



MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Mississippi Tobacco Control Advisory Council (TCAC) Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Date August 21, 2020

Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00PM

Minutes

Chairman:	Robert Collins	Recorder:	Reeshemah Allen
Distribution List:	Entire TCAC Membership		

	Attended	Did Not Attend	Representative Attended (list name)
Robert Collins	X		
Winston Choi			
Gena Vail	X		
Felicia Gavin			
Tom Payne			
Donna Antoine-LaVigne			
Krista Guynes			
Richard Summers			
Nelson Atehortua De La Pena	X		
Richard Friedman			

Meeting Called to Order: 11:04 A.M.

Introductory remarks: None

Updates (MSDH): None

Updates (Data): None

Updates (Partners):
 Rhonda Shirley of the Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi discussed provisions within Senate Bill 2596 along with the following penalties:

For anyone selling or providing alternative nicotine products, the penalty increased from \$250 for a first offense up to \$1,000 for a third and subsequent offense. The maximum penalty is currently a \$100 fine for a third or subsequent offense.

The penalties triple if the alternative nicotine product contains any controlled substance prohibited by law, or any other substance that causes the recipient to require emergency medical care.

If a person under 21 found by a court in possession of a tobacco or alternative nicotine product, the penalty will be \$100 fine and a maximum 15 hours of community services for a first offense.

For a second offense, a \$300 fine and up to 25 hours of community service, and for a third and subsequent offense, a \$500 fine and up to 40 hours of community service.

In addition to fines and penalties, a business selling tobacco and vaping products to minors could face suspension up to revocation of permits to sell the products based on the number of violations in a 12-month period.

Updates (Other): Jeni Klein, Senior Clients Services for Optum, gave an overview of the services that now being offered to Mississippians. The MS participants can choose to enroll via phone, web, referral (fax or EHR) or chat. Upon enrollment the participant can choose which program that would be most effect and efficient for them to achieve their goal of quitting. The MS Quitline offers Integrated Phone (Helpline), Behavioral Health (10/1/2020) Web Only and Individual Services. Optum is providing a Community Outreach Coordination, Kendra Wright. Optum is available to work with the MTFC in the communities. Optum is offering tailored support for the priority populations of behavioral health, African Americans, Youth 9 Live Vape Free), Pregnancy, and Low SES.

William “Bubba” Bland from the MS Attorney General Office gave an overview that was reflective of the overview that was given by the partners. Bubba highlighted that if the youth was caught with alternative nicotine substance that the youth completed the community service hours, but the parents will be responsible for the fines.

Old Business:

Approval of Previous Minutes (Yes or No – List any Revisions):

Motions (List the Motion and the individual who made the motion):

Seconding of Motions (List the individual who seconded the motion):

Votes (In Favor of Or Opposed):

New Business: Amendment of Article II of the bylaws to included “and other alternative nicotine products”. There were not enough council members for a quorum or to vote. It was suggested by the Dr. Collins to send an email the absent council member to vote on the changing the language to be inclusive of multiple forms of nicotine products.

According to Article IV of the bylaws, it was suggested by Dr. Collins to open the floor to nominate a new chairman for the TCAC. Dr. Nelson Atehortua De La Pena nominated by Amy Winter. This issue will be delivered to the absent TCAC member via email for voting at the Nov. meeting.

Next Meeting: November 6, 2020

Adjourned (List Time): 12:15 P.M.

Comments:
