

SB2654

Measure Title: RELATING TO CHAPTER 245, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES.

Report Title: Electronic Smoking Devices; E-liquid; Tax; Permit; License

Description:

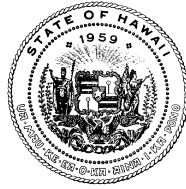
Makes unlawful shipment of tobacco products to anyone other than a licensee. Includes e-liquid within the definition of "tobacco products", as used in the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law, thereby making all provisions of the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law that relate to tobacco products applicable to e-liquid as well. Increases the license fee for wholesalers or dealers and the retail tobacco permit fee.

Companion: [HB2737](#), [HB2492](#)

Package: None

Current Referral: CPH, WAM

Introducer(s): BAKER, HARIMOTO, K. RHOADS, RUDERMAN, English, Espero, Gabbard, Galuteria, Kim, Taniguchi



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 2654
RELATING TO CHAPTER 245, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

SENATOR ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Hearing Date: February 8, 2018

Room Number: Conference Room 229

1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) defers to the Department of Taxation
2 (DOTAX) for fiscal implications of implementation and to the Department of the Attorney
3 General for fiscal implications for enforcement.

4 **Department Testimony:** The DOH supports Senate Bill 2654 (S.B. 2654) as a measure to
5 protect the public's health. The bill restricts shipping tobacco products to only licensed
6 wholesalers or dealers. It provides for the inclusion of e-liquid in the definition of tobacco
7 products, the imposition of an excise tax, the requirement for licensing and permitting fees, and
8 increase in licensing and permitting fees. The DOH defers to the Department of Taxation
9 (DOTAX) for implementation, and to the Department of the Attorney General regarding the
10 enforcement of the shipping regulations.

11 Despite tremendous progress in reducing smoking, tobacco use is still the leading cause
12 of preventable illness and death in the United States and in Hawaii.¹ It is crucial that the
13 progress made in reducing cigarette smoking among youth and young adults not be
14 compromised by the initiation of e-cigarettes. In 2017, 8.1% of high students were regular
15 cigarette users, but when it came to e-cigarettes, an alarming 25% were regular users, and 42%

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs, 2014*. Atlanta: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health, 2014

1 had tried them.² Several studies have shown that youth who use e-cigarettes are more likely to
2 use regular cigarettes.^{3,4,5}

3 The DOH supports the restriction of shipping tobacco products to anyone other than a
4 licensed wholesaler/dealer, that is engaged in the business of selling tobacco products and is on
5 the DOTAX authorized list. This will strengthen protections for youth and young adults. The
6 DOH, however, defers to the Department of the Attorney General regarding the interpretation
7 and enforcement of shipping regulations. Research has shown that youth can easily circumvent
8 the online age verification process to purchase and have electronic smoking devices (ESDs)
9 shipped to them.⁶

10 The imposition of an excise tax on e-liquids will be consistent with the tax on other
11 tobacco products. The relatively low cost of e-liquids makes these products appealing to youth
12 and young adults, who tend to be particularly price sensitive.⁷ The pricing, marketing, and
13 variety of youth-friendly flavors are contributing to the increased use of ESDs.⁸

14 The DOH supports the proposed amendment in the measure to require wholesalers and
15 retailers of e-liquids to obtain the applicable license or permit. Currently, all that is required of
16 these vendors is a General Excise License. A statewide survey conducted by the University of
17 Hawaii Cancer Center identified more than 100 e-cigarette establishments (vape shops) as
18 separate from tobacco retail outlets. However, this cannot be considered an accurate assessment,
19 since no specific database exists from the DOTAX regarding the number of vendors. Licensure
20 and retail permitting would bring e-liquid vendors in alignment with the traditional tobacco

² Hawaii School Health Survey/ Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2017)

³ Watkins SL, Glantz, SA. Association of Noncigarette Tobacco Products Use With Future Cigarette Smoking Among Youth in the Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) Study, 2013-2015. *JAMA Pediatr.* Published online January 2, 2018.

⁴ Barrington-Trimis, JL, Urman, R, Berhane, K, Unger, JB, Cruz, TB, Pentz, MA, Samet, JM, Leventhal, AM, McConnell, R. E-Cigarettes and Future Cigarette Use. *Pediatrics.*2016-0379.

⁵ Wills, TA, Knight, R, Williams, RJ, Pagano, I, Sargent JD. Risk Factors for Exclusive E-Cigarette Use and Dual E-Cigarette Use and Tobacco Use in Adolescents. *Pediatrics.* 2014-0760.

