

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

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FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION REGULATION OF TOBACCO INDUSTRY THE FAMILY SMOKING PREVENTION AND TOBACCO CONTROL ACT S982 & HR 1256

ISSUE: While the Food and Drug Administration has regulatory oversight over all food and drug production in this country, the tobacco industry has had virtually none. Producers of such products as macaroni and cheese must have every ingredient approved by the FDA; however, cigarettes (made by the same company) go unregulated. The need for regulatory oversight of tobacco product production to inform and protect the health of children and adults is imperative.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) oversight of tobacco products will help reduce the toll of tobacco production and consumption. Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States, killing more than 400,000 Americans every year and costing our nation \$75 billion in health care costs. Every day, another 2,000 children become addicted smokers, one-third of whom will die prematurely as a result. Nearly 90% of lung cancer cases, nearly one in three cancer deaths and one in five of deaths from heart disease are tobacco-caused.

This legislation introduced includes the following provisions:

Stops illegal sales of tobacco products to children.

Restricts advertising and promotions that appeal to children.

Prohibits unsubstantiated and misleading health claims about so-called "reduced risk" tobacco products.

Requires the disclosure of the contents of tobacco products and tobacco industry research about the health effects of their products.

Requires larger and more informative health warnings on tobacco products.

Requires changes in tobacco products such as the reduction of harmful chemicals.

NEEDED: Support and passage of this legislation by the United States Senate and United States House of Representatives.

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