

Regulation of the Northborough Board of Health Restricting the Sale and Use of Tobacco Products

A. Statement of Purpose:

Whereas there exists conclusive evidence that tobacco smoking causes cancer, respiratory and cardiac diseases, negative birth outcomes, and irritations to the eyes, nose, and throat;¹

Whereas the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has concluded that nicotine is as addictive as cocaine or heroin² and the Surgeon General found that nicotine exposure during adolescence, a critical window for brain development, may have lasting adverse consequences for brain development and that it is the addiction to nicotine that keeps youth smoking past adolescence;³

Whereas a Federal District Court found that Phillip Morris, RJ Reynolds, and other leading cigarette manufacturers “spent billions of dollars every year on their marketing activities in order to encourage young people to try and then continue purchasing their cigarette products in order to provide the replacement smokers they need to survive” and that these companies were likely to continue targeting underage smokers;⁴

Whereas more than 80 percent of all adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 18, more than 90 percent do so before leaving their teens, and more than 3.5 million middle and high school students smoke;⁵

Whereas cigars and cigarillos, can be sold in a single “dose;” enjoy a relatively low tax as compared to cigarettes; are available in a variety of flavors, including fruit, candy, and alcohol flavors; and are popular among youth;⁶

Whereas research shows that increased cigar prices significantly decreased the probability of male adolescent cigar use and a 10% increase in cigar prices would reduce use by 3.4%;⁷

¹ Center for Disease Control and Prevention, (CDC) (2012), *Health Effects of Cigarette Smoking Fact Sheet*. Retrieved from: https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/fact_sheets/health_effects/effects_cig_smoking/

² CDC (2010), *How Tobacco Smoke Causes Disease: The Biology and Behavioral Basis for Smoking-Attributable Disease*. Retrieved from: <https://stacks.cdc.gov/view/cdc/6067>

³ *Id.* at Executive Summary p. 13. <https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/consequences-smoking-exec-summary.pdf>

⁴ *United States v. Phillip Morris, Inc., RJ Reynolds Tobacco Co., et al.*, 449 F.Supp.2d 1 (D.D.C. 2006) 1605-07

⁵ SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), Calculated based on data in 2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health and U. S. Department of Health and Human services (HHA).

⁶ CDC (2009) *Youth Risk Behavior, Surveillance Summaries* (MMWR 2010) www.cdc.gov/mmwr/pdf/ss/ss5905.pdf

⁷ Ringel, J., Wasserman, J., & Andreyeva, T. (2005) *Effects of Public Policy on Adolescents' Cigar Use: Evidence from the National Youth Tobacco Survey*. *American Journal of Public Health*, 95(6), 995-998. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1449297/.

Whereas a 2015 study showed 59% of high school smokers in Massachusetts had tried flavored cigarettes or flavored cigars and 25.6% of them were current flavored tobacco product users; and 95.1 % of 12 – 17-year-olds who smoked cigars reported smoking cigar brands that were flavored;⁸

Whereas the Surgeon General found that exposure to tobacco marketing in stores and price discounting increase youth smoking;⁹

Whereas the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Surgeon General have stated that flavored tobacco products are considered to be “starter” products that help establish smoking habits that can lead to long-term addiction;¹⁰

Whereas the U.S. Surgeon General recognized in his 2014 report that a complementary strategy to assist in eradicating tobacco-related death and disease is for local governments to ban categories of products from retail sale;¹¹

Whereas the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee concluded that menthol-flavored tobacco products increased nicotine dependence and decreased success in smoking cessation;¹²

Whereas menthol makes it easier for youth to initiate tobacco use;¹³

Whereas use of e-cigarettes among students in Massachusetts increased to 20.1%, representing a 78% increase for high schoolers and a 48% increase for middle schoolers from 2016 to 2017;¹⁴

⁸ Massachusetts Department of Public Health (2015). Delneve CD et al., Tob Control, 2014: Preference for flavored cigar brands among youth, young adults, and adults in the USA. <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/24721967/>

