

Synar Talking Points

SAB meeting, Dec. 14, 2022

BACKGROUND:

In July 1992, Congress passed the Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Mental Health Administration Reorganization Act (PL 102-321), which included Section 1926– federal mandate requiring all states and territories to enact and enforce a law prohibiting the sale of tobacco to minors.

Section 1926 is named after U.S. Rep. Mike Synar of OK who was an advocate for this cause of decreasing youth access to tobacco. States must comply with the Synar Amendment to receive full funding from the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.

PL 116-94 in Dec. 2019 superseded this law and increased the minimum age for tobacco sales from 18-21.

See more at <https://www.samhsa.gov/synar/about-synar>

IMPACT ON FUNDING:

Synar effort aims to keep the Retail Violation Rate, or RVR, under 20% annually.

A state can lose up to 40% of its SABG funding if the RVR is above 20%.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

An annual report is required, and currently ours is posted on the DPBH website for public comment until Friday. The report is due on Dec. 30. You can read the report and provide a comment. Go to: <https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ClinicalSAPTA/dta/Synar/Synar/>

STATE Synar TEAM:

Office of Attorney General – inspection and enforcement, but enforcement is not funded by the SABG

Dept. of Health & Human Services -

Tobacco Control Program – merchant education, full-time Synar Coordinator - Sarah Motts, smotts@health.nv.gov

SAPTA – funding prevention providers, annual report, and leadership. Contact Jennie Bear, SABG Prevention Coordinator, jbear@health.nv.gov c: 775-431-7089

Office of Analytics – we rely on their expertise for the statistics that are required in the law for the report