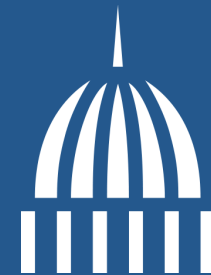

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WISCONSIN'S NEW LEGISLATORS!

December 5, 2018

Holly South
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LegisBrief
A QUICK LOOK INTO IMPORTANT ISSUES OF THE DAY
NOV 2018 | VOL. 26, NO. 41

State Actions on Tobacco Prevention and Cessation

BY KARMEN HANSON

Smoking-related illness continues to be the leading preventable cause of death and disease, costing more than \$500 billion each year in direct medical costs and lost productivity. And it's the states that often bear much of these direct and associated costs.

Smoking cessation—the process of quitting smoking—has numerous health benefits. It lowers the risk of developing lung and other types of cancer, heart disease, respiratory complications and other negative health outcomes. Since 2002, there are more former smokers than current smokers, and state legislators and agencies continue to take

steps to help people quit smoking and prevent people from using tobacco in the first place.

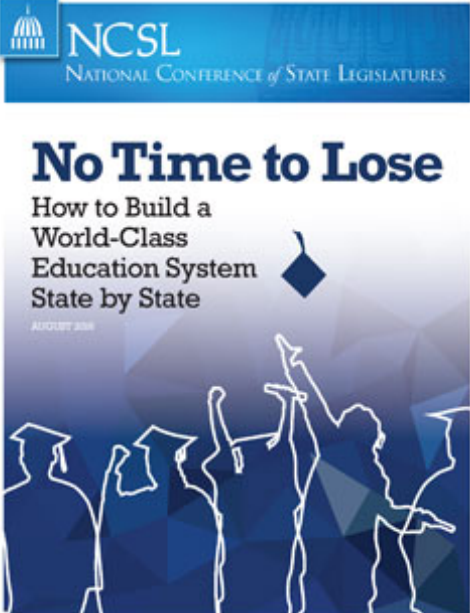
State Action

California adopted a tobacco tax proposition in 1989 to fund a state tobacco control program. State-sponsored tobacco toll-free phone numbers, called quitlines, connect tobacco users to cessation resources, including free or reduced-cost nicotine replacement products (such as gum, lozenges and patches), prescription cessation medications and other counseling.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides some funding for tobacco control programs and quitlines in all states, most territo-

Did You Know?

- An estimated 37.8 million U.S. adults smoke cigarettes, and more than 16 million Americans have a smoking-related disease.
- Using tobacco cessation products improves smokers' chances of quitting to at least 30 percent compared to 5 percent for those not using these products.
- Florida operates one of the largest-running tobacco prevention programs and has reduced its high-school smoking rate to 5.2 percent.



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 - ❖ Wisconsin's is **Wendy Underhill**:
wendy.underhill@ncsl.org
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5. Register for a training or policy webinar
6. Read *State Legislatures* magazine and NCSL blog
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