⁶ Williams RS, Derrick J, Ribisl KM. Electronic Cigarette Sales to Minors via the Internet. *JAMA Pediatr.*2015;169(3):e1563

⁷ Department of Health & Human Services, *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General 522-29* (2012), <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/preventing-youth-tobacco-use/full-report.pdf>

⁸ *ibid*

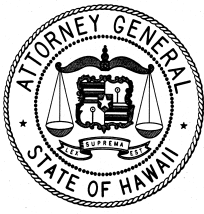
1 retailers and would provide accurate data for compliance surveillance and working with the
2 vendors to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

3 The proposed increases in licensure and permitting fees are long overdue. They have
4 remained unchanged since 1995, despite high tobacco taxes and ever-increasing tobacco industry
5 expenditures in marketing and advertising. Tobacco licensing is an effective tool for limiting the
6 negative public health consequences of tobacco use by ensuring that wholesalers and retailers
7 comply with responsible sales practices. The proposed licensing would apply to those who sell
8 e-liquids.

9 The DOH supports S.B. 2654 as a multifaceted public health measure to help prevent
10 access to e-liquid and e-cigarettes among youth and young adults and to encourage users to quit.

11 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

12 **Offered Amendments:** None



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2654, RELATING TO CHAPTER 245, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

DATE: Thursday, February 8, 2018 **TIME:** 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Russell A. Suzuki, Acting Attorney General, or
Janine R. Udoi, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) appreciates the intent of this bill and submits the following proposed amendments.

The purposes of this bill are to: (1) prohibit the shipment of tobacco products to anyone other than a licensee; (2) amend the definition of "tobacco products" to include "e-liquid;" (3) increase the license fees for wholesaler or dealers of cigarettes and tobacco products; and, (4) increase the fees for retail tobacco permits.

To better achieve the intent of this bill, the Department recommends amending subsection (a)(2), on page 6, lines 12 through 15, to read as follows:

- (2) ~~An export warehouse proprietor pursuant to title 26 United States Code chapter 52~~ A person or entity transporting tobacco products, as defined in this section, under federal internal revenue bond or customs control that are non-tax-paid under title 26 of the United States Code, or an operator of a customs bonded warehouse pursuant to title 19 United States Code section 1311 or 1555.

As currently proposed in this bill, subsection (a)(2), seeks to prohibit the shipment of tobacco products to a person who is not an export warehouse proprietor pursuant to title 26, chapter 52, of the United States Code (USC). However, title 26, USC, does not define "tobacco products" in the same way that this bill proposes to define the same term. Pursuant to 26 USC section 5702(i), an "export warehouse proprietor" is a person who operates an export warehouse. An "export warehouse," as defined in part by 26

USC section 5702(h), is “a bonded internal revenue warehouse for the storage of tobacco products or cigarette papers or tubes or any processed tobacco.” “Tobacco products” as set forth in 26 USC section 5702(c) are limited to “cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, and roll-your-own tobacco.” However, in this bill, “tobacco products” are defined in section 3, on page 8, lines 19 through 20, and page 9, lines 1 through 6, to include certain types of tobacco products, including e-liquids:

“Tobacco products” means tobacco in any form, other than cigarettes or little cigars, that is prepared or intended for consumption or for personal use by humans, including large cigars and any substitutes thereof other than cigarettes that bear the semblance thereof, snuff, chewing or smokeless tobacco, [~~and~~] smoking or pipe tobacco[-], and e-liquid.

Therefore, to avoid any confusion that may result from the different definitions of “tobacco products,” the intent of section 2, subsection (a)(2), page 6, lines 12 through 15, may more easily be addressed by the amended wording offered for consideration by the Department.

The Department also respectfully recommends that section 2, subsection (b)(2)(A), on page 7, lines 4 through 5, be stricken in its entirety. This subsection provides that prohibitions in this bill shall not apply to a shipment of tobacco products if the person or entity shipping the tobacco product fully complies with the requirements of title 15, chapter 10A, USC. This chapter of the USC requires that out-of-state sellers of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco comply with certain shipping requirements, recordkeeping practices, and tax obligations. The responsibilities and obligations of out-of-state sellers of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco as set forth in the provisions of title 15, chapter 10A, USC, are not extended to certain tobacco products, including e-liquids, and, therefore, referencing this section of the federal law in this bill could lead to unnecessary confusion regarding the requirements of engaging in the shipment or transport of tobacco products.

For this same reason, the Department also recommends that section 2, subsection (e), on page 8, lines 1 through 4, be stricken in its entirety as well. This section of the bill states that a person or entity required to comply with title 15, chapter 10A, USC, regarding reporting deadlines must also file the required report with the

Department of Taxation. As set forth above, title 15, chapter 10A, USC, specifically relates to the shipment of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, not tobacco products such as e-liquids. Accordingly, including a reporting deadline in this bill for persons or entities who are not subject to the reporting requirements of title 15, chapter 10A, USC, is unnecessary.

Moreover, if the intent of the bill is to permit the shipment of tobacco products if all relevant taxes are paid, adding a provision similar to the one currently set forth in section 245-16(b)(2), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), which excludes the application of the section if state taxes are paid on cigarettes, should also be considered with respect to the shipment of tobacco products. Accordingly, a new section 2, subsection (b)(3), could be added to the bill to read as follows:

- (3) All applicable Hawaii taxes on the tobacco products are paid in accordance with the requirements of this section.

