

ASSEMBLY, No. 2585

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 1996

By Assemblyman GIBSON

1 AN ACT concerning possession of tobacco products by minors and  
2 supplementing Title 2A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. a. No person under the age of 18 years shall possess or have  
8 under his control any cigarettes made of tobacco; any cigarette paper  
9 or tobacco in any form including smokeless tobacco. A minor who  
10 violates this section shall be subject to a fine of up to \$100.00.

11 b. A municipal court shall have jurisdiction over proceedings to  
12 enforce and collect any penalty imposed because of a violation of  
13 subsection a. of this section if the violation has occurred within the  
14 territorial jurisdiction of the court. The proceedings shall be summary  
15 and in accordance with "the penalty enforcement law, " (N.J.S. 2A:58-  
16 1 et seq.). Process shall be the nature of a summons or warrant and  
17 shall issue by the municipal law enforcement authority.

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19 2. This act shall take effect 30 days following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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24 This bill would prohibit the possession of cigarettes and other  
25 tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco, by minors.  
26 Violations of this prohibition would be punishable by a fine of up to  
27 \$100.00. The enactment of this bill would protect the public health  
28 and safety by discouraging our teens from smoking.

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33 Prohibits possession of cigarettes and other tobacco products by  
34 minors.