



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

825 S. Kansas Ave.
Suite 500
Topeka, KS 66612
www.KDHA.org

PRESIDENT

Jill Gottschamer, RDH, BHS

VICE-PRESIDENT

Reenie Olson, RDH, BSDH

IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT

Maggie Smet, RDH

SECRETARY

Stephanie Witt, RDH, BSDH

TREASURER

Rachel Clark RDH

SENIOR DELEGATE

Janette Delinger RDH, BSDH

JUNIOR DELEGATE

Jackie Leakey RDH, BSDH, ECP II

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Maggie Smet, RDH

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Janette Delinger, RDH, BSDH

MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL

Kathy Trilli, RDH, BS

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL**

Reenie Olson, RDH, BSDH

DISTRICT VIII TRUSTEE

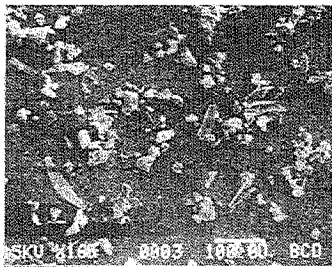
Carole Danielson, RDH, BS, MPH

April 23, 2012

Chairman Brunk and members of the Federal and State Affairs Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this information about HR 6026. My name is Maggie Smet, and I have cared for Kansans as a Registered Dental Hygienist for 22 years. I am the first Dental Hygienist in Kansas to begin practicing with an Extended Care Permit and the Immediate Past President of the Kansas Dental Hygienists Association.

I encourage the Committee to defeat HR6026 due to the aggressive negative nature of tobacco products especially smokeless tobacco (Spit Tobacco). Abrasive ingredients added to the tobacco inflict tiny nicks in the gums and thin epithelial lining of the cheeks in order to more quickly transport nicotine — and carcinogenic additives into the bloodstream. This in turn will wear down tooth enamel, making teeth flat, sensitive, and easily decayed. It also increases the risk for oral cancers and death.



Here are a few of the OTHER ingredients found in smokeless tobacco.

- Polonium 210 (nuclear waste)
- Formaldehyde (embalming fluid)
- Cadmium (used in car batteries)
- Lead (nerve poison)
- Nitrosamines (cancer causing substances)
- Arsenic
- Cyanide
- Nicotine

House Federal & State Affairs

Date: 4-26-12

Attachment # 11



American
Dental
Hygienists'
Association

Kansas

The net result of nicotine addiction is that your body can't function the same way in the absence of the drug as it did before, at least in the short term. People trying to quit nicotine experience this as: Irritability, Anxiety, Depression and a Craving for nicotine.

Over a period of about a month, these symptoms and the physiological changes subside. But for many tobacco users, even a day without nicotine is excruciating. Every year, millions of people try to break the nicotine habit; only 10 percent of them succeed. Most people throw in the towel after less than a week of trying, because the way that nicotine rewires the reward system in the brain makes nicotine's pull irresistible.

Ingredients in tobacco cause problems with many parts of our body including:

Lungs- contaminated mucus becomes trapped, leaving you unable to breathe.

Skeletal- weakens the bones.

Circulation- hardens the arteries leading to high blood pressure and an increased heart rate and stroke

Kidneys- circulating toxins cause damage

Nervous system- tobacco upsets the balance of chemicals that carry electrical impulses that regulate mood, smell, sight, hearing, thinking, sleeping, laughter and memory

Mental- can cause depression and anxiety

Endocrine- decrease levels of hormones that regulate weight, body fat, and can cause pancreatic cancer; one of the most deadly cancers

Immune System- Lowers antibodies that help fight infection

The state of Kansas has implemented many positive programs to discontinue the use of all tobacco products. I believe the passing of HR 6026 will be confusing and detrimental to all Kansans. The use of spit tobacco will not be a benefit. Remember, the mouth is a mirror. It reflects the health of the whole body.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Smet, RDH

Immediate Past President, KDHA

11-2