Further, the Department notes that amending section 2, subsection (c), on page 7, lines 17 through 18, to include the state of mind required to constitute a violation of this bill may lessen the possibility of legal challenges to this subsection. The proposed amendment may be worded as follows:

- (c) Any person or entity who knowingly engages in the [u]nlawful shipment of tobacco products is shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

Finally, the Department recommends amending section 3, page 8, lines 15 through 18, which adds a new definition of “e-liquid” to section 245-1, HRS, to clarify that an e-liquid contains nicotine:

“E-liquid” means any liquid or like substance, containing nicotine, that is designed or intended to be used in an electronic smoking device as defined in section 328J-1, whether or not packaged in a cartridge or other container.

Including in the definition the requirement that an “e-liquid” contain nicotine will minimize any potential confusion regarding taxing e-liquids as a tobacco product as well as better promote the intent of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



LINDA CHU TAKAYAMA
DIRECTOR

DAMIEN A. ELEFANTE
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To: The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and
Health

Date: Thursday, February 8, 2018
Time: 8:30 A.M.
Place: Conference Room 229, State Capitol

From: Linda Chu Takayama, Director
Department of Taxation

Re: S.B. 2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes

The Department of Taxation (Department) offers the following comments on S.B. 2654 for the Committee's consideration.

S.B. 2654 makes unlawful the transport of tobacco products ordered through remote sale to any address other than that of a tobacco wholesaler or dealer. S.B. 2654 also expands the tax on tobacco products to include e-liquid used in electronic smoking devices. Under this bill, wholesalers and dealers of e-liquid would be subject to a tax of 70% of the wholesale price of the e-liquid, and wholesalers, dealers and retailers of e-liquid would be required to secure licenses and retail permits annually. S.B. 2654 also increases the annual fee for a tobacco license from \$2.50 per year to \$250 per year, and the annual fee for a tobacco retail permit from \$20 per location to \$50 per location. The bill is effective July 1, 2018.

With respect to Section 2 of the bill, the Department defers to the Department of the Attorney General.

The Department notes that it is able to administer the changes in this measure, but requests that any change to the tobacco tax be made effective January 1, 2019 to allow the Department to make the necessary form and computer system changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Testimony:

Date: February 6, 2018

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

Re: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30 AM at Capitol Conference Room 229

I strongly support SB2654, which would regulate e-liquids and electronic smoking devices (ESDs) as tobacco products through taxation, shipment, and licensing and permitting.

I support this bill because of findings from our research with Hawaii adolescents conducted over the past 4 years. These studies have shown that e-cigarette use is quite prevalent among Hawaii middle and high school students, in recent years over 40% of high school students having used e-cigarettes. Even at younger ages, the prevalence among middle school students can be 15-20% of the school population.

In addition to showing that e-cigarette use is prevalent among Hawaii school students, our studies have shown that e-cigarette use is linked to several adverse outcomes. Notably, using e-cigarettes is related to initiation of cigarette smoking among previous nonsmokers, hence is contributing to undesirable outcomes. Our findings from Hawaii have been reported in national and international scientific journals such as JAMA Pediatrics and have been confirmed in several different US sites as well as in Britain, Finland, Canada, and Mexico.

Our research has also shown that e-cigarette use is related to a higher likelihood of asthma among Hawaii adolescents and young adults. This has recently been reported in the scientific journal Preventive Medicine and our findings have now been confirmed in three Hawaii studies. Thus there is now evidence that e-cigarette use may be linked to adverse health consequences as well as adverse behavioral consequences such as smoking initiation.

We have observed that e-cigarettes are aggressively marketed to Hawaii youth in television, print media, radio, and point-of-sale advertising venues. Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Because of the adverse consequences that are known to be related to e-cigarette use, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax e-cigarettes the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs. This bill will also require a permitting and licensing

which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawaii and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas A. Wills, Ph.D.
Director, Cancer Prevention in the Pacific Program
University of Hawaii Cancer Center

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

126 Queen Street, Suite 304

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

SUBJECT: TOBACCO, Prohibits shipment of tobacco products, adds electronic smoking devices

BILL NUMBER: HB 2492

INTRODUCED BY: BELATTI, KOBAYASHI, LEARMONT, MIZUNO

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Makes unlawful shipment of tobacco products to anyone other than a licensee. Includes e-liquid within the definition of "tobacco products", as used in the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law, thereby making all provisions of the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law that relate to tobacco products applicable to e-liquid as well. Increases the license fee for wholesalers or dealers and the retail tobacco permit fee.

SYNOPSIS: Adds a new section to chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to prohibit certain transport of tobacco products other than to a tobacco licensee, unless either (1) the tobacco products are exempt from tax, or (2) the packaging includes a notice to the effect that the State bans the sale of tobacco products to individuals under 21, and that the recipient is legally responsible for all applicable unpaid taxes on the shipped products. Unlawful shipment of tobacco products is a misdemeanor.