⁹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 2012. *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta: U.S. National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health. www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK99237/pdf/Bookshelf_NBK99237.pdf

¹⁰ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2012). *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta: U.S. National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health. [www.pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22876391/](https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/22876391/)

¹¹ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2014). *The Health Consequences of Smoking – 50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General*. Atlanta: U.S. National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr/50th-anniversary/index.htm>

¹² Stanton A. Glantz. (2011) TPSAC Gave the FDA What it Needs to Ban Menthol. UCFC Center for Tobacco Control Research and Education. <https://tobacco.ucsf.edu/tpsac-gave-fda-what-it-needs-ban-menthol>

¹³ Laura Bach. (2023) Impact of Menthol Cigarettes on Youth Smoking Initiation and Health Disparities. Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. www.tobaccofreekids.org/assets/factsheets/0390.pdf

¹⁴ Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (2017). Health & Risk Behaviors of Massachusetts Youth – Executive Summary. www.mass.gov/doc/health-and-risk-behaviors-of-massachusetts-youth-2017/download

Whereas the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has classified liquid nicotine in any amount as an “acutely hazardous waste”,¹⁵

Whereas data from the National Youth Tobacco Survey indicate that more than two-fifths of U.S. middle and high school smokers report using flavored little cigars or flavored cigarettes;¹⁶

Whereas educational institutions that sell tobacco products to a younger population, which is particularly at risk for becoming smokers is incompatible with the mission of educational institutions that educate a younger population about social, environmental, and health risks and harms; and

Whereas the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has held that “. . . [t]he right to engage in business must yield to the paramount right of government to protect the public health by any rational means”.¹⁷

Whereas, communities that are densely populated with tobacco retailers make it easier for youths to obtain tobacco products and, because retail outlets are a key marketing channel for tobacco products, a high density of tobacco retailers in a neighborhood creates a concentration of tobacco marketing, meaning children, youth and adults living in those neighborhoods will be exposed to multiple environmental cues designed to encourage tobacco use.

Whereas studies have shown that youth who live and go to schools in neighborhoods with the highest density of tobacco outlets (or with the highest density of retail tobacco advertising) have higher smoking rates compared to youth who live, or attend school, in neighborhoods with fewer or no tobacco outlets.

Whereas studies have also shown that limitations on the number of tobacco retailers, combined with strong licensing requirements, have a positive effect on reducing youth smoking rates.

Now, therefore it is the intention of the Northborough Board of Health to regulate the sale of tobacco products.

B. Authority:

This regulation is promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to the Northborough Board of Health by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 31 which states "Boards of Health may make reasonable health regulations".

¹⁵ Department of Environmental Protection – 310 CMR 30.000 Hazardous Waste. <https://www.mass.gov/doc/310-cmr-30000-final-hazardous-waste-amendments/download>

¹⁶ King BA, Tynan MA, Dube SR, et al. 2013. Flavored-Little-Cigar and Flavored-Cigarette Use Among U.S. Middle and High School Students. *Journal of Adolescent Health*, www.jahonline.org/article/S1054-139X%2813%2900415-1/fulltext

¹⁷ Druzik et al v. Board of Health of Haverhill, 324 Mass.129 (1949).

C. Definitions:

For the purpose of this regulation, the following words shall have the following meanings:

Adult-Only Retail Tobacco Store (also known as “Retail Tobacco Store” in MGL Ch. 270): An establishment that does not share space with another business, that has a separate entrance, that does not sell food, beverages, or alcohol, that does not have a restaurant license or lottery license, whose only purpose is to sell or offer for retail sale tobacco products and/or tobacco product paraphernalia, in which the entry of persons under the age of 21 is prohibited at all times, and which maintains a valid permit for the retail sale of tobacco products from the Northborough Board of Health and applicable state licenses. Entrance to the establishment must be secure so that access to the establishment is restricted to employees and to those 21 years or older. The establishment shall not allow anyone under the age of 21 to work at the establishment.

