



Michigan
CHAPTER

American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™



Michigan Chapter



March 11, 2019

HEALTH CARE

Re: **OPPOSE SB 106**

Dear Chair Nesbitt:

Please oppose SB 106. This bill is not about protecting kids from e-cigarettes, it is about protecting tobacco company profits. Separating e-cigarettes from the definition of tobacco products sets the stage to exempt these products from evidence-based tobacco control laws.

The tobacco industry's bottom line stands to gain by setting up a precedent where e-cigarettes are not regulated the way that other tobacco products are. The tobacco industry has a long history of supporting weak youth-access restrictions that penalize youth and fail to hold retailers accountable in an attempt to avoid additional regulations that have a proven track record of reducing youth tobacco use.

It's not an accident that e-cigarette use by high school students increased by 78 percent from 2017 to 2018. In addition to selling and marketing products that come in kid-friendly candy and fruit flavors, tobacco companies together with their allies continue to lobby hard to ensure these products are not regulated by evidence-based tobacco control policies. Tobacco companies and their allies have created the problem, it would be foolish to trust them to fix it.

The rapid rise in the number of youths who use electronic smoking devices or e-cigarettes is a public health epidemic that threatens to erode decades of progress made in reducing tobacco use. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, e-cigarette use among youth and young adults is strongly linked to the use of other tobacco products, such as regular cigarettes, cigars, hookah, and smokeless tobacco. And among high school students and young adults who use tobacco, more use both e-cigarettes and burned tobacco products than use e-cigarettes alone. Some evidence suggests that e-cigarette use is linked to alcohol use and other substance use, such as marijuana. And certain e-cigarette products can be used to deliver other drugs like marijuana. The aerosol from e-cigarettes is not harmless. It can contain harmful and potentially harmful chemicals, including nicotine; ultrafine particles that can be inhaled deep into the lungs; flavoring such as diacetyl, a chemical linked to a serious lung disease; volatile organic compounds such as benzene, which is found in car exhaust; and heavy metals, such as nickel, tin, and lead.

With 20.8 percent of high school students now using e-cigarettes, we can't afford to keep the status quo. It's time to update Michigan's tobacco control laws to include and effectively regulate all tobacco products if we hope to prevent another generation from a lifetime of addiction.

Our organizations have serious concerns about the public health effects of e-cigarettes. We strongly recommend Michigan regulate e-cigarettes like all other tobacco products.

Again, please oppose SB 106.

If you have questions, please contact Andrew Schepers at andrew.schepers@cancer.org or (517) 664-1312

Most respectfully,



Andrew R Schepers
Michigan Government Relations Director
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network



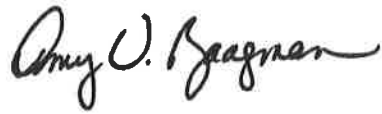
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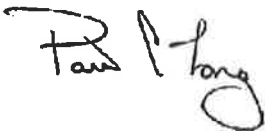
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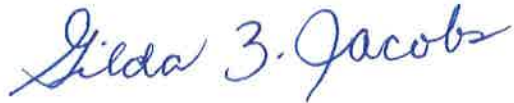
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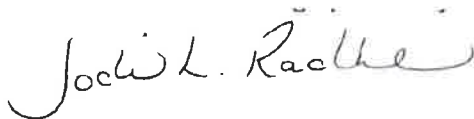
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