

NORTH DAKOTA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2021

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Leg 1: Comprehensive Statewide Tobacco Prevention Program

States that have made larger funding investments in comprehensive tobacco control programs have seen larger declines in tobacco use rates among youth and adults.

Leg 2: Strong Smoke-Free Air Laws

There is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke, including cigars. There is indisputable evidence that 100% smoke-free environments is THE ONLY EFFECTIVE WAY to protect the public from harmful effects of SHS.

Leg 3: Strong Tobacco Taxes

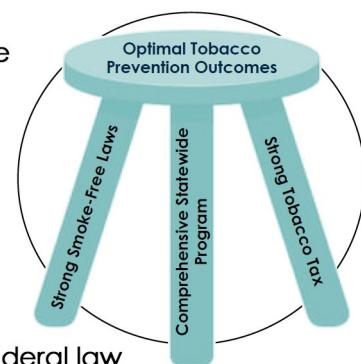
The U.S. Surgeon general has called raising the prices on tobacco products "one of the most effective tobacco control interventions.

ND's current tax rate (44 cents/pack) was last raised in 1993, and is ranked 49th in the US.

E-cigarettes are currently NOT TAXED as a tobacco product.

Additional Leg of the stool: Tobacco 21

Aligning state and local MLSA laws with the federal law would allow for more local enforcement.



NDPHA supports continued funding for tobacco prevention and control, preserving the current ND Smoke Free Law, and increasing the price of all tobacco products.

Resources to support the fight against COVID-19 and protect citizens through public health measures. We need to shore up public health infrastructure to respond to the many actions we do each day to protect citizens and to respond to public health emergencies like viral pandemics.

Public health needs personnel and resources for planning, coordination, workforce, training, outreach and communications.

NDPHA supports resources to support the fight against COVID-19 and protect citizens through public health measures

Breastfeeding benefits infants and mothers.

Policies that support breastfeeding benefit businesses, too. State law currently includes language that is subjective; remove language so that it is clear that mothers can provide nourishment for their infants in public.

NDPHA continues to support clearly written laws that support breastfeeding mothers.



TOBACCO PREVENTION

COVID-19 RESOURCES

BREAST FEEDING



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LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Currently, North Dakota residents who are living with HIV who know their HIV status may not engage in sexual activity without disclosing their HIV status to their sex partners or they may be charged with a class A felony, but neither the intent to transmit nor actual transmission of HIV is necessary for a conviction.

PLWH have shown to have no risk of sexual transmission of HIV if their viral load is undetectable and U=U (undetectable = untransmittable) is a national campaign to bring awareness to HIV treatment is prevention and encourages early diagnosis. NDPHA, many national HIV organizations such as American Medical Association and current public health science calls for an end to discriminatory and stigmatizing HIV-specific criminal laws. North Dakota may also utilize general criminal laws or communicable disease laws to prosecute persons accused of intentionally transmitting HIV.

NDPHA opposes HIV criminalization and recommends the repeal of HIV statutes in ND that discriminate against people living with HIV (PLWH) and are not based on scientific and public health evidence of transmission and prevention of HIV.

More people die in motor vehicle crashes in North Dakota from being unbelted than other common contributing crash factors such as drunk driving, distracted driving, or speeding. ^(NDDOT)

A primary seat belt law will increase seat belt use among North Dakotans. Research shows that states that transitioned to a primary seat belt law have experienced up to a 10-12 percent increase in their observed seat belt use. ^(NHTSA)

More than 3 out of 4 people who are ejected during a fatal crash die from their injuries. Unbelted crash victims have medical bills 50 percent higher than belted crash victims. ^(NHTSA)

NDPHA supports upgrading North Dakota's current seatbelt law to primary enforcement for all occupants.

NDPHA supports continuation of Medicaid Expansion as approved by ND legislators in 2013. Medicaid Expansion provides for important, gap-filling access for services; including chronic disease management, mental health services, and addiction treatment for 22,000 low-income adults in North Dakota.



NDPHA continues to support the Medicaid Expansion Statement 2021

2021

HIV DECRIMINALIZATION



SEAT BELT UPGRADES



MEDICAID EXPANSION