Agent: Any duly appointed agent of the Northborough Board of Health.

Blunt Wrap: Any product made wholly or in part from a tobacco product, manufactured or packaged with loose and removable leaves or section of a leaf, or as a hollow tube, that may be used by the consumer to wrap or contain loose tobacco or other fillers.

Board of Health or Board: The Board of Health of the Town of Northborough.

Business Agent: An individual who has been designated by the owner or operator of any establishment to be the manager or otherwise in charge of said establishment.

Characterizing Flavor: A distinguishable taste or aroma, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, imparted or detectable either prior to or during consumption of a tobacco product or component part thereof, including, but not limited to, tastes or aromas relating to any fruit, chocolate, vanilla, honey, candy, cocoa, dessert, alcoholic beverage, menthol, mint, wintergreen, herb or spice; provided, however, that no tobacco product shall be determined to have a characterizing flavor solely because of the provision of ingredient information or the use of additives or flavorings that do not contribute to the distinguishable taste or aroma of the product.

Child-Resistant Package: Packaging intended to reduce the risk of a child ingesting nicotine and that meets the minimum standards of 16 C.F.R. 1700 et seq., pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1471 through 1476.

Cigar: Any roll of tobacco that is wrapped in leaf tobacco or in any substance containing tobacco, with or without a tip or mouthpiece, that is in a readily usable state immediately when removed from its packaging without any modification, preparation or assembly required as in a kit or roll-your-own package and is not otherwise defined as a cigarette under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64C, Section 1, Paragraph 1. Tobacco leaf in such kits or roll-your-own packages shall be considered “blunt wraps” for the purpose of

these regulations.

Component Part: Any element of a tobacco product, including, but not limited to, the tobacco, filter and paper, but not including any constituent.

Constituent: Any ingredient, substance, chemical or compound, other than tobacco, water or reconstituted tobacco sheet, that is added by the manufacturer to a tobacco product during the processing, manufacturing or packaging of the tobacco product. Such term shall include a smoke constituent.

Coupon: Any card, paper, note, form, statement, ticket or other communication distributed for commercial or promotional purposes to be later surrendered by the bearer so as to receive an article, service or accommodation without charge or at a discount price.

Distinguishable: Perceivable by either the sense of smell or taste.

Educational Institution: Any public or private college, school, professional school, scientific or technical institution, university or other institution furnishing a program of higher education.

Electronic Nicotine Delivery System: An electronic device, whether for one-time use or reusable, that can be used to deliver nicotine or another substance to a person inhaling from the device including, but not limited to, electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic cigarillos, electronic pipes, vaping pens, hookah pens and other similar devices that rely on vaporization or aerosolization; provided, however, that “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall also include any noncombustible liquid or gel that is manufactured into a finished product for use in such electronic device; provided further, that “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall also include any component, part or accessory of a device used during the operation of the device even if the part or accessory was sold separately; provided further, that “electronic nicotine delivery system” shall not include a product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the sale of or use as a tobacco cessation product or for other medical purposes and is marketed and sold or prescribed exclusively for that approved purpose.

Employee: Any individual who performs services for an employer.

Employer: Any individual, partnership, association, corporation, trust or other organized group of individuals that uses the services of one (1) or more employees.

Flavored Tobacco Product: Any tobacco product or component part thereof that contains a constituent that has or produces a characterizing flavor. A public statement, claim or indicia made or disseminated by the manufacturer of a tobacco product, or by any person authorized or permitted by the manufacturer to make or disseminate public statements concerning such tobacco product, that such tobacco product has or produces a characterizing flavor shall constitute presumptive evidence that the tobacco product is a Flavored Tobacco Product.

Health Care Institution: An individual, partnership, association, corporation or trust or any person or group of persons that provides health care services and employs health care providers licensed, or subject to licensing, by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health under M.G.L. c. 112 or a retail establishment that provides pharmaceutical goods and services and is subject to the provisions of 247 CMR 6.00. Health care institutions include, but are not limited to, hospitals, clinics, health centers, pharmacies, drug stores, doctor offices, optician/optometrist offices and dentist offices.