Adds a new definition to HRS section 245-1 of "e-liquid."

Amends the definition of "tobacco products" in HRS section 245 to include e-liquid.

Amends section 245-2, HRS, to raise the annual tobacco license fee from \$2.50 to \$250.00.

Amends section 245-2.5, HRS, to raise the annual retail tobacco permit fee from \$20 to \$50.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2018.

STAFF COMMENTS: The question that should be asked is the purpose of the tobacco tax. If the goal is to make people stop smoking by making it cost-prohibitive to smoke, then (a) it's working, as hikes in the cigarette tax have begun to exert downward pressure on collections not only locally but also nationally, but (b) it shouldn't be expected to raise revenue, because of (a). If the goal is to raise more money, then maybe some consideration should be given to lowering the tax to stoke demand.

Digested 1/31/2018



Date: February 7, 2018

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

From: Jessica Yamauchi, Executive Director, Hawai'i Public Health Institute

Re: **STRONG SUPPORT for SB 2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes**

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB 2654 which imposes a tax on e-liquid, including disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs), requires wholesalers and retailers to obtain a license and a retail tobacco permit, and restricts the shipment of tobacco products other than a licensee.

The Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i (Coalition) is a program of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) that is dedicated to reducing tobacco use through education, policy, and advocacy. With more two decades of history in Hawai'i, the Coalition has led several campaigns on enacting smoke-free environments, including being the first state in the nation to prohibit the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices to purchasers under 21 years of age.

Offered amendments:

1. The Coalition recommends that all e-liquids be taxed to ensure comprehensive public health protection. However, if the legislature only decides place a tax on e-liquid containing nicotine, we ask the legislature to consider requiring ESD merchants to self-certify with data that their products are indeed nicotine free.

Suggested language can include:

"The e-liquid manufacturer must mail a confirmation statement to the Attorney General addressed to the Tobacco Enforcement Unit, certifying to be true and accurate that the product does not contain nicotine and that the tobacco product manufacturer has data to support that assertion."

E-cigarette use among youth and young adults has become a public health concern.

In 2017, 1 in 4 (25.5%) public high school students and more than 1 in 6 (15.7%) public middle school students in Hawaii reported that they are regularly vaping. Because they remain unregulated, e-cigarette companies have aggressively marketed their products by glamorizing their use, using celebrities and young adults as endorsers, and making false health claims. E-cigarettes often contain nicotine, which is addictive and harmful particularly to adolescents, whose brains are still developing. A 2016 report by the Surgeon General concluded that e-cigarettes are dangerous and a health threat to youth and young adultsⁱ.

Electronic smoking devices (ESDs) are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax.

In 2016, the FDA deemed e-cigarettes, including its components and parts as tobacco products. In a pollⁱⁱ conducted by Ward Research Inc. for the Coalition in November 2018, 81% of registered Hawai'i voters were in support of taxing e-cigarettes at the same rate as cigarettes or other tobacco products. Because ESDs are not

subject to current State tobacco tax laws, they are seen as lower-priced tobacco alternatives with virtually no restrictions that can be appealing to the youth. A scan of online e-liquid products show that a popular brand can be bought for \$10.99 wholesale, and \$27.99 retail for a 60mL bottle.

ESD licensing and permits protect both consumers and merchants.

The Coalition recommends that ESD sellers and vendors obtain a tobacco permit to help facilitate the communication and enforcement of current tobacco tax and purchase laws. Currently, there is no database that tracks who is selling ESDs in the state, making it difficult for state agencies to know if ESD merchants are compliant with our laws. SB 2654 would also help in the distribution of proper signage that help to educate Hawai'i residents and visitors on current laws. Without permitting and licensing, store density and distribution of these products will only continue to grow. In addition, regular exposure and marketing of vape products create the impression that youth use of these products is acceptable.

The Coalition further recommends that a portion of the revenue collected from ESD and e-liquid taxes be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

The same statewide poll found that 89% of registered Hawaii voters overwhelmingly agree that it is important for the State to earmark some of the revenue to programs aimed at preventing tobacco use among kids and to helping smokers quit. Currently no revenue from cigarette or OTP taxes is appropriated for tobacco prevention and cessation. When the price of tobacco increases, more people seek help to quit and we need to ensure programs are available and accessible by the public to help them quit.

In addition, the current license fee for wholesalers and dealers is only \$2.50 a year, while retail tobacco permit fees cost only \$20 a year. Hawai'i has one of the lowest fees in the nation for both wholesalers and retailers. **The Coalition supports increasing the wholesaler and dealer license fee to \$250.00 and the retail tobacco permit fee to \$50.00.** In comparison with other fees, the annual wholesale liquor license for the City and County of Honolulu is \$2,640.

The U.S. Surgeon General issued an immediate call to action for all local and state government to enact policies that address the harmful impact of e-cigarettes. Hawai'i has already made enormous progress on tobacco control and we ask the legislature to take the necessary steps to reduce the negative health impact made by e-cigarettes and other emerging tobacco products.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. We strongly support SB 2654 and respectfully ask you to pass this measure out of committee.

