

NATIONAL VAPERS CLUB



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February 22, 2014

Written Testimony for SB 24 - Ban of E-Cigarette sales to minors and the definition of these products as "Tobacco."

National Vapers Club does not support the use and sale of vaping products to minors below the legal smoking age. While we support the idea of the proposed legislation SB 24, the legislature is asked to pass a bill which would incorrectly portray vaping products as tobacco or nicotine products. Not all vaping products contain nicotine and none of them contain tobacco. It is in the best interest of the public to enact a law that specifically addresses the sale and use of "vaping products" to minors. This would be more accurate than a law that includes these products in existing tobacco control laws. Tobacco control laws are established to reduce the sales and impact of a deadly product. Vaping products are an alternative to tobacco and are designed to reduce the risks of traditional tobacco products.

While vaping products show very promising results in reducing harm caused by smoking tobacco products (See references below)¹, we do not wish to see a new generation become addicted to nicotine. National Vapers Club does not support the use of vaping products by minors, as these devices could be habit forming.

National Vapers Club implores the legislators of the State of Connecticut to take a closer look at the benefits of vaping products before enacting the proposed bill into law. Vaping products are a topic of discussion in many cities and states across the nation. Recently in Oregon, two bills introduced were tabled until 2015 after more studies on the subject could be performed and a legislative committee was appointed. In Oklahoma, the topic was similarly tabled, and the state legislature conducted an Interim Study on Electronic Cigarettes, which featured presentations from leading researchers, policy advisors and industry leaders, found [here](#).

On behalf of our members and the estimated millions of vapers in the US today, and thousands in National Vapers Club strongly encourages legislators to enact a bill that specifically addresses vaping products and their prohibited sale and use by minors.

Sincerely yours,

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¹ McAuley, TR, PK Hopke, J. Zhao, and S. Babin. "Result Filters." *National Center for Biotechnology Information*. U.S. National Library of Medicine, 24 Oct. 2012. Web. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23033998>.

¹Goniewicz, Maciej L., Ph.D., Tomasz Kuma, M.Pharm., Tomasz Kuma, M.Pharm., Michal Gawron, Jakub Knysak, M.Pharm., and Leon Kosmider, M.Pharm. "Nicotine & Tobacco Research." *Nicotine Levels in Electronic Cigarettes*. N.p., 28 Oct. 2011. Web. <http://ntr.oxfordjournals.org/content/early/2012/04/21/ntr.nis103.short>.

¹Bullen, C., H. McRobbie, S. Thornley, M. Glover, R. Lin, and M. Laugesen. "Effect of an Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (e Cigarette) on Desire to Smoke and Withdrawal, User Preferences and Nicotine Delivery: Randomised Cross-over Trial." *Effect of an Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (e Cigarette) on Desire to Smoke and Withdrawal, User Preferences and Nicotine Delivery: Randomised Cross-over Trial*. N.p., 15 May 2009. Web. <http://tobaccocontrol.bmj.com/content/19/2/98.abstract>.

¹Siegel, Michael B. "Electronic Cigarettes As a Smoking-Cessation Tool." *Electronic Cigarettes As a Smoking-Cessation Tool*. N.p., 2011. Web. [http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797\(10\)00792-0/abstract](http://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797(10)00792-0/abstract).

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*National Vapers Club is a volunteer organization founded in 2009 by vaping product consumers that raises funds for scientific research, provides education to anyone who wants to learn more about vaping products, and helps protect vaper's rights by activism on the local, state and federal levels. The group presents Vapefest (vapefest.com) a semi-annual convention for vapers which is an educational, consumer/trade show. With funds raised from this and other grass-roots efforts, National Vapers Club funded the Indoor Vapor Air Quality Study (ivaqs.com) that determined the vapor emitted from vaping products did not present a risk for bystanders. In 2011 data was collected at Clarkson University's Center for Air Resources Engineering & Science. Data was published in the peer reviewed journal, *Inhalation Toxicology* in October 2012. This data is now presented to legislatures and health departments in localities where vaping product bans have been proposed or passed.*