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KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Premiere Bill

Red	Bill	#	Р3	0
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Referred to Committee: House 5

Authors: Evan Dunaway, Kirstyn Evans, Sophia Hornbeck, Destiny Wallace	Action on the Bill		
School: Williamstown MS	House	Senate	
City· Williamstown	□ Passed	□ Passed	

An act to Encourage People To Stop Smoking Through Tax Incentives

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: National Deaths from Smoking. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention reports there are more than 480,000 annual deaths due to cigarette smoking including second hand smoke. According to the American Lung Association, in 2010, Kentucky had the highest age adjusted lung cancer incident rates in both men (121.7 per 100,000) and women (79.6 per 100,000). It also reports that smoking causes cancer in the mouth and lungs, gum disease, tooth decay, frequent headaches, narrowed blood vessels to the brain, raised blood pressure, more frequent blood clots, increased risk of heart attack, and loss of circulation to the fingers and toes.

Section 2: This bill will encourage citizens of Kentucky to completely stop smoking by rewarding them for the amount of time they do not smoke. The reward will be a tax credit. A tax credit of \$600 will be given to anyone who can prove that they have been smoke-free for the last year. If you wish to get the tax credit, you must be 16 years of age or older and you must get a blood or urine test every 6 months.

Section 3: This bill will also increase the tax on any tobacco products in the state of Kentucky from \$0.60 to \$1.20 per item. All of the taxes will be spent on costs incurred in section 2. According to TobaccoFreeKids.org, there are 39 other states that have higher tax rates for cigarettes than Kentucky. The highest tax rate is in the state of New York at \$4.35/tobacco product.

Section 4: This bill will take effect in January of 2016.