Mahalo,



Jessica Yamauchi, MA
Executive Director, HIPHI

ⁱ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *E-Cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults, a Report from the Surgeon General* (2017). from https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/2016_SGR_Exec_Summ_508.pdf

ⁱⁱ This study by Ward Research, Inc. summarizes findings from a phone survey among n=804 Hawaii registered voters (maximum sampling error +/-3.3%), conducted between October 24 and November 16, 2017.

Thursday, February 8th, 2018 at 8:30AM

Conference Room 229

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

To: Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President & Government Relations

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawai'i Revised Statutes

My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President and Government Relations at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system with over 70 locations statewide including medical centers, clinics, physicians and other caregivers serving Hawai'i and the Pacific Region with high quality, compassionate care. Its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox – specialize in innovative programs in women's health, pediatric care, cardiovascular services, cancer care, bone and joint services and more. Hawai'i Pacific Health is recognized nationally for its excellence in patient care and the use of electronic health records to improve quality and patient safety.

I write in strong support of SB 2654 which makes unlawful the shipment of tobacco products to anyone other than a licensee; includes e-liquid within the definition of "tobacco products," as used in the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law, thereby making all provisions of the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law that relate to tobacco products applicable to e-liquid as well; and increases the license fee for wholesalers or dealers and the retail tobacco permit fee.

This measure will help to ensure that any consumer who wishes to purchase tobacco products must first present valid identification to verify that they are of appropriate age. Electronic smoking devices (ESDs) have surpassed cigarettes in popularity amongst teens. Ordering ESDs and associated products online is one easy way for underage consumers to circumvent our State's age-based regulation of tobacco. Prohibiting the remote sale and shipment of cigarettes, tobacco products, and ESDs, will improve the enforceability of our Tobacco age laws and ultimately help fewer teens to form dependence on tobacco and electronic smoking products.

There is currently no State tobacco tax attached to e-liquid. Tobacco products other than cigarettes are currently taxed at a lower rate than cigarettes, even though their use carries

similar health risks. Increasing taxes on tobacco products and tightening up the prevention of access to e-cigarettes by youth are effective ways to reduce electronic smoking device use among youth and young adults.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in support of SB 2654.



American Heart Association testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes

The American Heart Association **supports** SB 2654 which makes unlawful shipment of tobacco products to anyone other than a licensee, includes e-liquid within the definition of “tobacco products,” as used in the cigarette tax and tobacco tax law, and increases the license fee for wholesalers or dealers and the retail tobacco permit fee. The AHA also recommends that a significant portion of the increased revenue from the addition of e-liquid to the state’s tobacco tax be earmarked to support State-funded tobacco prevention, education and cessation programs.

While Federal law already prohibits the delivery and shipment of cigarettes, adding a state restriction on the direct delivery and shipment of electronic smoking devices to consumers would help to close the online sales loophole of those products and help to protect Hawaii’s youth from unscrupulous marketers of those products.

Internet sales of tobacco products and e-cigarettes are a significant public health concern because they evade state taxes and significantly undermine tobacco control efforts. In Hawaii, it is currently illegal to sell tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, to those under the age of 21. Hawaii’s age to 21 law plays a critical role in preventing youth initiation and addiction to tobacco products, yet internet sellers can circumvent this restriction by providing easy access to these products.

E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among Hawaii’s youth. According to recent Department of Health data, almost half of Hawaii’s youths have tried e-cigarettes, and 25 percent are now regular users. Those levels mirror youth cigarette use at its peak in Hawaii. This is concerning because e-cigarettes often contain nicotine and serve as a gateway to traditional cigarette use. Recent studies also indicate that e-cigarettes produce the same cardiovascular and respiratory risks as traditional cigarettes.

By adding e-liquid within the definition of the state’s “tobacco products” it would apply the tobacco tax to those products. This would have the greatest impact on reducing smoking rates among the lower income and youth markets, which are more price sensitive, and which are the most highly targeted by tobacco industry marketing and advertising. Those groups also suffer the most from tobacco product use and will, consequently, benefit the most from any effective new measures to reduce tobacco use. Their health problems caused by tobacco use also disproportionately affect Medicaid costs to the state.

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Please remember the American Heart Association in your will.





In Hawaii alone, tobacco use claims 1,400 lives each year and creates \$526 million in annual health care costs (\$141.7 million of that is covered by the state Medicaid program). Hawaii residents' state & federal tax burden from tobacco-caused government expenditures is \$836 per household. Hawaii's estimated tobacco tax and license revenue, estimated to be almost \$138.8 million does not come close to offsetting the losses to the state caused by tobacco use. Smoking declines caused by state taxes directly reduce these smoking-caused economic burdens for all taxpayers, and Hawaii businesses which bear the brunt of employee healthcare costs in our state.

