Saving our kids from a lifetime of addiction:

Raising the tobacco sales age to 21

No amount of nicotine is safe for youth

» The addictive properties of nicotine are particularly harmful to youth and can lead to heavier daily tobacco use and a difficult time quitting later in life.





Nelson et al. 2008.

Abreu-Villaca et al. 2003.

Youth tobacco use is still a problem

- » In Minnesota, 19% of students used tobacco in the past 30 days.
- » 9th and 11th graders are now using e-cigarettes at **twice the rate** of regular cigarettes.
- » Flavored tobacco products are appealing to youth.

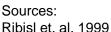
Sources:

Minnesota Department of Health. Teens and Tobacco in Minnesota. November 2014. Minnesota Student Survey 2016.





Keeping tobacco out of high schools will reduce the number of youth <u>under 18</u> who become addicted to tobacco.



Ahmed, S et. al. 2005

Public support for raising tobacco sales age

18-24

70% of current 75% of adults 65% of young adults ages smokers **Favor raising the tobacco** sales age to 21

Source: Institute of Medicine, 2015.

Our kids need your help

- » Preventing youth from initiation is essential to saving kids from a lifetime of addiction.
- » Raising the tobacco sales age to 21 is one of the best ways we can protect our kids.

Contact **Dr. Richard Scott at** rscott@co.carver.mn.us or **Caitlin Huiras** at chuiras@co.carver.mn.us for additional information

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