



Conference of Local Health Officials

## **CLHO Health Promotion & Prevention Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, March 6, 2025

1:00 – 2:00 PM

### **Zoom Meeting**

#### **Summary**

##### **Program Overview:**

- Discussion regarding a proposed change to the tobacco retail license inspection protocol (Program Element 76).
- The change is focused on ensuring consistency in data collection during tobacco retail inspections.

##### **Proposed Change:**

- The focus is on the "minimum legal sales age inspection" section, which involves young adult inspectors attempting to purchase tobacco products.
- Specifically, the request is to remove the wording "asked for the young adult inspector's age and/or ID" from the inspection protocol.
- The goal is to simplify data collection and avoid confusion between asking for age versus asking for ID, as both are currently being captured under one question.

##### **Rationale:**

- Consistency in data collection is essential, particularly for legal and court purposes.
- The focus should be on whether the retailer is consistently asking for ID, as this is the key factor in compliance.

##### **Additional Discussion:**

- Some clarification around why age is not being tracked was provided retailers are not required to ask for age, but they must always ask for ID if the customer appears under 30 years old.
  - The program aims to standardize how inspections are recorded and ensure the law is being followed.
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### Q&A Section

**Q:** Why not add a second question to differentiate asking for age versus ID?

- **A:** Initially, the program attempted to collect both pieces of data but has since determined that only asking for ID is necessary. The age question adds unnecessary complexity.

**Q:** What if the retailer asks for the age and not the ID?

- **A:** The young adult inspectors are trained to respond truthfully when asked their age but must provide their ID if asked. The program's data collection focuses on whether the retailer asks for the ID, which is required by law.

**Q:** Is there any concern about instances where the young adult inspector discloses their age, and the retailer denies the sale based on that?

- **A:** The program operates under the law, which states that anyone who appears under the age of 30 must be asked for ID. If the retailer does not ask for ID after receiving age information, it is considered a violation, and this data is captured in the program.

**Q:** Why isn't there a push to gather data on sales continuing despite the inspector's age being under the legal age?

- **A:** The protocol already captures this data indirectly. If the retailer asks for the ID and still proceeds with the sale, that will be reflected in the inspection data.

**Q:** What is the core purpose of this change?

- **A:** The core purpose is to align the inspection protocol with the law by ensuring that retailers are consistently asked to check IDs, regardless of what the customer says about their age. The goal is to improve consistency and legal compliance during inspections.

### Voting Decision:

- **Motion:** A motion was made by Jessica to remove "age and/or" from Section 7 of the protocol.
- **Seconded by:** Sarah.
- **Vote:** The motion passed unanimously with no objections or abstentions. The change will proceed to the next stage for approval.

### Sarah Lochner Summary:

#### Context:

- Sarah provided an update regarding her involvement in the Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission (ADPC) in Salem, Oregon.



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- She is seeking feedback on a letter draft that she will submit for public comment at the ADPC's upcoming meeting.
- The purpose of the letter is to advocate for local public health to have a seat on the commission, especially since the body may be tasked with creating a state strategy for primary drug prevention.

**Key Points from the Letter:**

- The ADPC is considering the creation of an inventory and strategy for primary prevention, and Sarah is advocating for public health's involvement due to its experience and expertise.
- The letter includes data from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) showing that 54% of ADPEP recipients and 94% of TPP recipients are local public health entities.
- There is mention of counties (Curry and Malheur) that have contracted with nonprofits for certain programs due to a loss of public health authority in those areas.
- Sarah intends to submit the letter as part of her testimony, with the rest of the letter being submitted for the written record.

**Feedback Requested:**

- Sarah asked for feedback and suggestions to strengthen the letter. She is particularly looking for ideas on how to make the case for local public health's importance stronger and more convincing.

**Additional Context:**

- The ADPC meeting is on Monday, with public comment occurring during the first 30 minutes.
- Sarah will be giving her testimony during that time and invited others to join as backup.

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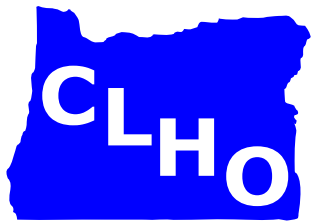
**Q&A Section**

**Q:** Can we include a reference to the LUND report?

- **A:** Jessica suggested including the recent LUND report on primary drug prevention in Oregon schools, emphasizing the expertise local public health brings to the delivery of evidence-based practices.

**Q:** Is a motion needed for this?

- **A:** No motion is needed. The discussion was part of coalition business, and Sarah was simply seeking feedback from the group.



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**Q:** Should we include the number of overdose prevention coordinators?

- **A:** Tatiana suggested including the number of overdose prevention program coordinators, which Sarah agreed would be a helpful data point.

**Q:** Can you share your screen?

- **A:** Sarah initially didn't share her screen but later acknowledged the request and began sharing it.

**Q:** Any final thoughts?

- The group expressed positive feedback via chat. Sarah was thanked for sharing the letter draft, and others were encouraged to email any additional thoughts or suggestions as soon as possible.

**Federal Changes Impacting Work:** A couple of key challenges were raised, such as the uncertain status of grants, lack of access to online portals, and difficulties in reaching federal liaisons.

**Legislative Updates:**

- **Senate Bill 702** (Tobacco Flavor Ban) had a successful hearing, and the advocates feel confident about its passage. The bill aims to minimize revenue impact by delaying the implementation of the ban until 2027.
- **House Bill 2954** (Primary Prevention Bill) has seen some movement, but there's still uncertainty regarding the rollout of the alcohol tax bill and its exemptions, especially concerning small breweries.

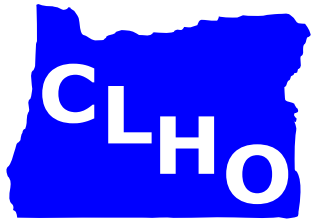
**Challenges in Legislative Hearings:** There was a contentious hearing on House Bill 2528 (OHA's tobacco loopholes bill), where some legislators raised concerns about the breadth of the proposed rulemaking authority. This bill aims to regulate flavored tobacco products and new nicotine products.

**Alcohol Taxation and Public Health:** The discussion around an alcohol tax to fund prevention programs continues. There's some debate on how much revenue it will generate and how to effectively design the tax, with the concern about small breweries being carved out of the tax.

**Data on Binge Drinking and Alcohol:** There was an interesting discussion around binge drinking across different age groups. Some questioned whether age-specific targeting is the best approach when binge drinking can occur across a wide spectrum of age groups.

**Logistics and Housekeeping:**

- There were some technical issues with the Zoom links being circulated but are being addressed for future meetings.



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- A change in staff was mentioned, with Rachel temporarily filling in but handing over responsibilities to a new team member soon.
- There was also a discussion about a potential update on substance use and cessation initiatives from the Oregon Health Authority, but due to capacity issues, that will be delayed to the next meeting.