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Youth are Educating The City of Callaway About Tobacco Retail Licensing
New law would aid in enforcement of tobacco laws



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Panama City, Fla. – The Bay County chapter of Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT)—together with the Bay County Tobacco Free Partnership—will be educating their community leaders on the benefits of Tobacco Retail Licenses (TRL) to the City of Callaway Commission at the end of the month. These young leaders from around Bay County will share with the Commission the community-wide benefits of a TRL, which would empower the local government with better control over where tobacco can be sold and what kinds of businesses can sell tobacco products. Should the TRL be adopted by the Commission, it would aid in tobacco product placement enforcement and help ensure responsible retailing in the City of Callaway.

SWAT students hope that this license will help protect Bay County's young people from dangerous tobacco products at the point-of-sale level, all the while taking a continued stance against Big Tobacco's youth-focused target marketing. The commission meeting will take place on June 26, 2018 at 6:00 PM at the Callaway Arts & Conference Center.

For information on the upcoming meeting or TRL, please contact Bonnie Steelman at 850-252-9690 or Bonnie.Steelman@flhealth.gov. To join the Bay County Tobacco Free Partnership, contact Heather Kretzer at 850-252-9670 or Heather.Kretzer@FLHealth.gov. Meetings are the 5th Tuesday of each quarter from 3 – 5 pm at DOH-Bay's auditorium located at 597 W 11th Street, Panama City, FL 32401.

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About Tobacco Free Florida

The department's Tobacco Free Florida campaign is a statewide cessation and prevention campaign funded by Florida's tobacco settlement fund. Since the program began in 2007, more than 188,000 Floridians have successfully quit using one of Tobacco Free Florida's free tools and services. There are now approximately 451,000 fewer adult smokers in Florida than there was 10 years ago, and the state has saved \$17.7 billion in health care costs.[xii] To learn more about Tobacco Free Florida's Quit Your Way services, visit www.tobaccofreeflorida.com or follow the campaign on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TobaccoFreeFlorida or on Twitter at www.twitter.com/tobaccofreefla.