

June 27, 2025

# **State Legislative Bill Actions**

State tobacco-related legislative bills that have been acted on by a state legislative committee or state legislature are listed below alphabetically by state:

### Arizona

• SB1247 raises the legal age for purchasing, possessing, or using tobacco and nicotine products from 18 to 21 years of age, with an exception for active military personnel aged 18 and over if they hold valid military ID. The bill was approved by the Senate and House and has been sent to the Governor for final review.

## **Connecticut:**

• HB7181 includes language to restrict shipment or transport of tobacco and vapor products to cigarette distributors or dealers, export warehouse proprietors, an officer, employee or agent of the U.S. government, the state or a department, agency, instrumentality or political subdivision of the U.S. or the state. It prohibits common carriers from delivering tobacco or nicotine products to residences or any location or person not outlined above. The bill also prohibits entry by individuals under age 21 to businesses with 50% or more of their revenue derived from the sale of cigarettes, nicotine products, tobacco products, or vapor products. The bill imposes advertising restrictions on vapor products. The bill was signed by the Governor on June 23, 2025.

### Maine:

- LD 210 (HP132—budget bill) was signed by the Governor on June 20, 2025. The budget includes increases to the cigarette tax from \$2.00 to \$3.50 per pack (includes a floor tax), the smokeless tobacco (moist snuff and chewing tobacco) tax from \$2.02/oz. to \$3.54/oz. and vapor products/nicotine pouches tax from 43% to 75% of the wholesale price. The bill reduces the cigarette stamp discount rate from 1.11% to .66%. The excise tax increases will be effective January 5, 2026.
- LD1938 (HP1297) modifies provisions of law governing the regulation of cigarettes and other tobacco products as follows: (1) prohibits the sale of tobacco products in vending machines; (2) increases the penalties for licensing violations for cigarette distributors. The Governor signed the bill on June 18, 2025.

• LD166 (HP99) prohibits the sale of tobacco products in pharmacies and retail establishments with pharmacies. It was amended to remove the cigarette stamp discount. The bill was adopted by the Senate and House and sent to the Governor on June 25, 2025, for final review. The bill is effective April 1, 2026.

## **New Jersey:**

• As part of the budget process, the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee considered S4659 increases the tax on cigarettes from \$2.70 to \$3.00 per pack and S4661 increases the tax rate on liquid nicotine from \$.10 to \$.30 per fluid milliliter and the tax on container e-liquid from 10% to 30% of the listed retail sale price, both would be effective August 1, 2025.

#### Ohio:

• The House and Senate approved the state budget (AmSubHB96) on June 25,2025, which did <u>not</u> include the Governor's proposed and nicotine taxes. The budget does include expanding cigarette taxing authority to Franklin (Columbus), Hamilton (Cincinnati), and Summit (Akron) counties to fund the arts. Cuyahoga (Cleveland) County can increase its existing liquor, alcohol, and cigarette taxes and levy a new tax on vapor and OTP, to finance major league sports facilities. Voters in each county must approve a tobacco tax established by the county's governing body. The budget heads to the Governor for final review.

## Oregon:

- HB2528 adds "nicotine derived from any source" to the definitions of "inhalant delivery system" and "tobacco products" Repeals the criminal prohibition on the sale of inhalant delivery systems or tobacco products to an individual under the age of 21 and replace it with a civil prohibition and imposes civil penalties. The Senate Finance Committee held a hearing and works session on June 23, 2025 (bill previously passed the House).
- HB3940, a wildfire prevention bill, includes a new tax on oral nicotine products. For packages with 20 consumable units or less, an excise tax of 65-cents package and for packages with more than 20 consumable units, a new tax of 3.25-cents per consumable unit would be imposed, effective January 1, 2026. The bill passed the House and the Senate Rules Committee recommended the bill "Do Pass" on June 26, 2025.

## Pennsylvania:

• HB1425 requires the attorney general to establish a vapor directory. A manufacturer must certify that the electronic cigarette that contains nicotine (1) has received a marketing granted order from the FDA or (2) the vapor product was marketed in the U.S. on or before August 8, 2016, and the manufacturer submitted a PMTA for the vapor product to the FDA on or before September 9, 2020, and the application was accepted for review/is pending or (3) the PMTA was denied and is being legally challenged. Within 120 days from the effective date or the date the AG makes the directory available, whichever is later, electronic cigarettes that contain nicotine not included in the directory may not be sold. Retailers shall have 120 days from the date the AG first makes the directory available to sell products in inventory and not included in the directory. The bill requires manufacturers, wholesalers, and retailers to provide a surety bond. The bill passed the House on June 23, 2025 and was sent to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

### **Rhode Island:**

• HB5076A (state budget) expands the definition of "other tobacco products," to includes nicotine pouches and taxes those products at the current OTP rate of 80% of the wholesale cost, effective October 1, 2025. The bill provides for a floor tax on other tobacco products not previously taxed. The House and Senate passed the bill. It was sent to the Governor on June 21, 2025.

