

Issue #1: Prevention and Cessation Funding

- Tobacco causes at least 12 cancers, and is the number one cause of preventable death in Minnesota.
- Smoking costs Minnesotans over \$7 billion each year: \$3 billion in health care costs and \$4 billion in lost productivity.
- There are 102,000 kids now under 18 and alive in MN who will ultimately die prematurely from smoking.
- Last year, the state collected more than \$840 million in tobacco taxes and settlement fees, and less than one percent (\$5 million) was spent on tobacco prevention and cessation efforts.
- Funded by the tobacco settlement, ClearWay MinnesotaSM provides current prevention and cessation services. ClearWay Minnesota is life limited and will end in March of 2020.

Issue #2: Tobacco 21

- Raising the tobacco age to 21 will prevent youth tobacco use and save lives.
- Almost 95% of addicted adult smokers started smoking by age 21.
- Increasing the tobacco age is expected to prevent 30,000 Minnesota kids from becoming smokers over the next 15 years.
- The tobacco industry aggressively markets to youth and young adults to recruit replacement smokers and guarantee profits.
- Tobacco causes at least 12 cancers, and is the number one cause of preventable death in Minnesota.

Issue #3: Health Care Access Fund

- The Health Care Access Fund pays for health insurance programs like Minnesota Care and Medical Assistance.
- The Health Care Access Fund also pays for important community health grants and other programs around health disparities.
- If Minnesota fails to take action, more than 800,000 Minnesotans covered by MinnesotaCare or Medical Assistance could be at risk of losing their health insurance.

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CANCERvotes

WWW.ACSCAN.ORG/MN

Cancer Votes is the nation's leading non-partisan election program educating the public and candidates about the actions lawmakers should take to make fighting cancer a state and national priority.

Use this palm card to talk to the candidates running to be Minnesota's next governor or your state representative about cancer issues. If you feel comfortable, share your own cancer story.

Tobacco Prevention and Cessation

Tobacco use is still the most significant risk factor for at least 12 types cancer, yet Big Tobacco continues to aggressively market to recruit replacement smokers and keep current smokers addicted. Every year, Minnesota collects more than \$840 million in tobacco taxes and settlement fees, but less than one percent (\$5 million) is spent on life-saving tobacco prevention education programs, and none is dedicated to cessation services.

Will you support dedicating more state funding for effective tobacco prevention and cessation programs in Minnesota?

Raising Minnesota's tobacco sales age to 21

Nearly all tobacco users start before 21, and many kids get tobacco products from peers who are 18, 19 or 20. If Minnesota raised the tobacco sales age to 21, it is projected that thirty thousand kids would be prevented from starting to smoke. To date, 11 Minnesota communities have done so.

Would you support legislation to raise the age of sale for all tobacco products in Minnesota to 21?

Health Care Access Fund

Cancer patients are 50% more likely to survive if they have health insurance coverage. More Minnesotans have health insurance than ever before because of Minnesota Care and the Medicaid expansion. The primary funding source for the health care access fund (and other important programs) is a 2% tax on health care providers and it is set to expire at the end of 2019.

Do you support a sustainable, long-term funding source for the Health Care Access Fund, whether that would be extending the provider tax or replacing it with a new funding source?



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