

# Prevent the Sale!

Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers

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Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

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### New FDA Tobacco Package Warnings

By Cheryl Dudley

#### Facts and Stats

##### “A” Average for FEBRUARY

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

FEBRUARY 2011

- ❖ 206 Vendors were inspected.\*
- ❖ 11 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- ❖ The compliance rate for the month of February 2011 was 94.66%

\*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

#### Prevent the Sale Web site

[www.preventthesale.com/idaho](http://www.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?"

#### Quick Cigarette Facts

• **The American Heart Association** lobbyist Adrean Casper claims that raising Idaho's 57-cent per pack tax by just 10 percent would cut youth smoking by about 6.5 percent.

• **Idaho's tax on cigarettes** ranks 42<sup>nd</sup> nationally, raising about \$45 million annually.

• **Idaho is facing a projected budget deficit** of up to \$350 million in 2012. Higher tobacco taxes could help close the gap.

• **China consumes more tobacco products** than any other country. The China National Tobacco Corporation, a state-run industry, holds a monopoly on the business. In 2010, the Chinese government receives \$75 billion in tobacco taxes.

• **Hospitals and medical businesses** are adopting some strict policies about smoking by turning away job applicants who smoke.

• **Kentucky** is one of the nation's top tobacco growing state. It also has the highest percentage of adult smokers, the highest incidence of lung cancer per capital, and the highest rate of death from all types of cancer.

• **Scientists have discovered** a new pathway in the brain that leads to an uncontrollable desire to smoke. The pathway includes a receptor protein that is sensitive to nicotine.

• **Smoking is the leading cause** of preventable fatality in the world. Secondhand smoke sickens millions of people and kills more than 600,000 individuals worldwide each year.

#### Dangers of Smoking and Driving

In January, Angela Collins of Careywood, Idaho, was driving her 2005 Dodge Neon westbound on Interstate 90 when she accidentally dropped her cigarette onto her lap. Frantic, she lost control of her car, drove off the road, and rolled several times. Her car was totaled, and Angela was taken to the hospital with possible neck and internal injuries.

#### Garage Fire Caused by Cigarette

A garage fire in East Boise in February was sparked by a cigarette left on a couch. By the time firefighters arrived, the garage fire was beginning to spread to the house. Firefighters quickly watered the fire, knocked down the burning structure, and kept it from engulfing the house. The house was rented by four students, who used the detached garage as a recreation room.

#### Idaho Tobacco Programs

Any employee who sells tobacco must sign a Department of Health and Welfare form indicating that they understand the state law's requirements in regard to tobacco sales. Do you know the answer to these questions? ([preventthesale.com](http://preventthesale.com))

1. If a person purchasing tobacco looks 19 years old, am I required to ask for a photo ID?
2. If I sell tobacco to a minor, will I be assessed a fine?
3. Can I keep cigarette samples by the cash register for easy access?
4. Can I sell individual cigarettes for fifty cents each?
5. Is smokeless tobacco included in the list of tobacco products in Idaho's Code

## Kick Butts Day

On March 23, 2011, thousands of youth nationwide will stand up and speak out against big tobacco for Kick Butts Day 2011. According to [kickbuttsday.org](http://kickbuttsday.org), Lapwai, Idaho, is planning an event for that day.

The website, sponsored by Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, offers ideas for activities that schools can organize, such as a Kick Butts Day Health Fair and films along with several activities that can be downloaded. Schools can register their event online and may get local and national press.

## Idaho Statute Title 39, Chapter 57 Prevention of Minors' Access to Tobacco

Minors who are caught with tobacco can be charged a misdemeanor that is punishable by imprisonment in an appropriate facility not exceeding six months, a fine not exceeding \$300, or both. The court may also require that the minor and the minor's parents attend tobacco awareness programs and perform community service in programs related to tobacco awareness.

Any minors assisting with an official random unannounced enforcement inspection with an Idaho Tobacco Inspection team are exempt from punishment under this law.

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