



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
JUDICIAL BRANCH

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

---

231 Capitol Avenue  
Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
(860) 757-2270 Fax (860) 757-2215

**Testimony of the Judicial Branch  
Public Health Committee Public Hearing  
March 4, 2019**

**H.B. 7200, An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Cigarettes, Tobacco  
Products, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vapor  
Products to Persons under Age Twenty-One**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on behalf of the Judicial Branch regarding *H.B. 7200, An Act Prohibiting the Sale of Cigarettes, Tobacco Products, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vapor Products to Persons under Age Twenty-One*. While we do not have a substantive position on this bill, we would request the Committee consider making several technical changes.

A violation of a statute cannot be both an infraction and a civil penalty as the bill proposes. In lieu of Section 8, subsection (b), we would propose the following language:

(b) If the Commissioner of Revenue Services finds, after a hearing, that a distributor or dealer knowingly violated any provision of subsection (a) of this section, the commissioner shall assess such dealer or distributor a civil penalty of three hundred dollars for the first violation or seven hundred fifty dollars for a second violation on or before thirty-six months after the date of the first violation. For a third violation on or before thirty-six months after the date of the first violation, the commissioner shall assess such dealer or distributor a civil penalty of one thousand dollars and suspend for not less than thirty days or revoke any license held by such distributor or dealer. For a fourth violation on or before thirty-six months after the date of the first violation, the commissioner shall revoke any license held by such distributor or dealer.

We would also ask that similar changes be made to the language of Section 14, subsection (c), so that it reads:

(c) If the Commissioner of Consumer Protection finds, after a hearing, that any such certificate holder knowingly violated any provision of subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner shall assess such certificate holder a civil penalty of three hundred dollars for the first violation, or a civil penalty of seven hundred fifty dollars for any second infraction on or before thirty-six months after the date of the first violation. For a third violation on or before thirty-six months after the date of the first violation, the commissioner shall assess such certificate holder a civil penalty of one thousand dollars and any license or certificate held by such certificate holder under chapter 214 or 420g of the general statutes shall be revoked.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.