Liquid Nicotine Container: A package from which nicotine or other substance in a solution or other form is accessible through normal and foreseeable use by a consumer and that is used to hold a soluble nicotine or other substance in any concentration; provided however, that "liquid nicotine container" shall not include a sealed, prefilled and disposable container of nicotine or other substance in a solution or other form in which the container is inserted directly into an electronic cigarette, electronic nicotine delivery system or other similar product if the nicotine or other substance in the container is inaccessible through customary or reasonably foreseeable handling or use, including reasonably foreseeable ingestion or other contact by children.

Listed or Non-Discounted Price: The higher of the price listed for a tobacco product on its package or the price listed on any related shelving, posting, advertising or display at the place where the tobacco product is sold or offered for sale plus all applicable taxes if such taxes are not included in the stated price, and before the application of any discounts or coupons.

Manufacturer Documentation: A written document from a manufacturer that certifies which of each of its products are not flavored, as defined under Massachusetts law and these regulations. Manufacturer Documentation shall also mean a written document from a manufacturer that certifies the nicotine content expressed as milligrams per milliliter for each of its Electronic Nicotine Delivery System products.

Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own (RYO) Machine: A mechanical device made available for use (including to an individual who produces cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco solely for the individual's own personal consumption or use) that is capable of making cigarettes, cigars, or other tobacco products. RYO machines located in private homes used for solely personal consumption are not Non-Residential RYO machines.

Permit Holder: Any person engaged in the sale or distribution of tobacco products who applies for and receives a tobacco product sales permit or any person who is required to apply for a Tobacco Product Sales Permit pursuant to these regulations, or his or her business agent.

Person: Any individual, retailer, firm, partnership, association, corporation, company or organization of any kind, including but not limited to, an owner, operator, manager, proprietor or person in charge of any establishment, business or retail store.

Retailer: A person that operates a retail establishment.

Retail Establishment: A physical place of business or a section of a physical place of business in which a tobacco product is offered for sale to consumers.

Self-Service Display: Any display from which customers may select a tobacco product, as defined herein, without assistance from an employee or store personnel.

Schools: Public or private elementary or secondary schools.

Smoking Bar: An establishment that: (i) exclusively occupies an enclosed indoor space and is primarily engaged in the retail sale of tobacco products for consumption by customers on the premises; (ii) derives revenue from the sale of food, alcohol or other beverages that is incidental to the sale of a tobacco product and prohibits entry to a person under 21 years of age; (iii) prohibits food or beverage not sold directly by the establishment from being consumed on the premises; (iv) maintains a valid permit for the retail sale of a tobacco product as required to be issued by the Town of Northborough; and (v) maintains a valid permit issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue to operate as a smoking bar. "Smoking bar" shall include, but not be limited to, those establishments that are commonly known as "cigar bars", "hookah bars" and "vape bars".

Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer: Any product designed, manufactured, produced, marketed or sold to produce a characterizing flavor when added to any tobacco product. A rolling paper with a characterizing flavor shall be considered a Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer.

Tobacco Product: A product containing or made or derived from tobacco or nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether smoked, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed or ingested by any other means including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, little cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, snuff, electronic cigarettes, electronic cigars, electronic pipes, electronic nicotine delivery systems or any other similar products that rely on vaporization or aerosolization regardless of nicotine content in the product; provided, however, that "tobacco product" shall also include any component, part or accessory of a tobacco product; and provided further, that "tobacco product" shall not include a product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the sale of or use as a tobacco cessation product or for other medical purposes and is marketed and sold or prescribed exclusively for the approved purpose.

Vending Machine: Any automated or mechanical self-service device, which upon insertion of money, tokens or any other form of payment, dispenses or makes cigarettes or any other tobacco products, as defined herein.

