing action to flavored tobacco products targeting youths.



**Resources and
Articles**

[Identifying Which Products
Teens are Vaping](#)

[Adopting Tobacco-Free Policies
on Campuses](#)

[How to Stay Smoke-Free](#)

[How to Support Your Quitter](#)



BENEFITS OF A SMOKE-FREE POLICY ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES

1 Reduce tobacco use among young adults

Tobacco- and Smoke-free policies being implemented on college campuses have decreased the number of college smokers. According to a 2016 study sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the past 30 cigarette use among college students fell from 16% in 2010 to 9% in 2016.

Past 30 day cigarette use among College Students



2 Educate students about tobacco and its health effects

Presenting a smoke- & tobacco-free policy will present opportunities to educate the campus community on tobacco-related harms and health effects. For example, Truth Initiative partnered with several colleges in the Truth Finish Flavors Tour to raise awareness of the health impact of flavored tobacco products, marketing techniques used by tobacco companies to lure youth, and the movement to push 100% smoke-free policy on campus. From the tour, over 4,000 students learned about tobacco-related issues and signed a petition to restrict the sale of menthol cigarettes at live events.



3 Obtain economic & environmental benefits

With 4.5 trillion cigarette butts littered annually, implementing a tobacco- & smoke-free policy will not only reduce cigarette litter but also the risk of fire on campuses. In addition, as cities usually spend between \$3 million and \$16 million on cigarette clean-up annually, the policies will save money for colleges by cutting maintenance costs.