The tobacco industry spends an estimated \$25.5 million each year marketing its products in Hawaii. Hawaii's \$5.3 million investment in tobacco prevention, control and cessation programs pale in comparison, and fall well short of the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) best practice recommendation of a \$13.7 million annual investment. Allocating revenue generated from taxing e-liquid to community prevention, education and cessation programs would help to increase the desired impact of this legislation by further reducing the use of electronic smoking devices by our youth and most health vulnerable populations. The American Heart Association urges you to correct the loophole in our state's age restriction, taxation, and public health laws. It is imperative to continue to curtail tobacco use in any form, especially among our youth, if we are to control our state's healthcare costs and keep its Pre-Paid Healthcare law sustainable.

Please support SB2654.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald B. Weisman".

Donald B. Weisman
Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director

*"Building healthier lives,
free of cardiovascular
diseases and stroke."*

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Please remember the American Heart Association in your will.





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**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI
PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
FEBRUARY 8, 2018**

Re: SB 2654 RELATING TO CHAPTER 245, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES.

Good morning Chair Baker and members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a statewide not-for-profit trade organization committed to supporting the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii opposes SB 2654 that makes it unlawful to ship tobacco products to anyone other than a licensee, and as well as increasing the license fee for wholesalers or dealers and the retail tobacco permit fee.

Many retailers statewide are already operating on a thin margin and face stiff competition from not only other brick and mortar retailers but online sales as well. By increasing the taxation and fees on these products, small businesses will stand to be hurt as they would have to increase their upfront cost of stocking electronic smoking devices and cigarettes. Many of the businesses that sell electronic cigarettes and e-liquid are small, locally owned shops that will be hit hard by the tax increase. There is only so much the retailer can pass on to the customer before no longer being price competitive. This higher cost of doing business may also force some stores to close, leaving people out of work.

We ask that this committee hold this measure.

Again mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



February 7, 2018

To: The Honorable John Mizuno, Chair
The Honorable Bertrand Kobayashi, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: **Strong Support for SB2654**

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

The Hawaii Public Health Association is a group of over 600 community members, public health professionals and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. HPHA also serves as a voice for public health professionals and as a repository for information about public health in the Pacific.

HPHA strongly supports SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawaii have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on important health issues affecting people in Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Holly Kessler'.

Holly Kessler, Executive Director
Hawai'i Public Health Association



VOLCANO®

February 7, 2018

To: The Honorable Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
The Honorable Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, & Health

From: Cory Smith, VOLCANO eCigs®
CEO and Owner

RE: SB 2654 – oppose.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

VOLCANO eCigs® is the largest wholesaler and retailer of vapor products and vaping accessories in the State of Hawaii. We currently own and operate 13 locations statewide and employ over 80 full-time workers to support sales of our products not only here in Hawaii, but to all 50 states as well as over 30 International countries. We stand in opposition to SB 2654 for the following:

- Vapor products contain NO tobacco, and often times contain NO nicotine, and ultimately emit NO smoke. Nonetheless, **SB 2654 aims to unfairly classify all vapor products as “Tobacco Products” and deceptively refers to them as “Electronic Smoking Devices” as a way to deceive the public and to create a false perception that vapor products are the same as tobacco products** in an effort to bring vapor products into the same regulatory framework as traditional tobacco cigarettes for the purposes of taxation. This will adversely effect the vapor industry in Hawaii resulting in unintended economic and health consequences as detailed below.
- SB 2654’s justification states that the use of vapor products, specifically “E-Liquid”, carries similar health risks to that of tobacco. **However, recent studies have also shown vapor products to be as much as 95% less toxic than traditional Cigarettes.**
 - [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457102/Ecigarettes an evidence update A report commissioned by Public Health England FINAL.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/457102/Ecigarettes_an_evidence_update_A_report_commissioned_by_Public_Health_England_FINAL.pdf)
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/phe-publishes-independent-expert-e-cigarettes-evidence-review>
- Furthermore, a recent study by the National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine stated: **“there is conclusive evidence that completely substituting e-cigarettes for combustible tobacco cigarettes reduces users’ exposure to numerous toxicants and carcinogens present in combustible tobacco cigarettes.”** The findings add to the already



weighty body of evidence showing vaping to be far less hazardous than smoking.

