



Town of Miami Lakes Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor & Councilmembers

From: Honorable Vice Mayor Nelson Rodriguez

Subject: In Support of City of Miami Beach Ordinance to Prohibit Sales of E- Cigarettes to Minors

Date: September 10, 2019

Recommendation:

I would like to support and adopt a similar City of Miami Beach Ordinance to prohibit the sales of e-cigarettes to minors.

In October 2018, the City of Miami Beach Commission voted to reinforce age verification requirements for businesses that sell e-cigarettes and to create stricter penalties for violators. The new rules require businesses including online retailers, even if they are based in another city or state, to obtain proof that a customer is over 18 before mailing or delivering e-cigarettes to Miami Beach. Businesses would be required to get a copy of a customer's driver license and verify the customer's information in a commercially available database.

The commission also voted to impose stricter penalties on business that violate the law. Selling e-cigarettes to a minor is currently a second-degree misdemeanor that is punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and up to 60 days in jail. Under the new ordinance, businesses that break the law could also have their business license suspended for up to six months and could lose it altogether for a second violation.

Attachments:

Ordinance 2018-4218

Miami Herald Article "Amid Nationwide E-Cigarette Epidemic, Miami Beach Cracks Down on Sales To Teens" from October 17, 2018

Fiscal Impact: Minimal

Guiding Principles: 1, 2, 14

Objectives: 6