D. No Tobacco Sales to Persons Under Twenty-One (21) Years Old:

1. No person shall sell, offer for sale or provide a tobacco product to a person under

twenty-one years old.

- a. Required Signage: All retail establishments, including adult-only retail tobacco stores, shall conspicuously post signage inside the establishment, in the form developed and made available by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. Such signage shall include: (i) a copy of M.G.L. c. 270, §§ 6 and 6A; (ii) referral information for smoking cessation resources; (iii) a statement that sale of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to someone younger than 21 years of age is prohibited; (iv) health warnings associated with using electronic nicotine delivery systems; and (v) except in the case of smoking bars, notice to consumers that the sale of flavored electronic nicotine delivery systems are prohibited at all times. Such signage shall be posted conspicuously in the retail establishment or other place in such a manner so that it may be readily seen by a person standing at or approaching the cash register. The notice shall directly face the purchaser and shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than four feet or greater than nine feet from the floor,
- b. All adult-only retail tobacco stores shall post signage, in the form developed and made available by DPH, on the exterior of the door providing entrance to the store and such sign shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than four feet or greater than nine feet from the bottom of the door. Such signage shall state that "No person younger than 21 years old is permitted on the premises at any time."

2. Identification:

- a. Each person selling, offering for sale, or distributing tobacco products shall first verify the age of every purchaser of tobacco products by means of a valid government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is 21 or older.
- b. Each person admitting entrance into a smoking bar or adult-only retail tobacco store shall first verify the age of every person entering by means of a valid government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is 21 or older.

E. Tobacco Product Sales Permit:

1. No person shall sell or otherwise distribute or offer for sale tobacco products, as defined herein, within the Town of Northborough without first obtaining a Tobacco Product Sales Permit issued annually by the Northborough Board of Health. Only owners of establishments with a permanent, indoor, non-mobile location in Northborough are eligible to apply for a permit and sell tobacco products, as defined herein, at the specified location in Northborough.
2. As part of the Tobacco Product Sales Permit application process, the applicant will

be provided with the Town of Northborough regulations. Each applicant is required to sign a statement declaring that the applicant has read said regulations and that the applicant is responsible for instructing any and all employees who will be responsible for tobacco product sales regarding federal, state, and local laws about the sale of tobacco and these regulations.

3. Each applicant who sells tobacco products is required to provide proof of a current Tobacco Retailer Licenses issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue when required by state law, before a Tobacco Product Sales Permit can be issued. Applicant may be asked to provide evidence that a legitimate business transfer or business purchase has taken place.
4. A separate permit, displayed conspicuously, is required for each retail establishment selling tobacco products, as defined herein. The fee shall be determined by the Northborough Board of Health annually. All required Massachusetts Department of Revenue licenses related to the sale of tobacco products, as defined herein, must also be displayed conspicuously at the retail establishment.
5. Issuance of a Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall be conditioned on an applicant's consent to unannounced, periodic inspections of the establishment to ensure compliance with this regulation.
6. A Tobacco Product Sales Permit will not be renewed if the permit holder has failed to pay all fines issued and the time period to appeal the fines has expired and/or the permit holder has not satisfied any outstanding permit suspensions.
7. Maximum Number of Tobacco Product Sales Permits.
 - a. At any given time, there shall be no more than fifteen (15) Tobacco Product Sales Permits issued in the Town of Northborough. Any permit holder who has failed to renew their permit within thirty (30) days of expiration will be treated as a first-time permit applicant.
 - b. New applicants for permits who are applying at a time when the maximum number of permits has been issued will be placed on a waiting list and will be eligible to apply for a permit on a "first-come, first-served" basis.
 - c. Applicants on the waiting list shall be responsible for ensuring up-to-date contact information has been provided to the Northborough Board of Health.
 - d. Any Tobacco Product Sales Permits that are surrendered, not renewed or revoked, shall be returned to the Board of Health and will be made available to new applicants on a first-come, first-served basis, provided that any permits

surrendered, not renewed or revoked at a time when there are more permits issued than are authorized by this section shall be permanently retired.

