



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

Contact us: 208-334-6542

ID Tobacco Project Website: [healthandwelfare.idaho.gov](http://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov)  
Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

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### Facts and Stats

"A" average for December

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. In December 2013:

- 26 Vendors were inspected.\*
- 1 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the month was 96.15%

\*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

### Prevent the Sale Website

[PreventTheSale.com/Idaho](http://PreventTheSale.com/Idaho)

- Learn about the law
- Take the tobacco quiz
- See what the IDs look like
- Play the Game "Would You Sell to This Person"

Written by Cheryl Reed

### Put Some Rules and Stats in Your Toolbox

#### FOR YOUR TOOLBOX

A retailer's collection of rules, regulations, and statistics to help prevent the sale of tobacco to minors

##### Quitting in 2014

###### **Within 8 hours of quitting:**

Your blood carbon monoxide levels will drop to normal and your blood oxygen levels will increase to normal.

###### **Within 1 year, by 2015:**

Your risk of heart disease will decrease to half of what it was when you smoked.

###### **Within 5 years:**

Lung cancer death rate for a pack-a-day smoker will decrease by about 50 percent. Your risk of cancer of the mouth will also decrease by 50 percent.

##### Idaho's National Rankings

Idaho spends about **\$2.2 million** a year on tobacco and prevention cessation programs, according to a report from a coalition of health organizations. This places Idaho 26<sup>th</sup> in the nation for funding programs that help prevent kids from smoking and to help people quit smoking. The state's 57 cents-per-pack tax places Idaho 42<sup>nd</sup> in the nation for tobacco tax collected; the ninth lowest tobacco tax in the U.S. However, the report says that 14.2 percent of Idaho high school students smoke, lower than the 18.1 percent national average. While some claim that higher taxes prevent kids from smoking, others claim that the higher tax only puts more money into Uncle Sam's pocket and does little to discourage children who are determined to smoke.

##### 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.

*"Today's teenager is tomorrow's potential regular customer, and the overwhelming majority of smokers first begin to smoke while still in their teens... The smoking patterns of teenagers are particularly important."*

*~Philip Morris document*

## Compliance Checks

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 by **state** inspection teams 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.

The violation takes place at the point of sale and 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.

Remember that the FDA also conducts compliance checks to determine a retailer's compliance with **federal** laws and regulations. **This FDA enforcement program is separate from the state enforcement program.** So remember, it is possible for the FDA inspection teams to inspect your business sooner than 30 days from a state inspection. The FDA inspection teams will not issue citations at the time of inspection or notify a retailer of the inspection. Instead, the FDA notifies retailers in writing that inspections have occurred. The FDA generally issues warning letters for first-time violations and issues penalties for violations found on subsequent inspections.

Remember that as retailers, you are our parenters and play a major role in protecting the health of America's youth by not selling, marketing, or advertising cigarettes or other tobacco products to children.

## Story Corner

### A Smoker's Secret Cancer Threat

45 million adult smokers first light up during adolescence, and today, nearly one in four teens smoke. While most smokers associate lung cancer with smoking, few understand their risk of another deadly form of cancer.

Ted Riley of Idaho would like you to hear his story. He had no symptoms and never felt any pain, but at a routine physical, his doctor discovered an increased white blood cell count. What Ted didn't know was that he had a tennis ball-sized tumor in his bladder.

Ted smokes and chews tobacco. Few people would connect bladder cancer to smoking, but the drugs from the tobacco travels into the bloodstream and ends up in the bladder, where it stays. The symptoms of bladder cancer are subtle, and men are two times more likely than women to get it. The good news is, the first four years after a smoker quits smoking, the chance of bladder cancer decreases by 40%.



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**PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES**

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