

From: [Wendy Hansbury <hansburyw@manchester.ma.us>](mailto:hansburyw@manchester.ma.us)

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Date: 12/4/2024 12:28:04 PM

Subject: Response to media inquiry: Re: The "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea

Hello Members of the Board,

I thought to bring this as part of the meeting, but since individual members are being contacted, I thought I'd forward my responses to you now.

Below is the thread that includes 2 exchanges from Monday night and this morning.

Have a nice afternoon,

Wendy

From: Wendy Hansbury

Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 12:01 PM

To: SHagan@northhofboston.com

Cc: Greg Federspiel <federspielg@manchester.ma.us>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] - Re: The "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea

Hi Stephen,

Glad to answer, again thank you for your interest in our local public health efforts.

The Board vote was 3 to 1 to approve the Nicotine Free Generation section to be included in the Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products Regulation. One seat is open. There are concerns from tobacco retailers and they did have opportunity to express their position at the public hearing.

After the meeting, I checked in with a long-time, local retailer/resident regarding the future impact of the change. We had a very good discussion about the meeting and the anticipated difficulties of implementing the age restriction at the checkout counter.

The retailer brought up valid concerns. The influx of seasonal tourists will create challenges because of the current patchwork adoption of the regulation; state adoption as proposed by the current legislature would help. Pushback from customers could possibly be heated and/or dangerous to their employees. This is a serious concern; we encourage preparation for it to anticipate problems and have ready responses available to employees.

My understanding is the North Shore / Cape Ann Tobacco Policy Program will work with retailers in the coming months to be ready by educating both the employees and the customers. The Board of Health wants to ensure that good tools are available to the retailers. I hope that retailers feel they can come to us and ask for help if needed.

They are a first line of public health protection measures by stopping the purchase of nicotine. We need to support their efforts as businesses and residents invested in our community. The Board's choice to adopt this regulation is focused on changing the access points of a highly addictive substance. We are all interested in protecting each other from preventable disease.

This is information I'm sure you have, but I've included as it is the main reasoning for the Board to adopt the Nicotine Free Generation regulation:

- "Tobacco product use remains the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States. In 2022, 49.2 million (19.8%)—or nearly 1 in 5—U.S. adults reported current tobacco product use.",
- "Youth and young adult use of tobacco products contributes to future use. This is because nicotine exposure can harm the developing brain and increase the risk for dependence.", and
- "Public health professionals and researchers have proven longstanding public health strategies can reduce tobacco use. These strategies include: Media campaigns, and Expanded access and availability of treatment and counseling for tobacco dependence. These measures can be coordinated with tobacco prevention and control policies (e.g., price increases, smoke-free policies). Together, they are essential for reducing the toll caused by tobacco product use including disease and death in the United States."

(CDC Smoking and Tobacco Use; Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults in the United States, Sept. 17, 2024. <https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/php/data-statistics/adult-data-cigarettes/index.html>)

I hope I've answered your questions. Please feel free to reach out if you have more.

Kindly,
Wendy

Wendy Hansbury RS
Public Health Director
(she/her/hers)([why pronouns matter](#))
Manchester-by-the-Sea Board of Health
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Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944
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From: SHagan@northofboston.com <SHagan@northofboston.com>
Sent: Tuesday, December 3, 2024 4:00 PM
To: Wendy Hansbury <hansburyw@manchester.ma.us>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] - Re: The "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea

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Hi Wendy.

Thanks very much for your e-mail.

A few additional questions I have are:

- * I wonder how this might impact local retailers?
- * Has there been any pushback from retailers in Manchester?
- * What was the Board of Health vote total (for and against) to agree to the measure?

Again, thanks.

Stephen

Stephen Hagan
shagan@gloucestertimes.com
(978) 675-2708

From: "Wendy Hansbury" <hansburyw@manchester.ma.us>
To: "SHagan@northofboston.com" <SHagan@northofboston.com>
Cc: "Greg Federspiel" <federspielg@manchester.ma.us>
Date: 12/02/2024 09:12 PM
Subject: The "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea

Hello Stephen,

The Manchester-by-the-Sea Board of Health held a public hearing on November 12, 2024, to discuss the Tobacco Regulations including the 'Nicotine Free Generation' initiative. The ban is on the sale of products containing nicotine to people born after January 1, 2004.

After discussion, the Board voted to pass the local regulation with an implementation date of April 1, 2025. This allows time for local businesses to pivot and educate staff.

The regulation has enforcement and violation language that is typical to tobacco regulations at the local and state level. Both the Manchester Board of Health and the North Shore / Cape Ann Tobacco Policy Program emphasize education and prevention as we work cooperatively with retailers. We want to be helpful to businesses implementing this locally as part of efforts to break the cycle of nicotine addiction. Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Kindly,
Wendy

Wendy Hansbury, RS
Public Health Director
Manchester-by-the-Sea
978-526-7385

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From: Greg Federspiel federspielg@manchester.ma.us
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2024 11:02 AM
To: Wendy Hansbury hansburyw@manchester.ma.us
Subject: Fw: [EXTERNAL] - The "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea

Hello Wendy,
I hope you had a good Thanksgiving.

See below.

Feel free to respond directly to Stephen (cc me please). If you prefer, you can send me the answers to his questions and I can respond.

Thanks,

Greg

Gregory T. Federspiel

Town Administrator

Manchester-by-the-Sea

Town Hall, 10 Central Street

Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA 01944

Office: 978-526-2000

From: SHagan@northofboston.com <SHagan@northofboston.com>

Sent: Monday, December 2, 2024 10:32 AM

To: Greg Federspiel <federspielg@manchester.ma.us>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] - The "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea

Town Administrator Gregory Federspiel

Hi Greg.

I'd like to put together a story about the "generational ban" on smoking in Manchester-by-the-Sea.

I understand a measure recently passed.

I wonder.....

- What was agreed to?
- Was this a Select Board action or a vote by the Board of Health?
- What was the vote?
- When did the vote take place?
- What is the basic action that was agreed to?
- In my previous story – the proposal would ban the sale of all tobacco and nicotine products including cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars and chewing tobacco to anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 2004. Stores that sold products in violation of the ban would face fines or suspension of their tobacco sales license. Is that correct?
- Is there anything you might like to add that I didn't ask?

Thanks very much.

Stephen

Stephen Hagan

shagan@gloucestertimes.com

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