8. Sale of Business

- a. Tobacco Product Sales Permit is non-transferable. A new owner of an establishment that sells tobacco products, as defined herein, must apply for a new permit. No new permit will be issued unless and until all outstanding penalties incurred by the previous permit holder are satisfied in full.

9. Retail Density

- a. A Tobacco Product Sales Permit shall not be issued to any new applicant for a retail location within five hundred (500) feet of a public or private elementary or secondary school as measured by a straight line from the nearest point of the property line of the school to the nearest point of the property line of the site of the applicant's business premises.

F. Prohibition of Smoking Bars:

Smoking Bars, as defined herein, are prohibited in the Town of Northborough.

G. Cigar Sales Regulated:

1. No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed a single cigar unless such cigar is priced for retail sale at two dollars and ninety cents (\$2.90) or more.
2. No person shall sell or distribute or cause to be sold or distributed any original factory-wrapped package of two or more cigars unless such package is priced for retail sale at five dollars and eighty cents (\$5.80) or more.
3. This Section shall not apply to a person or entity engaged in the business of selling or distributing cigars for commercial purposes to another person or entity engaged in the business of selling or distributing cigars for commercial purposes with the intent to sell or distribute outside the boundaries of the Town of Northborough.
4. The Northborough Board of Health may adjust from time to time the amounts specified in this Section to reflect changes in the applicable Consumer Price Index by amendment of this regulation.

H. Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products Prohibited:

No retailer shall possess, hold, keep, sell, offer to sell or distribute or cause to be possessed, held, kept, sold or distributed any flavored tobacco product, as defined herein, or any flavored tobacco product enhancer, as defined herein. Retailers must obtain from a

manufacturer documentation certifying that products sold by the retailer do not meet the definition of a flavored tobacco product or tobacco product flavor enhancer (105 CMR 665.010).

I. Nicotine Content in Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems:

No person shall sell an electronic nicotine delivery system with nicotine content greater than 35 milligrams per milliliter; provided, however, that this subsection shall not apply to adult-only tobacco stores. Retailers must obtain from a manufacturer documentation indicating the nicotine content of each of their products sold by the retailer, expressed as milligrams per milliliter (105 CMR 665.010 (C)).

J. Prohibition of the Sale of Blunt Wraps:

No person or entity shall sell or distribute blunt wraps in the Town of Northborough.

K. Free Distribution and Coupon Redemption:

No person shall:

1. Distribute, or cause to be distributed, any free samples of tobacco products, as defined herein; or
2. Accept or redeem, offer to accept, or redeem, or cause or hire any person to accept or redeem or offer to accept or redeem any coupon that provides any tobacco product, as defined herein, without charge or for less than the listed or non-discounted price; or
3. Sell a tobacco product, as defined herein, to consumers through any multi-pack discounts (e.g., "buy-two-get-one-free") or otherwise provide or distribute to consumers any tobacco product, as defined herein, without charge or for less than the listed or non-discounted price in exchange for the purchase of any other tobacco product.

L. Out-of-Package Sales:

1. The sale or distribution of tobacco products, as defined herein, in any form other than an original factory-wrapped package is prohibited, including the repackaging or dispensing of any tobacco product, as defined herein, for retail sale. No person may sell or cause to be sold or distribute or cause to be distributed any cigarette package that contains fewer than twenty (20) cigarettes, including single cigarettes.
2. All permit holders must comply with 940 CMR 21.05 which reads: "It shall be an unfair or deceptive act or practice for any person to sell or distribute nicotine in a liquid or gel substance in Massachusetts after March 15, 2016 unless the liquid or gel product is contained in a child-resistant package that, at a minimum, meets the standard for special packaging as set forth in 15 U.S. C. §§1471 through 1476 and

16 CFR §1700 et. Seq.”

3. No permit holder shall refill a cartridge that is prefilled and sealed by the manufacturer and not intended to be opened by the consumer or retailer.

