

Understanding Casey’s Law

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If the Court determines there is probable cause to order treatment, the Court will set a hearing to determine if treatment should be ordered. The respondent will then be ordered to go to the appointments the petitioner has already made.

– The respondent is notified that they must then go to the appointments for evaluation by a physician and a qualified health professional.

If they refuse to attend the Court will issue a

summons. If they still refuse to go the Court will issue an order for law enforcement to transport the respondent for the evaluations.

– Once the respondent is evaluated, the two health care professionals will provide a written document to the Court. A hearing will then be held to determine if the respondent should undergo treatment.

The second hearing must be held within 14 days of the first hearing. The respondent can be

provided a public defender to represent them during the hearing.

– The Court can order treatment up to 360 days, depending on the request in the petition, the result of the hearings and the opinions of the treating professionals.

– The petitioner is responsible for obtaining treatment services and transporting the respondent to the treatment facility. The petitioner must have a treatment bed ready on the respondent’s hearing date.

A video about Casey’s Law can be found online at [youtube.com/watch?v=HCsQX7NISsY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HCsQX7NISsY)

Legislators push tax on e-cigs

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the state health commissioner, said the bill “really has the opportunity to make a true impact on health,” by discouraging e-cig use by young people, whose brains don’t fully develop until they are 25.

A survey last year showed that 27 percent of Kentucky high-school seniors reported using the devices, up from 12 percent in 2016.

Chandler said students, teachers and parents “don’t know that they’re bad for you. . . . “These products are not safe. They are unsafe.”

“This is a time when adult habits are developing,” said Rep. Kim Moser, R-Taylor Mill, chair of the House Health and Family Services Committee, and Miller’s co-sponsor. “This is really a critical time to stop the use.”

Miller said the Senate sponsor of the bill will be Louisville Republican Julie Raque Adams of Louisville, chair of the chamber’s majority caucus.

The bill would raise the excise tax on tobacco products other than cigarettes to 27.5 percent from the current 15 percent, making the same percentage increase that was applied to the cigarette tax, Miller said.

The resulting price increase would discourage teenagers from using e-cigarettes, said Yulie Spade, 18, a recent graduate of Louisville’s Mercy Academy. A classmate, Jenna Ebel, said, “It’s causing an epidemic of nicotine-addicted teens.”

Miller acknowledged opposition from e-cigarette dealers, who argue that teens can order the products online. He said he thought his bill “will

hit most of the youth.”

Howard noted that Kentucky’s recent declines in traditional cigarette use have not been as large as those of most other states, and he worries that today’s youth e-cig users will become tomorrow’s cigarette smokers, reversing recent progress and incurring greater health costs, much of which would be paid by taxpayers through the Medicaid program. “There’s certainly a return on investment,” he said.

Asked if his presence at the news conference indicated that Gov. Matt Bevin’s administration supports the bill, Howard said “I vetted this through our secretary” of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services, Adam Meier, whose previous job was Bevin’s deputy chief of staff.


By Al Cross
Kentucky Health
News



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