



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Single Market Enforcement

Notification of Regulatory Barriers

Notification Number : 2024/0347/IE (Ireland)

## Public Health (Tobacco) (Amendment) Bill 2024

Date received : 27/06/2024

End of Standstill : 30/09/2024

### Message

Message 001

Communication from the Commission - TRIS/(2024) 1682

Directive (EU) 2015/1535

Notification: 2024/0347/IE

Notification of a draft text from a Member State

Notification – Notification – Notifizierung – Нотификация – Oznámení – Notifikation – Γνωστοποίηση – Notificación – Teavitamine – Ilmoitus – Obavijest – Bejelentés – Notifica – Pranešimas – Paziņojums – Notifika – Kennisgeving – Zawiadomienie – Notificação – Notificare – Oznámenie – Obvestilo – Anmälan – Fógra a thabhairt

Does not open the delays - N'ouvre pas de délai - Kein Fristbeginn - Не се предвижда период на прекъсване - Ne zahajuje prodlení - Fristerne indledes ikke - Καμία έναρξη προθεσμίας - No abre el plazo - Viivituste perioodi ei avata - Määräaika ei ala tästä - Ne otvara razdoblje kašnjenja - Nem nyitja meg a késésekét - Non fa decorrere la mora - Atidējimai nepradedami - Atlikšanas laikposms nesākas - Ma jiftaħx il-perijodi ta' dewmien - Geen termijnbegin - Nie otwiera opóźnień - Não inicia o prazo - Nu deschide perioadele de stagnare - Nezačína oneskorenia - Ne uvaja zamud - Inleder ingen frist - Ní osclaíonn sé na moilleanna

MSG: 20241682.EN

1. MSG 001 IND 2024 0347 IE EN 27-06-2024 IE NOTIF

2. Ireland

3A. Enterprise Trade and Employment

3B. Health

4. 2024/0347/IE - X60M - Tobacco

5. Public Health (Tobacco) (Amendment) Bill 2024

6. Tobacco products

7.

8. The single purpose of this draft proposal is to raise the minimum legal age of sale of tobacco products in Ireland from 18 to 21



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9. Despite Ireland's comprehensive tobacco control laws, recent data on smoking levels here shows signs of a slowing down in the decrease in prevalence here and even some slight increases.

According to the 2023 national Healthy Ireland survey, Ireland's smoking prevalence for those aged 15 and over is 18%. Prevalence was 17% in 2019, increased to 18% in 2021 (there was no survey in 2020) and has remained at 18% for 2022 and 2023.

The results from the 2019 European Schools Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs survey showed smoking prevalence in young people in Ireland aged 15-16 at 14.4% which is an increase on the rate of 13% in 2015.

Tobacco smoking is both addictive and lethal and remains the biggest risk factor driving disability and death combined in Ireland. Each year in Ireland an estimated 4,500 deaths are attributable to smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke.

In addition to the death toll, smoking and exposure to second-hand smoke cause an enormous range of preventable illness and disability. In Ireland they are the cause of 13% of all cancers and account for 2% of day case admissions, 5% of all inpatient admissions and 8% of all bed days at an estimated cost of €172 million in publicly funded hospitals. A 2016 estimate of the cost of smoking in Ireland in a single year (including the estimated loss of welfare to individuals from contracting health conditions or dying prematurely) was €10.6 billion.

In the context of the continuing disease, disability and death caused by tobacco smoking, Ireland needs to take further action in order to protect the health of its population.

10. References of the Basic Texts:

11. No

12.

13. No

14. No

15. Yes

16.

TBT aspects:

The draft is a technical regulation or a conformity assessment

SPS aspects: No

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European Commission

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