M. Self-Service Displays:

All self-service displays of tobacco products, as defined herein, are prohibited. All humidors including, but not limited to, walk-in humidors, must be locked. Adult-only Retail Tobacco Stores are exempt from this section.

N. Vending Machines:

All vending machines containing tobacco products, as defined herein, are prohibited.

O. Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own Machines:

All Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own machines are prohibited.

P. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco Products by Health Care Institutions:

No health care institution located in the Town of Northborough shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products, as defined herein. No retail establishment that operates or has a health care institution within it, such as a pharmacy, optician/optometrist, or drug store, shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products, as defined herein.

Q. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco Products by Educational Institutions:

No educational institution located in the Town of Northborough shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products, as defined herein. This includes all educational institutions as well as any retail establishment that operates on the property of an educational institution.

R. Incorporation of Laws and Regulations:

1. The sale or distribution of tobacco products, as defined herein, must comply with all laws, including, those provisions found at M.G.L. Ch. 270, §§6, 6A, 7, 28, 29 and M.G.L. Ch. 112, §61A and 940 CMR 21.00 and 22.00 and 105 CMR 665.00.
2. In the event of a conflict between these regulations and any other applicable law concerning the sale or distribution of tobacco products, the more stringent requirements shall apply.

S. Violations:

1. It shall be the responsibility of the establishment, permit holder and/or his or her business agent, and not their employees, to ensure compliance with all sections of these regulations. Whoever violates any provision of these regulations may be

penalized by indictment or on complaint brought in a court of competent jurisdiction. For violations of the sections that incorporate G.L. c. 270, §§6, 28, 29, and 105 CMR 665, and except as may be otherwise provided by law and as the court may see fit to impose, the following penalties apply:

- a. In the case of a first violation, a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1000.00)
 - b. In the case of a second violation within twenty-four (24) months of the date of the current violation, a fine of two thousand dollars (\$2000.00).
 - c. In the case of three or more violations within a thirty-six (36)-month period, a fine of five thousand dollars (\$5000.00).
2. For violations of all other sections specific to the Town of Northborough, the penalty shall be:
- a. In the case of a first violation, a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
 - b. In the case of a second violation within twenty-four (24) months of the date of the current violation, a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200.00).
 - c. In the case of three or more violations within a twenty-four (24)-month period, a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00).
 - d. State Law Fines and Regulation Fines:

Policies Subject to State Law Fines**M.G.L. Chapter 270, §6 (Section S. 1)**

- Tobacco and/or Vape Sales to persons under the age of 21 (G.L. Ch. 270, §6)
- Flavored Tobacco Product Sales Restrictions (G.L. Ch. 270, §6)
- Penalties for sales to minor of Tobacco/Vape products (105 CMR 665.045)
- Mandated Local Tobacco Sales Permit suspension for a first violation for sales to minor of Tobacco/Vape products (105 CMR 665.040(d))
- Required Retailer Signage (105 CMR 665.015)
- Ban on Free Distribution (105 CMR 665.025)
- Ban on Self-Service Displays (105 CMR 665.010(B))
- Ban on Out-Of-Package Sales (105 CMR 665.030)
- Sales Without a Local Tobacco Product Sales Permit for Smoking Bars and Retail Tobacco Stores only (105 CMR 665.013(A))
- Failure to Check Identification of Purchaser (105 CMR 665.020)
- Nicotine Content in Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (G.L. Ch. 270, §6)
- Coupon Redemption (105 CMR 665.025)
- Failure to obtain manufacturer's non-flavored certification (105 CMR 665.010(E))
- Failure to obtain manufacturer's nicotine content certification (105 CMR 665.010(C))
- Admitting a minor into an Adult-Only Retail Tobacco Store (105 CMR 665.020(B))
- Other state policies

Policies Subject to Local Regulation Fines (Section S.2)

