
NECSEMA Testimony - BOH

5 messages

Peter Brennan <Peter@necsema.net>

Wed, Jan 14, 2026 at 11:48 AM

To: "jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov" <jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov>, "kdenham@easthamptonma.gov" <kdenham@easthamptonma.gov>, "jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov" <jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov>, "fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov" <fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov>, "jkwieczinski@easthamptonma.gov" <jkwieczinski@easthamptonma.gov>, "tpeake@easthamptonma.gov" <tpeake@easthamptonma.gov>, "tsmith@easthamptonma.gov" <tsmith@easthamptonma.gov>, "anewton@easthamptonma.gov" <anewton@easthamptonma.gov>, "rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov" <rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov>, "mgiza@easthamptonma.gov" <mgiza@easthamptonma.gov>

Dear Members of the Easthampton Select Board, and Easthampton Board of Health,

On behalf of the New England Convenience Store and Energy Marketers Association (NECSEMA), representing more than 9,000 essential small businesses across New England, including 4,421 convenience stores in Massachusetts. I respectfully submit testimony in opposition to the *Nicotine Free Generation* proposal being considered by the board of health tonight.

Selling tobacco to anyone under 21 is already illegal in Massachusetts, and flavored tobacco is banned, yet the Board of Health is considering further restrictions including the "Nicotine Free Generation". Recently, several towns have declined to pursue an NFG policy, and we would encourage you to do the same. I also would recommend this article from Boston Magazine, which has a good summary of both sides of the issue: <https://www.bostonmagazine.com/news/2025/07/29/nicotine-free-massachusetts/>

I have attached additional written testimony and will plan to be available remotely tonight. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Peter A. Brennan

Executive Director

New England Convenience Store & Energy Marketers Association, Inc. (NECSEMA)

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NFG Letter - Easthampton.pdf

2163K

Peter Brennan <Peter@necsema.net>

Tue, Feb 17, 2026 at 3:45 PM

To: "jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov" <jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov>, "kdenham@easthamptonma.gov" <kdenham@easthamptonma.gov>, "jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov" <jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov>, "fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov" <fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov>, "jkwiecinski@easthamptonma.gov" <jkwiecinski@easthamptonma.gov>, "tpeake@easthamptonma.gov" <tpeake@easthamptonma.gov>, "tsmith@easthamptonma.gov" <tsmith@easthamptonma.gov>, "anewton@easthamptonma.gov" <anewton@easthamptonma.gov>, "rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov" <rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov>, "mgiza@easthamptonma.gov" <mgiza@easthamptonma.gov>

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Peter

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Ryan Griffin <rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov>

Tue, Feb 17, 2026 at 5:44 PM

To: Peter Brennan <Peter@necsema.net>

Cc: "jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov" <jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov>, "kdenham@easthamptonma.gov" <kdenham@easthamptonma.gov>, "jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov" <jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov>, "fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov" <fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov>, "jkwiecinski@easthamptonma.gov" <jkwiecinski@easthamptonma.gov>, "tpeake@easthamptonma.gov" <tpeake@easthamptonma.gov>, "tsmith@easthamptonma.gov" <tsmith@easthamptonma.gov>, "anewton@easthamptonma.gov" <anewton@easthamptonma.gov>, "mgiza@easthamptonma.gov" <mgiza@easthamptonma.gov>

Peter,

Thank you for your email. This is the same email I received on January 14, and I have shared it with the Easthampton Board of Health.

There is no Nicotine Free Generation proposal being voted on at our BOH meeting 2/18. The Board of Health will be holding a discussion about whether to open a public hearing process at a future date to hear from Easthampton residents and business owners regarding a potential Nicotine Free Generation regulation, similar to those adopted in neighboring communities.

Thank you for sharing the Boston Magazine article. While it was an interesting overview, it did not appear to be especially data-driven.

I think we can all agree that we do not want youth to start using tobacco products, and the Nicotine Free Generation approach does not affect individuals who are already legally able to purchase tobacco products.

Also, there is no Board of Health meeting tonight. The meeting is tomorrow, Wednesday, 2/18/26 at 5:30 PM. If you would like to attend remotely, you [Can use this link if you would like to attend](#). Although there is no hearing scheduled at this time. However, there is a public comment period at the beginning of the meeting, and speakers will have three minutes to address the Board.

Thank you,

Ryan Griffin

Director of Public Health, Easthampton

☎ 413-529-1400 x 122

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Mail Delivery Subsystem <mailer-daemon@googlemail.com>
To: rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov

Tue, Feb 17, 2026 at 5:45 PM



Address not found

Your message wasn't delivered to **jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov** because the address couldn't be found, or is unable to receive mail.

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The response was:

550 5.1.1 The email account that you tried to reach does not exist. Please try double-checking the recipient's email address for typos or unnecessary spaces. For more information, go to <https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser> 5a478bee46e88-2bd4e309ea5sor78275eec.18 - gsmt

Final-Recipient: rfc822; jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov

Action: failed

Status: 5.1.1

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550 5.1.1 <https://support.google.com/mail/?p=NoSuchUser> 5a478bee46e88-2bd4e309ea5sor78275eec.18 - gsmt

Last-Attempt-Date: Tue, 17 Feb 2026 14:45:10 -0800 (PST)

 **noname**
5K

Peter Brennan <Peter@necsema.net>

Tue, Feb 17, 2026 at 7:00 PM

To: Ryan Griffin <rgriffin@easthamptonma.gov>

Cc: "jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov" <jschmidt@easthamptonma.gov>, "kdenham@easthamptonma.gov" <kdenham@easthamptonma.gov>, "jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov" <jtirrell@easthamptonma.gov>, "fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov" <fjadczak@easthamptonma.gov>, "jkwiecinski@easthamptonma.gov" <jkwiecinski@easthamptonma.gov>, "tpeake@easthamptonma.gov" <tpeake@easthamptonma.gov>, "tsmith@easthamptonma.gov" <tsmith@easthamptonma.gov>, "anewton@easthamptonma.gov" <anewton@easthamptonma.gov>, "mgiza@easthamptonma.gov" <mgiza@easthamptonma.gov>

Is there any data that supports NFG? I've been to every hearing at the local and state level and haven't seen any.

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