

## Are You at Risk? Stopping the Sale of Tobacco to Minors

By Jill C. Urie

### It's Time to Renew Your Permit!

Don't forget! Renew Your Tobacco Permit. A new web system makes your renewal process easier than ever. So, log on to

[www.tobaccopermits.com/Idaho/](http://www.tobaccopermits.com/Idaho/)

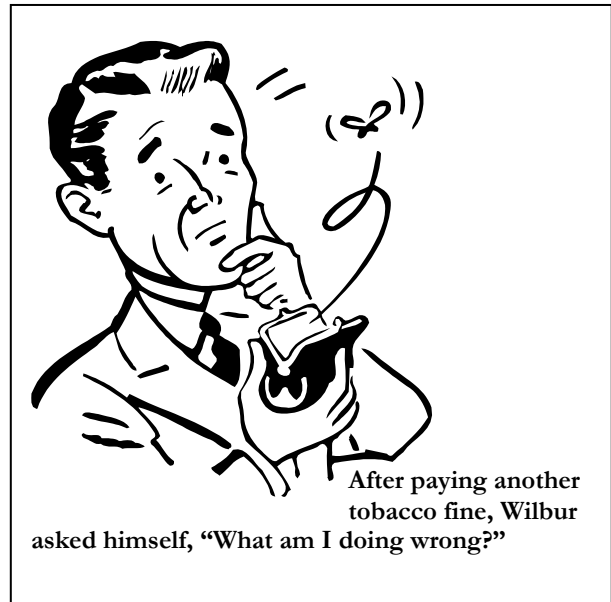
and renew your permit today. Deadline for renewal is December 31, 2002.

### Are You at Risk?

Are you at risk of selling tobacco to minors? Idaho businesses and their employees have been fined over \$59,000 dollars this year for selling tobacco to minors. Are your employees armed with the protection they need to prevent the sale of tobacco to minors?

Take these steps to prevent the sale of tobacco to minors and to avoid fines:

1. Train Employees. Be sure your employees know and understand that it's illegal to sell tobacco products to minors, that they can recognize Idaho's new drivers' license and ID cards, and know the rule "when it's green, stop the teen" (under 18) and "when it's red, use your head" (under 21).
2. Provide cash registers that calculate a customer's age. Using these cash registers can prevent the sale to minors.



3. Provide counter top calendars that specify the year before which customers must be born to legally purchase tobacco. These calendars and cards also remind minor customers that your employees will be monitoring the sale of tobacco.
4. Regularly supervise employees who sell tobacco products.
5. Have a clear policy. For example, some stores card everyone under 30, while others card everyone under 35. Providing employees with a clear policy outlining the store's position, procedures and consequences for selling to minors can avoid confusion and frustration when employees are confronted with minors who wish to buy tobacco.

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## Are You at Risk? continued

### Rate Your Risk

Use the checklist below to rate your tobacco program.

At my business, I:

- Train Employees as required by state law
- Have Employees familiar with Idaho ID's and Law
- Use Cash Registers that calculate age
- Have Calendars and Cards to simplify age calculation
- Supervise Employees that sell tobacco
- Have a Clear Store Policy

How many protection factors did you mark?  
Check your score here:

6 – You have the best defense against selling tobacco illegally.

3 – You may be at risk for selling tobacco to minors.

0 - You are at great risk! To improve your knowledge visit our prevent the sale website at [www.preventthesale.com/idaho](http://www.preventthesale.com/idaho).

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## Factoids and Statistics

### “B+” Average for October

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 October of 2002:

- ◆ 230 Vendors were inspected. \*
- ◆ 32 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- ◆ The compliance rate for the month of October 2002 was 86%.

\*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

## Prevent the Sale Website

- ❖ **Know the law:** Learn the Idaho State law concerning tobacco and minors.
- ❖ **The tobacco quiz:** Test your knowledge of Idaho's minors and tobacco law.
- ❖ **See what the ID's look like:** Check out the new Idaho drivers' licenses, review those from nearby states, and learn how to spot frauds.
- ❖ **Play the Game “Would You Sell to This Person?”** Try your hand at spotting the minor and watch out for the state inspector!
- ❖ **For more information go to:** [www.preventthesale.com/idaho](http://www.preventthesale.com/idaho)

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### WHAT'S INSIDE!

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◆ PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES