

Submitter: Elizabeth Woodard

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3090

I am particularly concerned about e-cigarette use and vaping among young people, and the surging incidence of vaping among kids who have never smoked. These young people are vulnerable to becoming addicted to the nicotine in vaping devices and e-cigarettes, and flavors may be making vaping more appealing to them. John Hopkins Medicine, Dr. Blaha observes that the appeal of vape flavors, rather than flavor ingredients themselves, may have a broader danger to the public.

“The key thing about flavors is that they seem to appeal to young people,” he says. “There is evidence that kids like the flavors like bubble gum, fruit and candy, and like trying new ones. For a lot of young people, it might be that the only reason they vape or use e-cigarettes is because they like the flavors.”

While more research may determine the overall harm from vaping, it is already clear that using “homemade” or unregulated vape juices can introduce unknown and potentially harmful substances into users’ lungs. Another main concern is the addictive nature of nicotine in vape juice or any tobacco product.

I strongly urge that our community bans these type of products.