- <http://www.washingtonexaminer.com/landmark-e-cigarette-report-explodes-myth-that-vaping-is-as-toxic-as-smoking/article/2646804>
- http://nationalacademies.org/hmd/reports/2018/public-health-consequences-of-e-cigarettes.aspx?utm_source=Hootsuite&utm_medium=Dashboard&utm_campaign=SentviaHootsuite
- SB 2654 exempts traditional Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) products that contain nicotine even though vapor products have been shown to be a much more effective tool for helping people quit smoking and have been demonstrated to have a similar risk profile as NRT's.
 - <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/add.12623/abstract>
 - http://m.circ.ahajournals.org/content/130/Suppl_2/A14945.short
- The most Recent CDC report has shown e-cigarettes have supplanted all other traditional nicotine replacement therapies and are now the most commonly used product by tobacco users to quit using traditional tobacco cigarettes. Access to these products should be improved not restricted further if it is the states goal to further reduce smoking rates.
 - http://www.journalnow.com/business/business_news/local/cdc-report-shows-more-smokers-try-to-quit-with-e/article_a33383f3-5300-5178-9f14-28b52884c45c.html
- Recent studies have actually shown that the substantial increase in e-cigarette use among US adult smokers was associated with a statistically significant increase in the smoking cessation rate at the population level.
 - <http://www.bmj.com/content/358/bmj.j3262>
- **SB 2654 states in its justification that the bill is needed to curb youth usage. However, it fails to reference the most recent CDC report and data that shows youth use of tobacco products are at the lowest levels ever and continue to fall. Also, youth use of vapor products has been reported to be in decline since 2015 and recent studies have shown that the majority of youth who have reported using e-cigarettes are not using e-liquids that contain nicotine - further suggesting that youth who do use e-cigarettes are doing so to replace the use of traditional tobacco cigarettes.**
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p0615-youth-tobacco.html>
 - <https://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/events/archive/feature-detail/1833>
- **SB 2654 would not successfully remove vapor products from the Internet. It would simply restrict local based businesses from competing with businesses from the 49**



other states who would not be subject to this regulation and would result in job and revenue losses in the state.

- Age restriction technologies are already available and can be used to prevent youth access to these products. The alcohol industry has been successful with existing technologies and something as simple as age verification or signature verification through any major shipping provider could be a workable solution that has been completely overlooked in this bill.
- Internet sales provide access to vapor products for many local customers who live in remote locations. By restricting local Internet retailers, those purchases would simply be sent to mainland-based suppliers.
- **Most troubling is the fact that by subjecting vapor products to this proposed tax, the additional costs to consumers will likely result in the state seeing less tax revenue, and even worse, former smokers returning to tobacco use. The tax will result in current vapor users purchasing from online vendors who would not be subject to state taxes. Local manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers would be put at a massive competitive disadvantage and most retail customers would send their money out-of-state effectively lowering the tax revenue already being generated by sales of vapor products here in the state.** We would be unable to compete in other out-of-state and international markets with competitors who are not subjected to the same tax, which would put our local operations in severe jeopardy meaning an immediate loss of jobs and existing revenues. This bill would also effectively reduce access to a modified risk product that has been a public health win and would simply prop up and protect the proven deadly tobacco market.

It is our belief that this unjustified regulation and tax will not serve the best interests in the state of Hawaii. Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,
Cory N. Smith
CEO & Owner
VOLCANO Fine Electronic Cigarettes®
1003 Bishop Street #1260
Honolulu, HI 96813
cory@volcanoecigs.com

From: mrahmer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mealani Rahmer](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:29:24 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Mealani Rahmer
Pahoa, HI 96778

From: 808palmer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Curtis Palmer](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:28:55 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Curtis Palmer
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: rsavereux@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Rachel Savereux](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:31:15 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Rachel Savereux

Sincerely,
Rachel Savereux
Honolulu, HI 96826

From: Jenna22@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Jenna Lee](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:31:39 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Jenna Lee
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: aly.hite@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Aly Hite](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:32:47 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Aly Hite
Kailua, HI 96734

From: kbraun2000@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathryn Braun](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:34:11 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

I am professor and director of Public Health at the University of Hawai'i, testifying as an individual. In this role, I have reviewed research on tobacco and e-cigarettes, and I am very concerned about the harms these products causes to children, adults, communities, and our state. Reducing tobacco and e-cigarette use will improve the health of the people of Hawai'i and reduce smoking-related health care costs for the state.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Braun
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: mmg2b@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Gray](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:34:39 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Michelle Gray
Honolulu, HI 96825

From: smsaka@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Susan Saka](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:39:06 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

I have been coordinating the Hawai'i Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Hawai'i Tobacco Survey for many years. We are pleased that our students' use of tobacco products has consistently decreased and remains low, however, we are alarmed at the number of students who have tried and continue to use ESDs. Strong action must be taken!

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Susan Saka

Sincerely,
Susan Saka
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: kahala.howser@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kahala Howser](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:40:14 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kahala Howser
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: lbucon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lee Buenconsejo-Lum](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:41:48 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids. Numerous studies published in the past year demonstrate significant toxicities and side effects. The long-term harms are not yet known.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Lee Buenconsejo-Lum
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: kellar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Kellar](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:42:23 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Michael Kellar
Honolulu, HI 96821

From: rarearthca@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Erin Pinto](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:43:27 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Erin Pinto
Paia, HI 96779

From: shay.chanhodges@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shay Chan Hodges](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:46:43 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Shay Chan Hodges
Haiku, HI 96708

From: tenayajackman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tenaya Jackman](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:47:13 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Tenaya Jackman
Honolulu, HI 96815

From: kswartz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kim Swartz](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:47:15 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kim Swartz
Pearl City, HI 96782

From: michelle.tagorda@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michelle Tagorda](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:49:34 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Michelle Tagorda
Honolulu, HI 96826

From: aseales@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Allison Seales](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:54:24 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Allison Seales
Honolulu, HI 96814

From: diane_omura@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Diane Omura](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:58:02 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Diane Omura
Wailuku, HI 96793

From: barbrick@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Barbara Nosaka](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:59:48 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Barbara Nosaka
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: patriciablair@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Blair](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:00:24 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee. In fact it would be best to ban e-cigarettes, in the best interest of public health.

