

# **American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**

## **Cancer Action Day: Suits and Sneakers 2021**

### **Issue Overview: Tobacco Prevention and Control**

The Problem: Nearly 9 out of 10 adult smokers first tried smoking by the age of 18, and each day in the United States, 1,600 youth under the age of 18 try their first cigarette. Nicotine is a highly addictive drug found in tobacco products. Young adults are especially vulnerable to the harmful effects of nicotine. Tobacco not only causes cancer but causes diseases of almost every organ of the human body.

#### **H. 3681 Tobacco Preemption on Flavors and Tobacco Retail License**

- Makes access to tobacco products easier for children
- Creates an environment where local communities can not address the problem of youth and tobacco
- Continues to addict youth to tobacco through flavored products such as mint, bubble gum, and strawberry

#### **H. 3754 Youth Tobacco Access Prevention**

- Requires all tobacco retailers to register with the state just as alcohol retailers have to register

### **The ASK:**

OPPOSE H. 3681 Tobacco Preemption and allow local communities to make decisions on how to best protect our children and youth from big tobacco. Do not make it easier for Big Tobacco to addict our children to their deadly products.

SUPPORT H. 3754 Youth Access to Tobacco Products requiring all retailers who sell tobacco products to register with the state of South Carolina just like alcohol retailers must register.

### **Issue Overview: Access to Care**

The Problem: Prevention and Early Detection is key to saving lives. ACS CAN will continue to advocate for funding to provide cancer screenings to South Carolinians who would otherwise not be able to access and afford lifesaving screenings. State funding supports breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer screenings through two programs:

- The Best Chance Network
- Center for Colon Cancer Prevention Network at the University of South Carolina

### **The ASK:**

Thank you for your continued support of funding cancer screenings in South Carolina. Screenings save lives and saves the state and South Carolinians money.

We are asking for a one-time addition of \$250,000 for The Center for Colon Cancer Prevention Network that would allow the program to:

- Increase direct screenings across the state for uninsured and underinsured
- Educate health care providers on changes of screening guidelines and encourage screenings to continue