Municipal Tobacco Control Technical Assistance Program

Local Policy Banning or Limiting Rolling Papers

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MUNICIPALITY MEASURE MEASURE TYPE YEAR flavor ban 2021 health regulation flavor ban health regulation 2021 flavor ban health regulation flavor ban health regulation 1994 ban town bylaw flavor ban health regulation 2022 flavor ban limited to AORTS city ordinance 1991 flavor ban health regulation

Peabody Rochester Shrewsbury flavor ban health regulation 2021 Somerville flavor ban health regulation 2021 Stoughton ban health regulation 1997 Swansea flavor ban health regulation 2023 Townsend 2021 Wellesley health regulation ban

TOTAL: 17 (6 City in Bold) - 579,050 residents or 5.2% of state's population lives in listed municipalities.

SUMMARY: MGL Ch. 270 Section 6a limits the sale of rolling papers to those 21 or older. The original state law pre-empted cities and towns from regulating this law further unless you had an existing local measure enacted before November 1995. That preemption was removed in 2018 at the time the age was raised in this state law from 18 to 21. AORTS = adult-only retail tobacco store. Below is language for a local policy:

DEFINITION:

Adams

Chelsea

Easton

Foxboro

Grafton

Malden

Marion

New Bedford

Greenfield

Belchertown

Rolling Papers: sheets, rolls, tubes, cones or leaves, that do not contain tobacco, which are used for rolling cigarettes either by hand or with a roll-your-own machine. When rolling a cigarette, the filler may be tobacco, cannabis or other commonly-smoked herbs.

TO BAN THE SALE OF ALL ROLLING PAPERS:

The sale of Rolling Papers is prohibited in [city/town] except in state-approved marijuana dispensaries or marijuana retailers.

OR

TO BAN THE SALE OF FLAVORED VERSIONS ONLY:

Add this sentence to the existing flavor sales restriction policy:

For this regulation, flavored Rolling Papers, as defined, are "Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancers".

4/18/2023

A Technical Assistance Project for cities and towns funded through a Mass. DPH grant to the Mass. Municipal Association.