Current Laws Are Not Enough - Possible Local Solutions

Strong local tobacco retail licensing
Regular compliance checks may result in large reductions in the use of cigarettes and may also result in lower e-cigarette use.
An independent study conducted in Colorado indicates that retail licensing leads to lower tobacco violation rates.

Increasing the minimum legal sale age for tobacco
T21
Increasing the minimum legal sale age can make a significant impact on decreasing tobacco initiation especially among 15 to 17 year olds.
In Colorado, 19 municipalities have adopted T21 while nationally 18 states and 500 cities and counties have raised the minimum legal sale age.

Restricting Flavors
82% of teens report flavors as being the reason they use electronic cigarettes.
More than 80% of youth who have used a tobacco product started with a flavored tobacco product.

Increasing Prices
Tobacco price increases are a proven tool for discouraging youth use.
New Colorado legislation has given local government more control over the sale of nicotine products, including e-cigarettes.

Local Support
Larimer County Department of Health and Environment surveyed Loveland retailers to try and understand the level of local support for these possible solutions.
Out of 71 Retailers, 75% responded:

59% Support retail licensing (17% neutral, 24% oppose)
45% Support T21 (22% neutral, 33% oppose)
26% Support flavor limitations (15% neutral, 59% oppose)

Looking for our data sources? Visit larimer.org/tobaccoresources

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Nicotine Use Among Youth is an Epidemic

Why It’s Important

Adolescence and young adult brains are still developing and they are more vulnerable to nicotine addiction.

Symptoms of nicotine dependence can occur within only days or weeks of experimentation with nicotine use.

Youth who use e-cigarettes are more likely to use cigarettes and other tobacco products, even if they’ve never smoked before.