

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

SENATE BILL NO. 2156
(Senators Dwyer, Bell)
(Representatives Hanson, Headland, Heinert, K. Koppelman)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 12.1-31-03, 12.1-31-03.1, 12.1-31-03.3, and 51-32-01 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the prohibition of an individual under twenty-one years of age from purchasing, possessing, or using tobacco products or electronic smoking devices; to provide a penalty; and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

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

12.1-31-03. Sale of tobacco, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products to minorsan individual under twenty-one years of age and use by minorsan individual under twenty-one years of age prohibited.

1. a. It is an infraction for any person to sell or furnish to ~~a minoran individual under twenty-one years of age~~, or procure for ~~a minoran individual under twenty-one years of age~~, cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products. As used in this subdivision, "sell" includes dispensing from a vending machine under the control of the actor.
- b. It is an infraction for any person to display or offer for sale cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products through a self-service display. This subdivision does not apply to a:
 - (1) Vending machine or other coin-operated machine that is permitted under section 12.1-31-03.1; or
 - (2) Self-service display that is located in a tobacco specialty store.
2. It is a noncriminal offense for ~~a minoran individual under twenty-one years of age~~ to purchase, possess, smoke, or use cigarettes, cigars, cigarette papers, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products. However, an individual under ~~eighteen~~twenty-one years of age may purchase and possess tobacco, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products as part of a compliance survey program when acting with the permission of the individual's parent or guardian and while acting under the supervision of any law enforcement authority. A state agency, city, county, board of health, tobacco, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products retailer, or association of tobacco, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products retailers may also conduct compliance surveys, after coordination with the appropriate local law enforcement authority.
3. Subsections 1 and 2 do not apply to an individual under twenty-one years of age who possesses cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be used for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products when required in the performance of the individual's duties as an employee.
4. It is a noncriminal offense for ~~a minoran individual under twenty-one years of age~~ to present or offer to another individual a purported proof of age which is false, fraudulent, or not actually

~~the minor's~~that individual's own proof of age, for the purpose of attempting to purchase or possess cigarettes, cigars, cigarette papers, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products.

- 4.5. A city or county may adopt an ordinance or resolution regarding the sale of tobacco, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products to ~~minors~~individuals under twenty-one years of age and use of tobacco, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products by ~~minors~~individuals under twenty-one years of age which includes prohibitions in addition to those in subsection 1, 2, or ~~3~~4. Any ordinance or resolution adopted must include provisions deeming a violation of subsection 2 or ~~3~~4 a noncriminal violation and must provide for a fee of not less than twenty-five dollars for a ~~minor~~an individual fourteen years of age or older who has been charged with an offense under subsection 2 or ~~3~~4. 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~~an individual under twenty-one years of age may not be imprisoned for the contempt.
- 5.6. A ~~minor~~An individual fourteen years of age or older found to have violated subsection 2 or ~~3~~4 must pay a fee of twenty-five dollars.
- a. Any individual who has been cited for a violation of subsection 2 or ~~3~~4 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~~4 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~~an individual may not be imprisoned for the contempt.
- 6.7. The prosecution must prove the commission of a cited violation under subsection 2 or ~~3~~4 by a preponderance of the evidence.
- 7.8. 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.
- 8.9. 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.
- 9.10. As used in this section:
- a. "Alternative nicotine product" means any noncombustible product containing nicotine that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, absorbed, dissolved, or ingested by any other means. The term does not include any cigarette, cigar, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, any electronic smoking

device, or any product regulated as a drug or device by the United States food and drug administration under chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [21 U.S.C 501 et seq.].

- b. "Electronic smoking device" means any electronic product that delivers nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device, including, an electronic cigarette, e-cigar, e-pipe, vape pen, or e-hookah. Electronic smoking device includes any component, part, or accessory of such a product, whether or not sold separately. Electronic smoking device does not include drugs, devices, or combination products approved for sale by the United States food and drug administration, as those terms are defined in the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act [52 Stat. 1040; 21 U.S.C. 301 et seq.].
- c. "Self-service display" means a display that contains cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, tobacco in any other form which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products and is located in an area that is openly accessible to the retailer's customers, and from which customers can readily access those products without the assistance of a salesperson. A display case that holds those products behind locked doors does not constitute a self-service display.
- d. "Tobacco specialty store" means a retail store that:
 - (1) Derives at least seventy-five percent of its revenue from the sale of cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products; and
 - (2) Does not permit minors to enter the premises unless accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
- e. "Vending machine" means a machine, appliance, or other mechanical device operated by currency, token, debit card, credit card, or other means of payment that is designed or used for vending purposes, including machines or devices that use remote control locking mechanisms.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 12.1-31-03.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted 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, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products 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~~individuals under twenty-one years of age are not permitted access; or
 - b. A vending machine that dispenses cigarettes, cigarette papers, cigars, snuff, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products 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, tobacco in any other form in which it may be utilized for smoking or chewing, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products through any vending machine, if those

products are placed together with any nontobacco product, other than matches, in the vending machine.

