

Today's Headlines: Bloomberg Wants Retailers To Hide Cigarettes

Posted on Mar 19, Posted by [Mike Muller](#) Category [City](#)

Mayor Bloomberg introduced a bill yesterday that would force retailers to keep cigarettes out of view from customers. It would not affect advertising, which falls under First Amendment protections. Speaker Quinn said she is very open to the idea. A Health Department study found that [80 percent of stores](#) selling cigarettes devote most of their space behind the register to tobacco displays. A British study found that simply noticing tobacco on display [raised the odds](#) kids would try smoking by threefold. A [second proposed bill](#) would raise penalties for retailers who evade tobacco taxes and create a minimum price of \$10.50 per pack. Retailers [complain](#) they will lose a lot of business.

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