



Colin Carrie MP Oshawa

Carrie Moves to Ban Kiddie Cigarettes

For immediate release.

Ottawa, ON June 11, 2009 – Today, Dr. Colin Carrie, Member of Parliament for Oshawa, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Health, and the House of Commons Standing Committee on Health and Safety (HESA) moved a step closer to approving the amendments in Bill C-32, *An Act to Amend the Tobacco Act*, so the House can vote on the bill.

“This is extremely important legislation,” stated MP Colin Carrie, member of the HESA. “Bill C-32 is designed to protect children and youth from tobacco industry marketing practices that encourage them to use tobacco products. I strongly urge my colleagues in the committee to recognize the importance of this Bill, approve it, and let the House vote on it.”

The marketing practices described by Dr. Carrie are the use of flavouring and additives to cigarettes that would appeal to children and youth. These include the availability of little cigars and blunt wraps (sheets or tubes of tobacco) in single or small quantity “kiddy-packs”, and an increasing number of tobacco ads in daily newspapers. Little cigars (also known as cigarillos) and blunt wraps are marketed today with fruit flavours (such as grape, cherry, peach, banana split and tropical punch) and additives (such as vitamins, sugar and others that taste like candy) that mask the harshness of the tobacco, and therefore appeals to children.

The proposed amendments in Bill C-32 would:

- prohibit the addition to little cigars, cigarettes, and blunt wraps of fruit flavours and additives that would appeal to children and youth;
- prohibit the representation of these flavours and additives on the package such as a picture or graphic; and
- create a minimum package quantities requirement; unlike cigarettes that must be sold in packages of 20, little cigars and blunt wraps are often sold individually, and priced for as little as a dollar.

“What this Bill does is send a message to tobacco companies that Canadians will not tolerate targeting children with products that are dangerous,” stated Carrie.

Media Advisory

Dr. Carrie will be holding a news conference on Bill C-32. At the conference Colin will provide samples to the media of the kinds of products Bill C-32 will target.

Details:

Date: **Friday June 12, 2009**

Location: **Colin Carrie Constituency Office,
57 Simcoe St. South, Suite 2B
Oshawa ,Ontario L1H 4G4**

Time: **12:00 PM**

- 30 -

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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