- Prohibition of the Sale of Blunt Wrap
- Ban on Smoking Bars
- Cigar Sales Regulated, including minimum sales price regulations
- Tobacco Product Sales in Health Care Institutions
- Tobacco Product Sales in Educational Institutions
- Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own Machines Ban
- Display of Mass. Department of Revenue license(s)
- No Local Tobacco Product Sales Permit
- Retailer Density Minimums
- Transfer for Permit in Sale of Business
- Other local policies

3. Permit Suspension or Revocation. The Board of Health may refuse to renew, modify, suspend or revoke any permit issued pursuant to these regulations for any violation of these regulations, or any other applicable federal, state or local law relative to the control of tobacco.
4. The Board shall follow the following guidelines when considering disciplinary action:
 - First Offense: Permit Suspension of up to three (3) days
 - Second Offense: Permit Suspension of up to seven (7) days
 - Third Offense: Permit Suspension for up to thirty (30) days
 - Fourth or subsequent Offense: Permit revocation
 - Failure to Cooperate with Inspection: Permit Suspension for up to thirty (30) days
 - Distribution of Tobacco Products During Suspension: Additional Suspension of up to thirty (30) days
5. Only offenses which have occurred within the thirty-six (36) months preceding the date of violation shall be used in calculating the number of offenses for purposes of the penalty guidelines.
6. The penalty guidelines are only a guide. The Board or its Agent may use its discretion in determining whether the facts surrounding a violation warrant a penalty which is more lenient or severe than that suggested by the guidelines.
7. The Board's Agent may issue a notice to correct, written warning or suspension of any Tobacco Product Sales Permit upon discovery of any violation of these regulations or any applicable law concerning the sale or distribution of tobacco products. Notice of said order to correct, warning or suspension shall be delivered in writing to the permit holder or its business agent and shall take effect immediately unless another date is specified in the notice. The notice shall contain the reasons for the decision and inform the permit holder of their right to request a hearing before the Board of Health. A person aggrieved by the Agent's order, warning or suspension, may request a hearing before the Board of Health. Said request shall be in writing and must be received by the Board within seven (7) days of service of the notice. After such hearing, the Board may modify, rescind or affirm the order, warning or suspension, and the Board's decision shall be final. The filing of an appeal shall not serve to suspend operation of the order, warning or suspension and the order, warning or suspension shall be deemed valid and must be complied with unless and until the Board orders otherwise.
8. The Board of Health may refuse to renew or revoke a Tobacco Product Sales Permit, after a public hearing with notice to the permit holder. Said notice shall contain the reasons therefor and establish a time and date for a hearing, which date shall be no earlier than seven (7) days after the date of said notice. The permit holder or its business agent shall have an opportunity to be heard at such hearing and shall be notified of the Board of Health's decision and the reasons therefore in writing.

T. Non-Criminal Disposition:

Whoever violates any provision of these regulations may be penalized by the non-criminal method of disposition as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D. If noncriminal disposition is elected, then the non-criminal penalty for each such violation shall be: First Offense: one hundred dollars (\$100); Second Offense: two hundred dollars (\$200); Third and Subsequent Offenses: three hundred dollars (\$300). For purposes of non-criminal disposition, the Board and/or its Agent are authorized to enforce these regulations.

U. Separate Violations:

Each day any violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense. Each day or portion thereof shall constitute a separate offense. If more than one, each condition violated shall constitute a separate offense.

V. Enforcement:

Enforcement of these regulations shall be by the Northborough Board of Health or its designated Agent.

The Board of Health may enforce these regulations or enjoin violations thereof through any lawful process, and the election of one remedy by the Northborough Board of Health shall not preclude enforcement through any other lawful means.

Any resident who desires to register a complaint pursuant to the regulation may do so by contacting the Board of Health or its designated Agent and the Board shall investigate.

W. Severability:

If any provision of these regulations is declared invalid or unenforceable, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby but shall continue in full force and effect.

X. Effective Date:

These regulations shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

Glenn French
Chairman

Teresa Capobianco
Member

Lisa Johnson
Member