



February 29, 2024

Testimony of Laura Hale
American Heart Association
Favorable W/ Amendment HB 1414

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby and Honorable Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity address the committee. My name is Laura Hale, and I am the Director of Government Relations for the American Heart Association. The American Heart Association expresses concern on HB1414 and asks for it to be amended.

We support the spirit of this bill, overall it touches on a variety of areas that are central to tobacco control. This legislation overlaps with several bills that have been heard in the committee. We would ask that 1) the Clean Indoor Air Act language be removed as we support the stronger phrasing provided by the Health Department in HB 238 and SB 244. 2) In the section on enforcement of the FDA's law we would ask that it be clarified as to who is able to do the enforcement and in what capacity.

The use of any tobacco product, including vaping, is dangerous for your health. The science is clear and supporting policies that will help decrease youth uptake, help smokers quit, and decrease exposure to 2nd hand smoke are key.

The committee has several strong tobacco bills before them and we ask that you look at them in concert to address the pressing need to decrease tobacco use.

Sincerely,

Laura Hale