

Prevent the Sale!

Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers

Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

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What You Need to Know:

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Compliance Facts and Stats

“B” Average for JANUARY to JUNE 2010

According to Idaho Code 39-5701 the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors.

❖ 848 Vendors were inspected.*

❖ 135 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.

❖ The compliance rate for the last six months (Jan to June 2010) was 15.92%

*Vendors who are not minor exempt businesses and where purchase attempts were made.

Check out our Prevent the Sale website!

preventthesale.com/idaho

- ❖ Learn about the law
- ❖ Take the tobacco quiz
- ❖ See what the ID's look like
- ❖ Play the Game “Would You Sell to This Person?”

WE'RE BACK!

We're happy to be back again to offer you helpful resources, guidelines and reminders about Idaho's protocols for tobacco vendors.

Since we were gone for a few months, we thought you might like a few basic reminders about where you can visit us online, and what you can expect with a compliance check.

Remember that we're here for you; to encourage you, offer you some useful tips, and caution you against selling tobacco products to minors.

Why do we care? Because the majority of smokers and tobacco users begin the habit before they're 19 years old—and we all know the devastating affects of tobacco over time, such as heart disease and cancer. When you're a kid, you're more concerned about being cool than what could happen to you when you're 50 years old. That's where you come in.

We believe this newsletter helps. We believe you care about our youth, and we believe you work hard to PREVENT THE SALE.

Prevent the Sale Dot Com

Has a minor ever presented you with what you thought was a fake identification? To check out what a fake ID can look like, visit the website preventthesale.com.

The website also provides useful training information, like past newsletters and some quizzes that will test your knowledge. If you haven't taken a look before, log on and browse around.

You'll also find there the **Owner and Employee Training Presentation**, a comprehensive overview of the Idaho code regarding

the sale of tobacco, which is something you should all know.

The Compliance Check

Idaho law requires that at least one random compliance check take place per vendor per year in the state of Idaho plus additional checks based on the non-compliance rate for the previous year. The total number of inspections that the law requires is equal to the number of permitted businesses multiplied by the percentage of the previous years' violations multiplied by ten. Sound complicated?

All you need to remember is that each vendor should expect to be inspected at least twice a year no sooner than 30 days apart. If the business fails the inspection, the clerk is cited on the spot and the vendor notified by mail of the violation. If the clerk refuses to sell tobacco to the minor, the minor leaves the establishment without further incident.

Remember that the violation takes place at the point of sale. In other words, the business will fail the inspection at the moment the tobacco is sold to the minor. The clerk or vendor is not allowed to try and retrieve the tobacco, confiscate the minor's ID, or detain the minor in any way. After the minor has left the establishment, the inspector will identify himself/herself and issue the citation.

Commit yourself to preventing the sale of tobacco to minors, and the compliance checks won't be an issue. Fewer non-compliance violations will reduce the number of compliance checks next year. But most importantly, it will reduce the number of Idaho kids who have access to tobacco.

Training Requirements

By law, any employee who sells tobacco must sign a Department of Health and Welfare Form indicating that they understand the state law's requirements. Here's what you should know:

- It is illegal to sell tobacco products to persons less than 18 years of age. Tobacco products include, but aren't limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, loose-leaf tobacco, smokeless tobacco and tobacco papers.
- Vendors are required to check photo identification to determine if a person is old enough to purchase tobacco products.
- If you do sell tobacco to someone under 18, you can personally be fined \$100. State inspections can occur at any time without warning.
- All tobacco sales must be vendor assisted and sold in their original manufacturer's packaging.

Be sure you know the laws in regard to selling tobacco to minors, and understand the consequences.

Physical Barriers

Remember that cigarettes products must be displayed behind a counter where customers don't have direct access to them. A physical barrier must exist between the customer and the tobacco products.

Customers are not allowed to handle unpurchased tobacco products; in other words, the clerk cannot hand unpurchased cigarettes to a customer and have the customer carry them to a different cashier to pay.

Did you Know?

Every May 31 is **World No Tobacco Day**, intended to bring attention to the growing use of tobacco and its devastating effects. This year, special attention was given to the harmful affects of tobacco marketing to women and girls.

The World Health Organization says tobacco kills nearly 5.5 million people a year and that one billion people smoke.

While we can't stop the production of tobacco, we can continue our vigilant fight to educate our youth and prevent access to tobacco products. Thanks for doing your part.

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