

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011
4

As Engrossed: S3/10/11

A Bill

SENATE BILL 917

5 By: Senator E. Williams
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT MEASURES TO DETER MINORS FROM
9 USING TOBACCO PRODUCTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

10
11
12 TO IMPLEMENT MEASURES TO DETER MINORS
13 FROM USING TOBACCO PRODUCTS.
14
15
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
18

19 *SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings.*

20 *(a) It is the public policy of this state to prohibit the sale of*
21 *tobacco products to persons younger than eighteen (18) years of age and*
22 *prohibit the use of tobacco by persons younger than eighteen (18) years of*
23 *age.*

24 *(b) Studies show that ninety percent (90%) of adult smokers began when*
25 *they were in their teens, or earlier, and two-thirds (2/3) become regular,*
26 *daily smokers before they reach nineteen (19) years of age.*

27 *(c) Even though Arkansas retailers have a strict policy of not selling*
28 *tobacco products to minors, a sizable percentage of minors do obtain and use*
29 *tobacco products.*

30 *(d) Although the use of tobacco products by minors is an unlawful act, it*
31 *is only a violation and should not be treated as a criminal offense.*

32 *(e) A stronger deterrent is needed to discourage the illegal use of*
33 *tobacco products by minors.*
34

35 *SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 5-78-102 is amended to read as follows:*
36 *5-78-102. Confiscation of tobacco products authorized.*



