

# Prevent the Sale!

Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers

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Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

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### Understanding Idaho's Code 39-5701

By Cheryl Dudley

#### Health & Safety

#### Adults Only

#### Facts and Stats

##### "B" Average for June

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. For June 2006:

- ❖ 194 Vendors were inspected.\*
- ❖ 29 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- ❖ The compliance rate for the month of June 2006 was 85%.

\*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

#### Prevent the Sale

Go to:

[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?"

The state of Idaho is concerned for the welfare of its youth, evident by Idaho Code 39-5701. This code is important for tobacco retailers to know.

This law, titled "Prevention of Minor's Access to Tobacco," states "it is this state's policy to prevent the illegal sale, theft and easy access of tobacco products to minors and to prohibit the possession, distribution and use of tobacco products by minors and to punish those who disregard this law."

Statistics for the health damages of tobacco users are staggering. As a matter of fact, tobacco is the number one killer in Idaho causing more deaths by far than alcohol, illegal drugs, car crashes, homicides, suicides, fires and AIDS combined. It is also the first illegal drug children are most likely to use, sometimes leading to other drug use like marijuana and cocaine.

Minors usually steal cigarettes from self-service displays, or buy their own, which is why Idaho has banned the use of self-service displays and has strict laws about tobacco access and punishment for the sale of tobacco to minors. Idaho knows tobacco's damaging affects on kids' lives. They know that most smokers started smoking and became addicted to smoking as teens. It's rare to find a person who started smoking as an adult.

Knowing these facts and statistics should help Idaho vendors understand why it's important to say "NO" to minors who attempt to buy tobacco products.

Most new smokers don't stop to think about tobacco's characteristics: how it will damage their health, how they will be negatively viewed by others (many employers do not even hire smokers), or even how addictive it is. Armed with all of the statistics on tobacco use, it's unlikely that anyone would choose to smoke.

This is why the decision to smoke should always be left to adults who know the social and health risks of smoking. Some decisions are just too serious for minors. Making an educated choice versus an emotional choice could make all the difference with Idaho's tobacco statistics.

Kids think they're invincible. They believe that they will be able to quit smoking at any time. They do not believe that smoking will eventually kill them. And most believe that smoking is cool.

That's why your job is so important. Protecting youth from harmful decisions is your job. While parents and schools teach about the health risks of tobacco, vendors hold the power over the product.

#### Tobacco Permits NOT Transferable

Tobacco permits do not transfer from owner to owner when a business is sold or bought. New owners must obtain a permit in their own name. So if you buy a business that sells tobacco be sure to obtain a NEW permit. Getting a permit is FREE and Easy. Go to [www.tobaccopermits.com/Idaho](http://www.tobaccopermits.com/Idaho) and get one online today.

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## Are You Ready for an Unannounced inspection?

Know what to expect from the “incognito” inspection team that will show up in your store this year. If you pass the test, the Inspector will provide the clerk with a congratulatory card and the business will receive a congratulatory letter in the mail. If you fail the test—which means you sold tobacco to a minor—the inspector will issue a citation to your clerk immediately, at the time of purchase.

Say “NO” to minors who want to buy tobacco. Know what to do if they pitch a fit, get angry, or try to force the issue after you refuse to sell them tobacco. Some kids just aren’t used to being told “NO.” Be tough! It’s the law and it’s your responsibility.

### FOR LAUGHS!

#### Bumper Stickers

- It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others.
- Good judgment comes from bad experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment.
- Experience is something you get until just after you don’t need it.
- My mother is a travel agent for guilt trips.
- Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them, you’re a mile away and you have their shoes.
- Always remember you’re unique—just like everyone else.

#### New State Slogans

**Minnesota:** “10,000 Lakes  
...and 10,000,000,000,000 Mosquitoes”

**Maryland:** “If You Can Dream It, We Can Tax It”

**New Mexico:** “Lizards Make Excellent Pets”

**Kentucky:** “Five Million People; Fifteen Last Names”

**Iowa:** “We Do Amazing Things With Corn”

**Florida:** “Ask Us About Our Grandkids”

**Idaho:** “More Than Just Potatoes ... Well Okay,  
We’re Not, But the Potatoes Sure Are Real Good”

Information from:  
<http://www.butlerwebs.com/jokes/bumper2.htm>

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◆ PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES

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