



## Protect Children From The Harms of Tobacco

The American Academy of Pediatrics supports giving the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) strong authority to regulate tobacco products and tobacco marketing to children and adolescents. The **Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (H.R. 1108/S. 625)**, will adopt a science-based approach to protecting kids and the public health from the dangers of tobacco.

### Smoking is a Pediatric Disease

- Almost all smokers start during their teens or earlier.
- Every day 4,000 children in the US have their first cigarette.
- Every day 1,000 children in the US become daily smokers.
- Almost one-quarter of high school students smoke.
- Smoking increases a child's likelihood of using illegal drugs.
- One-third of youth smokers will die prematurely from smoking.
- Every year, 30,000 births are adversely affected by tobacco. Smoking increases the risk for low-birth weight babies, preterm delivery, perinatal death, and sudden infant death syndrome.

### FDA is the Right Agency to Regulate Tobacco

Funded through industry user fees, FDA would establish a new center to regulate tobacco products that would not detract from FDA's mission. FDA's science-based approach is needed to:

- Ensure that warning labels are effective for children.
- Remove harmful additives from cigarettes.
- Prevent so-called "light" and "reduced risk" products from discouraging quitting and making tobacco seem less dangerous.
- Reduce tobacco marketing that influences children.

### Pass the Bill This Year

Children shouldn't have to wait any more for this long-overdue legislation. Pediatricians, the American people, and the public health community strongly support the **Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (H.R. 1108/S. 625)**.

If you have not already, please join the 223 bipartisan co-sponsors in the House and the 55 bipartisan co-sponsors in the Senate. Be a champion for kids!

For questions, please contact Mark Del Monte, Department of Federal Affairs, at (202) 347-8600 or [mdelmonte@aap.org](mailto:mdelmonte@aap.org).

### What The Bill Does

- ✓ Bans flavored tobacco products that attract youth smokers.
- ✓ Limits advertising to youth audiences.
- ✓ Strengthens enforcement of retail age restrictions.
- ✓ Bans "light" cigarettes which can be just as dangerous as regular cigarettes.
- ✓ Controls "reduced risk" claims and products that discourage smokers from quitting.
- ✓ Imposes bigger and better warning labels to resonate with kids.
- ✓ Requires tobacco company disclosure of cigarette ingredients and allows FDA to control ingredient and nicotine levels.
- ✓ Funds program through industry user fees, not taxes or FDA appropriations.