

Dear Legislators:

I would like for you to vote NO on SB 990.

I have successfully quit smoking traditional cigarettes thanks to e-cigarettes. I was a pack a day smoker for almost 30 years and tried several times to quit. The patch, hypnosis, Chantix - nothing worked for me. I always seemed to relapse back to cigarettes within a few months. The longest I was able to quit for 1.5 years.

I have not smoked a cigarette since December 2011 thanks to e-cigarettes.

It is easy to distinguish e-cigarettes from actual smoking. Although some e-cigarettes resemble real cigarettes, many do not. It is easy to tell when someone lights a cigarette, from the smell of smoke. E-cigarette vapor is practically odorless, and generally any detectable odor is not unpleasant and smells nothing like smoke. E-cigarette vapor does not behave in the same manner as smoke. There is no "side stream" vapor like the side stream smoke coming from the lit end of a cigarette. There is also no ash or litter. With so little evidence of use, enforcing indoor use bans on electronic cigarettes would be nearly impossible.

The ability to use electronic cigarettes in public spaces will actually improve public health by inspiring other smokers to switch. I often have people ask me about it and encourage them to give it a try! Surveys of thousands of users indicate that the majority of those who switch, completely replace tobacco cigarettes with the electronic cigarettes, reducing their health risks by 98-99%.

Thanks,
~Greg

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