

Testimony of  
**Environment and Human Health, Inc.**

By  
Nancy Alderman, President

**Bill SB 164**

**To Senators Gerratana, Somers and Representative Steinberg and the members of the Public Health Committee:**

**Environment and Human Health, Inc is in strong support of Bill SB 164 RAISING THE LEGAL AGE TO PURCHASE TOBACCO TO TWENTY-ONE.**

Everyone knows the dangers of smoking. By raising the legal age of purchasing cigarettes we can prevent teenagers from starting to smoke -- this will be well worth the effort to pass this Bill into law. We know that smoking is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States; that Nicotine is an addictive drug found in cigarettes; That approximately 80 percent of adult smokers started smoking before the age of 18; And about 30% of teen smokers will continue smoking and die early from a smoking-related disease.

These are reasons enough to raise the minimum age on cigarettes and protect the health of teenagers

Thank you for your attention,

Nancy Alderman, President  
Environment and Human Health, Inc.  
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