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**Testimony: Raised Bill No. 290 An Act Concerning The Sale
and Purchase Of Tobacco Products, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems
and Vapor Products And Signage Concerning Usage of Such Products And
Systems**

Public Health Committee

March 2, 2016

Good Morning Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and esteemed
members of the Public Health Committee

I want to thank-you for the opportunity to provide testimony on behalf of
the Connecticut Nurses' Association (CNA). I am Mary Jane Williams Ph.D.,
RN current chairperson of Government Relations Committee for the
Connecticut Nurses Association.

I speak in strong support of **Testimony: Raised Bill No. 290 An Act
Concerning The Sale and Purchase Of Tobacco Products, Electronic
Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vapor Products And Signage Concerning
Usage of Such Products And Systems.**

This proposed legislation should be a first step in ultimately banning E-
Cigarettes when the evidenced based research demonstrates the hazardous

effect of this product. We have the evidence related to the health effects of electronic cigarettes. Initially it was believed that E Cigarettes were safe and less toxic than Tobacco products. The research that is evolving **does not** support the safety of E Cigarettes.

Electronic cigarettes, marketed as safer than regular cigarettes, deliver a cocktail of toxic chemicals including carcinogens into the lungs. Using e-cigarettes may even make bacterial infections resistant to antibiotics, according to one study.

Few studies have looked at the toxicity of their vapors. As a result, scientists have been circumspect about describing e-cigarettes as safe. E-cigarettes deliver high levels of nanoparticles, researchers found, which can trigger inflammation and have been linked to asthma, stroke, heart disease, and diabetes.”

Callahan- Lyon reviewed data from 18 studies on e-cigarettes’ vapors and found that most contain at least traces of the solvents in which nicotine and flavorings had been dissolved. Those solvents are known as lung irritants. The solvents can transform into something even more worrisome: carbonyls. This group includes known cancer-causing chemicals, such as formaldehyde, and suspected carcinogens, such as acetaldehyde. Because early e-cigarettes didn’t deliver the same powerful hit of nicotine that burning tobacco does, engineers developed second-generation technology that allows users to increase an e-cigarette’s voltage, and thus temperature, to atomize more nicotine per puff. But the higher temperatures also can trigger a thermal breakdown

of the solvents, producing the carbonyls. (Goniewicz of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute in Buffalo, N.Y.)

If users of second-generation e-cigarettes maximize the power on their devices while using, vaping liquids containing a solvent mix of glycerin and propylene glycol, formaldehyde levels can reach that found in tobacco smoke (Nicotine & Tobacco Research). Thornburg found the mass of particles in the vapors is about 3 milligrams per cubic meter of air, he says, or about 100 times as high as the Environmental Protection Agency's 24-hour exposure limit for levels of fine air particles.

Thornburg's group's analyses predict that some 40 percent of these inhaled particles would deposit in the lungs' smallest, deepest airways. In addition to nicotine and solvents, vapors also contain chemical flavorings and food preservatives from the vaping liquid. "No one has considered their safety when it comes to inhalation," and e-cigarette vapors can even make dangerous germs harder to kill, (American Thoracic Society).

Therefore I urge you to support **Raised Bill No. 290 An Act Concerning The Sale and Purchase Of Tobacco Products, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Vapor Products And Signage Concerning Usage of Such Products And Systems as a beginning step in the process.**

Thank you

Mary Jane M. Williams PhD., RN

Chair, Government Relation, Connecticut Nurses Association

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