

From: "tammy mink" <tmink01@gmail.com>
To: csherida@nysenate.gov

Date: Sunday, November 03, 2019 03:34PM
Subject: Fwd: Flavor Ban

To Whom It May Concern,

I understand you will be holding a meeting in regards to the flavor ban. I recognize that vaping is being blamed for the vaping illnesses and death. I want to address this and point out that the vaping illnesses are due to black market THC and not by commercial bought nicotine. As Mark Zucker pointed out when interviewed on <https://www.news10.com/news/doh-commissioner-just-about-all-ny-vaping-illnesses-are-from-black-market-thc-cartridges/amp/?fbclid=IwAR2E3BhwOIbgVyF2pYD6kySQ8D2IPfB35ZTZftILztebzb31MyM2QuBGw> - ALBANY, N.Y. (NEWS10) – The vast majority of the 125 pulmonary illnesses in New York are because of black market THC cartridges, not nicotine E-cigs, according to Department of Health Commissioner Dr. Howard Zucker.

CDC reported that : "The data continue to point towards THC-containing products," Dr. Anne Schuchat, CDC's principal deputy director, told reporters Friday. "But I'd like to stress that we don't know what the risky material or substance is. THC may be a marker for a way that cartridges were prepared or way that the devices are producing harm." Mitch Zeller, the director of the Center for Tobacco Products at the US Food and Drug Administration, cautioned that these data largely rely on self-reports, which may be unreliable.(due to states that thc is illegal.)

I know organizations recite the Harvard study proves that the diacetyl causes pop-corn lung. However, there has never been any study that report pop corn lung as we can see from: <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/about-cancer/causes-of-cancer/cancer-controversies/does-vaping-cause-popcorn-lung>

<https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/vaping-causes-popcorn-lung/>

Here are more studies to debunk

Glantz study on myocardial has recently been debunked

https://www.planetofthevapes.co.uk/news/health-studies/2019-10-11_glantz-debunked-yet-again.html

Dr Farsalinos has recently done a exact replica of Formalhyde study and that has also been debunked.

<https://www.clivebates.com/spreading-fear-and-confusion-with-misleading-formaldehyde-studies/>

<http://www.ecigarette-research.org/research/index.php/research/2018/262-flavors>

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0278691518301339?fbclid=IwAR2I7wG8DOB2efXKbofuIfmoAir1Iv7CK2JtM66M9fh_ThfV

There should be no confusion we don't want Youth or Non smokers vaping but we should not allow fear mongering to dictate our politics. If we look at the NYST we see that Youth have experimented but only 5.7 are using on a daily basis. Youth have experimented for decades as we can see from 2007 <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5725a3.htm>

Since ecigs have come on the market Youth smoking cigarettes have plummeted. Many have stated that vaping has shown to be a gateway. However, in order to establish a gateway theory we should be seeing a spike in combustible tobacco and we are seeing the opposite. Again this is not to say that we want any youth using any type of nicotine product. However, adults are using flavors to get off combustible tobacco. Since the scare of vaping illness 5% of former smokers have returned back to smoking and if flavors are banned many more will return or worse turn to the black market. If we look at the

youth surveys before JUUL came on the market we see that the number of Youth vaping were low. The reason being is JUUL has 59% nicotine. This is what the kids are after to get the buzz. If you lower the nicotine the Youth will not be interested. Restrict the sales to vape shops only and this will restrict access to them. Lastly fund and enforce the laws. If stores sell to minors take their license away.

Thank You
Tammy Mink