

FDA Public Commenting Resources

The public may provide comments on proposed FDA rules prohibiting [menthol cigarettes](#) and [flavored cigars](#) through July 5. FDA will also hold its virtual [two-day listening session](#) on the proposed rules to prohibit menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars on Monday, June 13 and Wednesday, June 15. **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** has provided the following background materials and talking points to guide public commenting.

- [Template Comments in Support of Proposed Rule to Prohibit Flavored Cigars](#)
- [Support Removing Flavored Cigars from the Market to Protect Kids](#)
- [Template Comments in Support of Proposed Rule to Prohibit Menthol Cigarettes](#)
- [Support Removing Menthol Cigarettes from the Market: FDA Action Will Protect Kids, Save Lives, and Advance Health Equity](#)
- [Talking Points in Support of Proposed Rules to Prohibit Menthol Cigarettes and Flavored Cigars](#)

2022 TCN Policy Recommendations Now Available!

We are pleased to provide you with the [2022 TCN Policy Recommendations Guide](#). This guide offers tobacco control programs, coalitions, and decision makers evidence-based policies and emerging strategies to move our nation forward in ending the tobacco epidemic. It additionally provides **(1)** guiding principles for advancing tobacco control policies and for working with tribal nations and **(2)** a summary of the changing tobacco control landscape, including the youth e-cigarette epidemic, information on health disparities and health equity, the roadblock of policy preemption, and addressing related issues such as marijuana, e-cigarette or vaping use-associated lung injury (EVALI), and COVID-19.

The twice monthly **TCN News** provides a concise digest of tobacco control announcements to the Tobacco Control Network's membership base of tobacco control program managers and additional staff from each state, territory, and D.C., as well as our valued partners.

Upcoming Events

[Lung Cancer Screening Implementation Guide](#) – North American Quitline Consortium Webinar
June 8, 2-4:30 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Livestream Training and Certification](#) – Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Center Virtual Event
June 7-9 | *Registration Required*

[How Advocates can use the Convention on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination \(CERD\) to Further Local Tobacco Control](#) – Action on Smoking & Health Webinar
June 9, 12 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Listening Sessions: FDA's Recently Proposed Tobacco Product Standards](#) – FDA Virtual Event
June 13, 10 a.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Engagement and Innovation Strategies for Youth Substance Use Prevention Messaging](#) – National Council for Mental Wellbeing Webinar
June 14, 1:30-2:30 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[When Quitting Adds Up:](#)

NCTOH Ancillary Meetings Calendar

If you're hosting an ancillary meeting at NCTOH or are aware of one that we're not listing, let us know about it at tcn@astho.org.

[NTCP Technical Assistance Meeting](#) – CDC Office on Smoking & Health
June 27, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. CT

Program Managers and Evaluators Meeting – CDC Office on Smoking & Health
June 27, 8:30-11:30 a.m. CT

Media Network Meeting – CDC Office on Smoking & Health
June 27, 1-4:30 p.m. CT

[Coordinator Camp 2022](#) – Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids & Truth Initiative
June 27, 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. CT

[The Case Against Menthol](#) – The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council
June 27, 1:00-5:00 p.m. CT

Tobacco Control Program Manager Networking Luncheon – TCN
June 28, 12:15-1:45 p.m. CT

[Tobacco Retailer Advanced Compliance \(TRAC\) Training Information Session](#) – ASH Canada
June 30, 12:30-1:30 p.m. CT

Happy Anniversary!

In the first newsletter of each month, TCN recognizes anniversaries of state and territorial tobacco program managers to thank them for their leadership in tobacco control and public health more broadly. Thank you and congratulations to the following program managers!

- **Lisa Moore (DE)** – 23 years.
- **Vicki Huntington (WI)** – 15 years.

[Tobacco Cessation and Quality Measures](#) – American Lung Association
Webinar
June 14, 2 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Listening Sessions: FDA's Recently Proposed Tobacco Product Standards](#) – FDA
Virtual Event
June 15, 10 a.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[Public Private Partnerships for Quitline Sustainability](#) – North American Quitline Consortium
Webinar
June 15, 3-5:30 p.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[How to Support Clients and Your Organization to Become Commercial Tobacco-Free](#) – QuitlineNC
Webinar
June 22, 9 a.m. ET
| *Registration Required*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes
New Orleans
June 28-30 | *Registration Required*

[Comment Period Open: FDA Proposed Rules Prohibiting Menthol Cigarettes](#) – FDA
Deadline: July 5

[Comment Period Open: Tobacco Product Standard for Characterizing Flavors in Cigars](#) – FDA
Deadline: July 5

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist Livestream Training and Certification](#) – Mayo Clinic Nicotine Dependence Center
Virtual Event
Sept. 20-22 | *Registration Required*

- **Ermion Pierre (ME)** – 2 years.

Help Your Peers Request

Facebook Live to Promote Tobacco Cessation

Deadline: June 21

North Carolina is preparing to use Facebook Live to promote tobacco cessation from our Facebook page. Do any states have experience using Facebook Live and any tips to share?

