

Teens React to Tobacco 21 Law

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ST. LOUIS (KMOX) – Yesterday, [St. Louis County Executive Steve Stenger signed a measure making 21 the minimum age to buy tobacco products](#). Now that “Tobacco 21” is the law, how are teens reacting?

“Some people do think that it’s not the right thing to do, some people are like ‘You shouldn’t be taking this right from me,’” says 16-year-old Michelle Lee. “But inevitably we all know this is what Missouri needs and what St. Louis needs.” She adds that the bill’s purpose is to prevent teens from getting addicted to tobacco product, not to restrict their freedoms.

Seventeen-year-old Eli Bohnert says he realizes some will drive across borders to get their tobacco fix.

“There will be some people that do travel outside of the county because they are already addicted and it’s something there just going to do. But this is about prevention and helping people that are not addicted yet and stopping it,” Bohnert says.

Lee, Bohnert and other teens were at the bill signing to support the measure.

The so-called ‘Tobacco 21’ measure, which includes cigarettes, chewing tobacco and e-cigs, takes effect on December 1st.

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