### Texas:

- SB2024, which was revised in Conference Committee to ban the sale of vapor consumable liquid (nicotine or non-nicotine liquids) made in China or other federally designated foreign adversary countries, but no longer bans components, parts, devices manufactured in China. The bill also bans the marketing of vapor products attractive to minors such as use of a celebrity or resembles a school supply. The measure signed by the Governor on June 20, 2025 and takes effect September 1, 2025.
- SB1313, which prohibits certain imagery in tobacco product advertising to minors, became law without Governor's signature on June 20, 2025 and takes effect September 1, 2025.

#### Wisconsin:

• AB234 (same as SB257), relative to the electronic vaping device directory adopted in 2023, was amended to retain the current definition of an electronic vaping device (one that delivers for inhalation an aerosolized or vaporized liquid, regardless of whether the liquid or other substance contains nicotine). The amended version provides that the requirement to have received an FDA marketing authorization does not apply to the manufacturer of a device that contains hemp but does not contain nicotine. However, the manufacturer of such a device must instead provide the DOR with a certificate of analysis showing that the device contains hemp but does not contain nicotine. Manufacturer registration for such devices with the DOR first applies on 7/1/26. The bill passed the Assembly and was referred to the Senate on June 24, 2025.

# **State Legislative Sessions**

All 50 states are holding state legislative sessions in 2025. The following 12 states are currently in session:

• AZ, CA, DE, MA, MI, NH, NJ, NC, OH, OR, PA, WI

38 states have adjourned their 2025 legislative session:

• AL, AK, AR, CO, CT, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MN, MT, NE, NY, ND, MS, MO, NV, NM, OK, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, VT, WA, WV & WY

**Maine:** Adjourned its special session after passing a state budget that included increased tobacco taxes. Other bills that passed are covered in the previous section of the report.

• LD 1519 that would have created a vapor stewardship program did not pass and carries over to next session.

**New York**: Adjourned its 2025 legislative session. Many tobacco and nicotine related bills including flavor bans, excise taxes, and vapor nicotine caps did not pass and carry over to the 2026 legislative session.

**Rhode Island:** Adjourned its 2025 legislative session. The passed state budget did not include the Governor's proposed cigarette tax increase but did include a new tax on nicotine pouches. Bills that would have exempted vape shops from the vapor flavor ban and provided an excise tax reduction to tobacco/nicotine products that received a FDA Modified Risk Tobacco Product designation failed.

## **Tobacco and Nicotine Excise Tax Changes**

Below are the tobacco and nicotine product excise tax changes that were previously enacted and scheduled to take effect:

Illinois: July 1, 2025 - expands the definition of tobacco products and increases the tax of these products to 45% of the wholesale price. This tax will apply to nicotine pouches (currently no tax), moist snuff (currently 30-cents per oz.), and vapor products (currently 15%).

**Indiana:** July 1, 2025 - Cigarettes from \$.995 to \$2.995 per pack; OTP from 24% to 30% of the wholesale price; moist snuff from \$.40 to \$.50 per ounce; Cigars from 24% to 30% of the wholesale price - tax cap raised from \$1.00 to \$3.00 per cigar; Alternative nicotine products (nicotine pouches) from \$.40 to \$.50 per ounce; Closed system vapor cartridges from 15% to 30% of the wholesale price and vapor consumable material (open systems) from 15% to 30% at retail. Distributors in possession of revenue stamps paid for before July 1, 2025, may be used only if the full amount of the new tax rate is remitted.

**North Carolina:** July 1, 2025 (passed in 2023) – Moist snuff from 12.8% of wholesale price to 40-cents per ounce and a proportionate rate on all fractional parts of an ounce and a new alternative nicotine products (nicotine pouches) tax at the rate of 10-cents per container containing up to 20 units, and at the rate of one-half cent per unit for any amount in a container containing over 20 units.

**California:** July 1, 2025 (annual adjustment) - OTP tax from 52.92% to 54.27% as part of the State's annually determination of the excise tax rate on OTP, which is equivalent to the combined excise tax rate imposed on cigarettes. OTP includes all other tobacco and nicotine products other than cigarettes.

**Tennessee:** July 1, 2025 – create a new 10% wholesale price tax on vapor products.

**Hawaii**: January 1, 2026 - Cigarette and little cigar tax from \$3.20 to \$3.60 per pack.

**Rhode Island (pending Governor's Signature):** October 1, 2025 - expands the definition of "other tobacco products," to includes nicotine pouches and taxes those products at the current OTP rate of 80% of the wholesale cost.

**Nebraska**: January 1, 2026 - Implements a tax on alternative nicotine products (nicotine pouches) at 20% of the retail price.

**Washington**: January 1, 2026 - imposes the current 95% tax on tobacco products to products that contain nicotine, whether derived from tobacco or synthetically (nicotine pouches).

**Maine**: January 5, 2026 - Cigarette tax from \$2.00 to \$3.50 per pack, the smokeless tobacco (moist snuff and chewing tobacco) tax from \$2.02/oz. to \$3.54/oz. and vapor products/nicotine pouches tax from 43% to 75% of the wholesale price. The bill reduces the cigarette stamp discount rate from 1.11% to .66%.