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| **ALABAMA ENFORCING NEW TOBACCO AGE**FDA bans most flavored e-cigarette cartridgesThe Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board has instructed its inspectors to enforce the federal law setting the purchase age for tobacco, including e-cigarettes, at 21. "It is our understanding that the law went into effect last week," an ABC spokesman told the Alabama Retail Association this morning.Also, [the U.S. Food & Drug Administration](https://alabamaretail.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d4e28bc50d15b20715a558f77&id=746ccfa0e0&e=47d3c64017) today gave a 30-day warning to companies that manufacture, distribute and sale flavored, cartridge-based e-cigarettes. Starting Feb. 1, the only flavored cartridge e-cigarettes that can be made or purchased without risk of FDA enforcement action will be tobacco or menthol.The new flavor enforcement policy does not apply to tank-based products.>> [Full FDA guidance document](https://alabamaretail.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d4e28bc50d15b20715a558f77&id=3a3d3bb49d&e=47d3c64017)Today's FDA action is the latest effort to curb youth use of e-cigarettes.On Dec. 20, the president signed a spending bill into law that included a prohibition against tobacco sales to anyone younger than 21. Prior to this change, the minimum age to buy tobacco products in Alabama was 19.The Alabama Department of Public Health suggests retailers with questions about the new age requirements contact the Center for Tobacco Products Office of Small Business Assistance at **1-877-287-1373**, or via email at smallbiz.tobacco@fda.hhs.gov.>> [Link to FDA's tobacco retailer compliance web page](https://alabamaretail.us11.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d4e28bc50d15b20715a558f77&id=8f6322dfdc&e=47d3c64017)We will continue to provide information or guidance from federal and state regulatory agencies on this issue as we receive it. |   |
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| Alabama Retail AssociationPO Box 240669 | Montgomery, AL 36124(334) 263-5757 | support@alabamaretail.org[Unsubscribe from this list.](https://alabamaretail.us11.list-manage.com/unsubscribe?u=d4e28bc50d15b20715a558f77&id=f9ebb7b30c&e=47d3c64017&c=d34c6d4e20)  |

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