TO: Members, House Commerce and Labor Committee

We support HB 1617 which would make it an unfair employment practice for an employer to refuse to hire or discharge an employee solely because that individual uses lawful tobacco products during off-duty hours, away from their place of employment. This legislation does not prohibit applicable collective bargaining agreements with provisions relating to off-duty use of tobacco products. In supporting this legislation, we in no way endorse the use of tobacco, but we do feel this is a privacy issue which merits your support.

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