4. As used in this section, "electronic smoking devices" and "alternative nicotine products" have the same meaning as in section 12.1-31-03.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 12.1-31-03.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

12.1-31-03.3. Sale of flavored e-liquid to minors prohibited - Penalty.

1. A person may not sell, offer for sale, or distribute in this state any flavored e-liquid or electronic smoking device containing flavored e-liquid to ~~a minor~~an individual under twenty-one years of age.
2. A person that violates subsection 1 and is not a manufacturer is subject to a fine of five hundred dollars for each individual package of flavored e-liquid product or electronic smoking device containing flavored e-liquid sold or offered for sale.

SECTION 4. AMENDMENT. Section 51-32-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

51-32-01. Prohibited acts regarding sale of tobacco products, electronic smoking devices, or alternative nicotine products to ~~minors~~an individual under twenty-one years of age.

1. It is unlawful for any person in the business of selling tobacco products to take an order for a tobacco product, other than from a person who is in the business of selling tobacco products, through the mail or through any telecommunications means, including by telephone, facsimile, or the internet, if in providing for the sale or delivery of the product pursuant to the order, the person mails the product or ships the product by carrier, and the person fails to comply with each of the following procedures:
 - a. Before mailing or shipping the product, the person receives from the individual who places the order the following:
 - (1) A copy of a valid government-issued document that provides the name, address, and date of birth of the individual; and
 - (2) A signed statement from the individual providing a certification that the individual:
 - (a) Is a smoker of legal minimum purchase age in the state;
 - (b) Has selected an option on the statement as to whether the individual wants to receive mailings from a tobacco company; and
 - (c) Understands that providing false information may constitute a violation of law.
 - b. Before mailing or shipping the product, the person:
 - (1) Verifies the date of birth or age of the individual against a commercially available database; or
 - (2) Obtains a photocopy or other image of the valid, government-issued identification stating the date of birth or age of the individual placing the order.
 - c. Before mailing or shipping the product, the person provides to the prospective purchaser, by electronic mail or other means, a notice that meets the requirements of section 51-32-04.

- d. In the case of an order for a product pursuant to an advertisement on the internet, the person receives payment by credit card, debit card, or check for the order before mailing or shipping the product.
 - e. (1) The person employs a method of mailing or shipping the product requiring that the individual purchasing the product:
 - (a) Be the addressee;
 - (b) Have an individual of legal minimum purchase age sign for delivery of the package; and
 - (c) If the individual appears to the carrier making the delivery to be under twenty-seven years of age, take delivery of the package only after producing valid government-issued identification that bears a photograph of the individual, indicates that the individual is not under the legal age to purchase cigarettes, and indicates that the individual is not younger than the age indicated on the government-issued document.
 - (2) The bill of lading clearly states the requirements in subdivision e and specifies that state law requires compliance with the requirements.
 - f. The person notifies the carrier for the mailing or shipping, in writing, of the age of the addressee as indicated by the government-issued document.
2. It is unlawful for any person in the business of selling electronic smoking devices or alternative nicotine products to take an order for an electronic smoking device or alternative nicotine product, other than from a person who is in the business of selling electronic smoking devices or alternative nicotine products through the mail or through any telecommunications means, including by telephone, facsimile, or the internet, if in providing for the sale or delivery of the product pursuant to the order, the person mails the product or ships the product by carrier, and the person fails to comply with each of the following procedures:
- a. Before the sale of the electronic smoking device or alternative nicotine product verifies the purchaser is at least ~~eighteen~~twenty-one years of age through a commercially available database that is regularly used by business or governmental entities for the purpose of age and identity verification; and
 - b. Uses a method of mailing, shipping, or delivery which requires an individual of legal minimum purchase age to sign for delivery before the electronic smoking device or alternative nicotine product is released to the purchaser.
3. As used in subsection 2, "electronic smoking devices" and "alternative nicotine products" have the same meaning as in section 12.1-31-03.

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY. This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2156 and that two-thirds of the members-elect of the Senate voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 40 Nays 7 Absent 0

President of the Senate

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that two-thirds of the members-elect of the House of Representatives voted in favor of said law.

Vote: Yeas 64 Nays 30 Absent 0

Speaker of the House

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2021.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2021,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State