



**Connecticut  
Public Health  
Association**

Promoting Public Health in Connecticut Since 1916

Jonathan Noel  
*President*

Morgan Spencer  
*President Elect*

Elizabeth Schwartz  
*Treasurer*

Heather Clinton  
*Secretary*

Brittany Allen  
*Past President*

**Board of Directors**

Theresa Argondezzi  
Albertina Baptista  
Kevin Borrup  
Courtney Butler  
Angela Carrano  
Riddhi Doshi  
William Faraclas  
Roberta Friedman  
Steve Huleatt  
Jenna Lupi  
Linda Mako  
Rasy Mar  
Ruthanne Marcus  
Bidisha Nath  
Heather Oatis  
Colleen O'Connor  
Mike Pascucilla  
Laurene Powers  
Crystal Schindo  
Millie Sequinot  
Jeff Shaw  
Cyndi Stern  
Jennifer Succi  
Melissa Touma  
Carolyn Wysocki

*CPHA is an affiliate of  
the American Public  
Health Association.*

TESTIMONY OF  
CONNECTICUT PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
REGARDING *H.B. 5293*  
*AAC THE SALE OF ELECTRONIC NICOTINE  
DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND VAPOR PRODUCTS*  
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH  
MARCH 20, 2018

Dear Senator Gerratana, Senator Somers, Representative Steinberg, and members of the Public Health Committee,

On behalf of the Connecticut Public Health Association where I serve as Co-Chair of the Advocacy Committee, I am pleased to submit this testimony. CPHA's mission is to promote the exchange of knowledge to improve the practice of Connecticut's public health professionals and the health and well-being of the people of Connecticut. The Connecticut Public Health Association (CPHA) strongly endorses **House Bill 5293** which would require the same face-to-face sale of electronic nicotine delivery systems and vapor products as is required for the sale of cigarettes.

Tobacco remains one of the leading causes of preventable death globally, and has long been a focus of both CPHA and our parent organization, the American Public Health Association (APHA). Over the years, CPHA has supported the important laws that protect residents from the dangers of nicotine products, including the requirements that cigarettes and smokeless tobacco be sold face-to-face. The rise of electronic nicotine delivery systems has led to a resurgence of questions that we had previously addressed with cigarettes.

In line with the American Lung Association, CPHA views electronic nicotine delivery systems and vapor products as potentially as dangerous to our health as cigarettes and other tobacco products. Early studies have uncovered potentially harmful effects from dangerous chemicals including nicotine and carcinogens. We continue to monitor the research, but can already see the need to control the sale of these products as we do with cigarettes.

Therefore, we strongly urge the Committee to support this bill, which will ensure that protections Connecticut has put into place for other tobacco products are upheld. Face-to-face sales will reduce the likelihood that minors are able to access these products, which is one of the main goals in reducing the use of tobacco, as the majority of adult smokers begin smoking in their youth.

CPHA strongly urges the Public Health Committee to support HB 5293. For additional information on CPHA's position on HB 5293 or other issues related to health equity, public health infrastructure, environmental health, or prevention, please contact me at [jenna.lupi@gmail.com](mailto:jenna.lupi@gmail.com) or 203-804-3562.

Sincerely, Jenna Lupi  
Co-Chair, Advocacy Committee  
CT Public Health Association