Partner Announcements

- **FDA [announced](#)** the availability and location of newly released data files from the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study, including the Wave 5.5 Special Collection data collected from youth participants ages 13-19 between July and December 2020 and the PATH Study Adult Telephone Survey collected between September and December 2020 from adult participants ages 20 and older.
- The following announcements are from **Truth Initiative**:
 - Truth Initiative [reports](#) that tobacco companies have spent millions on ads to reposition their corporate image as aligned with public health despite policies many publishers have in place that prohibit tobacco-sponsored content.
 - Truth Initiative [shares](#) that the tobacco industry has fueled false claims that eliminating menthol will lead to further criminalization of Black Americans.
 - EX Program [explains](#) why light smoking is still associated with health risks, with

[3rd National Menthol Conference](#) – The African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council
Washington, D.C.
Sept. 28-30 | *Registration Required*

[3rd International Symposium to Advance Total Worker Health®](#) – NIOSH and the Center for Health, Work & Environment
Bethesda, MD
Oct. 11-14

[Agents of Change Summit 2023](#) – Rescue Agency
San Diego, CA
March 6-7, 2023

[3rd Annual Nicotine Dependence Center Conference](#) – Mayo Clinic
Phoenix, AZ
March 27-28, 2023
| *Registration Required*

Funding Opportunities

If you know of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please send those to us at tcn@astho.org.

Job Listings

[Communications Specialist](#)
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Madison, WI

[Research Project Coordinator](#)
Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, MO

[Program Director](#)
Policy + System Change Network
Aurora, CO

research showing a 72% higher mortality for nondaily smokers compared to those who've never smoked.

- **Action on Smoking & Health, African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council, the American Medical Association, and the National Medical Association** [released](#) a joint statement announcing that they are dismissing their lawsuit against FDA in light of menthol rulemaking process.
- **Public Health Law Center** [released](#) an updated resource summarizes results of a 50-state scan of state laws requiring that mental health and substance abuse treatment facilities have tobacco-free grounds.
- **Action on Smoking & Health** [highlights](#) how the EU, France, and some U.S. jurisdictions are utilizing environmental policy to reduce the harms of tobacco on the environment.
- A new **CityHealth** and **Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids** report [outlines](#) how the tobacco industry uses flavored products to attract youth and first-time users and how city leaders can take action to end the sale of these harmful products.
- **World Health Organization** [highlights](#) the tobacco industry's destructive greenwashing tactics and shows how to restrict practices affecting the environment through policy measures and awareness raising campaigns.
- **Nuestras Voces (Our Voices) Network** [developed](#) infographics based on key findings and the factors that influence youth tobacco product use among U.S. middle school (grades 6–8) and high school (grades 9–12) students, indicating that youth tobacco use remains a serious public health concern and disparities persist among subgroups, including Hispanic youth.

[Regional Manager, Region II](#)

The Louisiana Campaign for Tobacco-Free Living
Baton Rouge, LA

[Senior Tobacco Control](#)

[Evaluator](#)

Professional Data Analysts
Minneapolis, MN (remote)

About the Tobacco Control Network

The TCN's mission is to improve the public's health by providing education and state-based expertise to tobacco prevention and control at the state and national levels.

The TCN is a network of tobacco program managers and staff from state and territorial health departments as well as Funder's Alliance organizations, and a peer group of the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) on behalf of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health.

About ASTHO

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit association representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating

- **ChangeLab Solutions** [released](#) its final installment of training on administrative law which explains best practices for health departments in issuing permits and licenses, conducting investigations and inspections, and enforcing public health laws.

and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.



Forward to Friend

State News

- The full Ninth Circuit [declined](#) to reconsider a panel's March decision backing a Los Angeles County, **California** ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products, declining a bid from R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. and two other companies for an en banc rehearing.
- Voters in Washington County, **Oregon** [elected](#) to uphold a ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products.
- Governor Stitt of **Oklahoma** [signed](#) into a law a bill that eliminates the fines for minors under the age of 21 who purchase, receive, or possess tobacco products.

In the News

- An *Insider* article [reports](#) how one tobacco giant — Reynolds American — is spreading millions of dollars to hundreds of state-level political candidates and political action committees.
- An *Essence* article [shares](#) the profound effect the tobacco industry's marketing of menthol cigarettes has had on the health of Black communities, through the eyes of one family.
- A *Medical Xpress* article [highlights](#) a finding that individuals who use e-cigarettes are inhaling

synthetic cooling agents at a rate the World Health Organization considers unsafe.

Research

- A *Circulation* longitudinal analysis of Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health study data from 2013 to 2019 [found](#) that exclusive e-cigarette use was associated with fewer cardiovascular disease incidents than exclusive cigarette smoking, with no difference observed between exclusive e-cigarette use and dual use.
 - An analysis of web-based survey data published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [found](#) that among adult smokers with socioeconomic disadvantage, cigarettes smoked per day increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially among adults who were unemployed during the pandemic or who reported higher levels of anxiety.
 - A *Tobacco Control* analysis of 2015 to 2018 National Health Interview Survey data [concluded](#) that current exclusive and dual/poly use of e-cigarettes were associated with increased odds of reporting poor health status, and thus increased healthcare consumption and expenditures, compared to those who never used tobacco products.
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