

Sixtieth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

REENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1358

Introduced by

Representatives Carlson, Delmore, Weiler

Senators Nething, O'Connell, Tollefson

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact section 12.1-31-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to limitation of sales of cigarettes or other tobacco products through vending machines;
3 to amend and reenact section 12.1-31-03 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to sales
4 to and use by minors of tobacco products; and to provide a penalty.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 12.1-31-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **12.1-31-03. Sale of tobacco to minors and use by minors prohibited.**

- 9 1. It is an infraction for any person to sell or furnish to a minor, or procure for a minor,
10 cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, or tobacco in any other form in which it
11 may be utilized for smoking or chewing. As used in this subsection, "sell" includes
12 dispensing from a vending machine under the control of the actor.
- 13 2. It is a noncriminal offense for a minor to purchase, possess, smoke, or use
14 cigarettes, cigars, cigarette papers, snuff, or tobacco in any other form in which it
15 may be utilized for smoking or chewing. However, an individual under eighteen
16 years of age may purchase and possess tobacco as part of a compliance survey
17 program when acting with the permission of the individual's parent or guardian and
18 while acting under the supervision of any law enforcement authority. A state
19 agency, city, county, board of health, tobacco retailer, or association of tobacco
20 retailers may also conduct compliance surveys, after coordination with the
21 appropriate local law enforcement authority.
- 22 3. It is a noncriminal offense for a minor to present or offer to another individual a
23 purported proof of age which is false, fraudulent, or not actually the minor's own
24 proof of age, for the purpose of attempting to purchase or possess cigarettes,

cigars, cigarette papers, snuff, or tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing.

4. A city or county may adopt an ordinance or resolution regarding the sale of tobacco to minors and use of tobacco by minors which includes prohibitions in addition to those in subsection 1, 2, or ~~2~~ 3. Any ordinance or resolution adopted must include provisions deeming a violation of subsection 2 or 3 a noncriminal violation and must provide for a fee of not less than twenty-five dollars for a minor fourteen years of age or older who has been charged with an offense under subsection 2 or 3. The failure to post a required bond or pay an assessed fee by an individual found to have violated the ordinance or resolution is punishable as a contempt of court, except a minor may not be imprisoned for the contempt.

~~4.~~ 5. A minor fourteen years of age or older found to have violated subsection 2 or 3 must pay a fee of twenty-five dollars.

a. Any individual who has been cited for a violation of subsection 2 or 3 may appear before a court of competent jurisdiction and pay the fee by the time scheduled for a hearing, or if bond has been posted, may forfeit the bond by not appearing at the scheduled time. An individual appearing at the time scheduled in the citation may make a statement in explanation of that individual's action and the judge may waive, reduce, or suspend the fee or bond, or both. If the individual cited follows the procedures of this subdivision, that individual has admitted the violation and has waived the right to a hearing on the issue of commission of the violation. The bond required to secure appearance before the court must be identical to the fee. This subdivision does not allow a citing officer to receive the fee or bond.

b. If an individual cited for a violation of subsection 2 or 3 does not choose to follow the procedures provided under subdivision a, that individual may request a hearing on the issue of the commission of the violation cited. The hearing must be held at the time scheduled in the citation or at some future time, not to exceed ninety days later, set at that first appearance. At the time of a request for a hearing on the issue on commission of the violation, the

individual cited shall deposit with the court an appearance bond equal to the fee for the violation cited.

c. The failure to post bond or to pay an assessed fee is punishable as a contempt of court, except a minor may not be imprisoned for the contempt.

~~5-~~ 6. The prosecution must prove the commission of a cited violation under subsection 2 or 3 by a preponderance of the evidence.

~~6-~~ 7. A law enforcement officer that cites a minor for violation of this section shall mail a notice of the violation to the parent or legal guardian of the minor within ten days of the citation.

~~7-~~ 8. A person adjudged guilty of contempt for failure to pay a fee or fine may be sentenced by the court to a sanction or order designed to ensure compliance with the payment of the fee or fine or to an alternative sentence or sanction including community service.

SECTION 2. Section 12.1-31-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

12.1-31-03.1. Vending machines prohibited - Penalty.

1. It is an infraction for any person to sell or furnish cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, or tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing through a vending machine, except as provided in subsection 2.

2. Subsection 1 does not apply to:

a. A vending machine that is located in an area in which minors are not permitted access; or

b. A vending machine that dispenses cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, or tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing through the operation of a device that requires a salesperson to control the dispensation of such product.

3. It is an infraction for any person to sell or furnish cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, or tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing through any vending machine, if those products are placed together with any nontobacco product, other than matches, in the vending machine.