DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND BUDGET
2025 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

PUBLISHED: 2/10/2025 10:50 AM **SUBSTITUTE**

Bill Number: HB 1946 **Patron:** Hope
Bill Title: Retail tobacco and hemp products; smoking by a person younger than 21 years of age, prohibitions.

Bill Summary: Prohibits any person younger than 21 years of age from attempting to possessing any retail tobacco product or hemp product intended for smoking, as those terms are defined in relevant law, with certain exceptions enumerated in the bill. The bill provides that any such product purchased or possessed by a person younger than 21 years of age (i) shall be deemed contraband, (ii) may be seized by a law-enforcement officer, and (iii) any such product, the lawful possession of which is not established, seized by such officer shall be forfeited and disposed of according to the process described in relevant law. The bill also provides that seizure shall be the sole penalty for a violation of such prohibition and that the provisions of the bill shall not preclude prosecution under any other statute. The bill contains technical amendments.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No. **Items Impacted:**
Explanation: This substitute legislation eliminates the fiscal impact to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority.

Fiscal Summary: There is no expected fiscal impact to this legislation.

Fiscal Analysis: The substitute bill eliminates the impact to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority. Additionally, the Department of Taxation has indicated that the costs of the workgroup required by the substitute legislation can be absorbed in existing administrative resources.

Other: The original bill is a companion to SB1060.