

# Letter: City Council should raise legal age for tobacco to save lives

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**Letter submitted by: David B. Fisher**

The City of Ann Arbor should raise the legal age to buy tobacco to 21 years without delay. Tobacco use still kills more than 16,000 Michiganders every year, and almost all (95 percent) were hooked by age 21. Tobacco causes disease in nearly every organ in the body and is responsible for 87 percent of lung cancer deaths in men and 70 percent in women, 79 percent of all COPD deaths and 32 percent of deaths from heart disease.

Since tobacco is so harmful, we should do every reasonable thing to prevent kids and young people from this deadly addiction. Increasing the legal sale age will reduce smoking and save lives.

*David B. Fisher, Ann Arbor*