Sincerely,
Patricia Blair
Kailua, HI 96734

From: mfsm819@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mary Santa Maria](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:01:00 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting. Strong regulation of these products is an important component of the State of Hawaii's continuing public health initiative to stem the negative health effects of tobacco products, especially on our keiki.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes no matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ES. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. NDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA HAS DETERMINED THAT THESE ARE TOBACCO DEVICES, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Mary Santa Maria
Makawao, HI 96768

From: mauimindfulness@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tanya Gabriel](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:19:04 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Tanya Gabriel
Kihei, HI 96753

From: cricketlachica@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Christopher La Chica](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:26:30 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Christopher La Chica
Mililani, HI 96789

From: pat.fleckconsulting@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Patricia Fleck](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:33:34 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Patricia Fleck
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

From: sgacayan@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Shani Gacayan](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:37:05 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Shani Gacayan
Honokaa, HI 96727

From: orchidbrown@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Deborah Brown](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 12:59:39 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Deborah Brown
Volcano, HI 96785

From: mgagen@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Marilyn Gagen](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:17:02 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Gagen
Kamuela, HI 96743

From: dgkahalas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Tyler Ralston](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:23:32 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
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Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Tyler Ralston
Honolulu, HI 96816

From: hallac@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Allie HALL](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:27:56 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee. As a tobacco treatment specialist who works with adolescent and adult patients desiring to quit tobacco and e-cigarettes, I thank you in advance for your efforts to pass this. We do the right thing when we protect our young people from the tobacco industry's manipulation, and empower individuals with factual information so they can choose the best option--being free from all tobacco, including e-cigarettes!

Sincerely,
Allie Hall

Sincerely,
Allie HALL
Kailua, HI 96734

From: lenap@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lena Phomsouvanh](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:34:27 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Lena Phomsouvanh
Ewa Beach, HI 96706

From: suzmaui@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Suzanne Fields](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:37:31 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Suzanne Fields
Haiku, HI 96708

To whom It may concern,

I oppose bill SB2654. I've been a heavy smoker of traditional tobacco cigarettes for over 7 years and only quit the last 3 years after being introduced to the lifesaving technology which we know now as electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes. I am no longer out of breath doing minor chores, getting up in the morning coughing, feeling sick and having bad breath. All this due to switching over to e-cigarettes and have been tobacco cigarette free.

This bill imposes on what we Americans believe in, which is freedom of choice and consumer rights to options. It's easy for a non-smoker to tell a smoker to "just quit" but as a smoker myself it's much harder than that. The best route would be to have options for a healthier alternative. A report published by Public Health England (PHE), an agency sponsored by the UK's Department for Health, has concluded that e-cigarettes are 95 percent less harmful than traditional smokes.

Yet our U.S. Government continues to deny and ignore these facts and studies due to potential loss in tobacco tax revenue which each State including Hawaii receives. It's seem like our Government is more concerned about money than American lives which they can potential save by having an open mindedness to this new life saving technology.

On top of imposing on our rights, this bill is detrimental to small businesses here in Hawaii. Small businesses will "go out of business" if this bill passes, there is no doubt about it. Thousands will be out of jobs and unable to support their family and force small businesses to move to the mainland which is the opposite of what we've been trying to do which is to create more jobs here in Hawaii.

I implore you to re-review these bills relating to e-cigarettes and what negative impact it can cause to many residents here in Hawaii.

Sincerely, Vince Tran

Resident of Honolulu, Hawaii

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 3:29:40 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Samson		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this Bill because it infringes on my right to Life,Liberty ,& the pursuit of Happiness! Its my CHOICE & NOT YOURS!

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 11:35:02 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vin Kim	Vape Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 11:35:50 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Garrick Aylesworth		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 11:35:58 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teddy Kim		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 11:44:17 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jinna Kim		Oppose	No

Comments:

Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. I have been a smoker for many many years and never thought that vaping would change my life. I thought it was a fad and very gimmicky until I actually tried to quit smoking cigarettes. Vaping is far less harmful then the chemicals found in cigarettes. I have cut down to 0mg of nicotine which has no nicotine in the vape which helped me stop craving nicotine because I am a creature of habit so if you tried to quit cold turkey that will cause more stress and end up smoking cigarettes again, but with the help of vaping I was able to quit smoking cigarettes and see a change in my health. Please take in consideration that vaping is definetly not as harmful as smoking cigarettes and how it can improve the lives of people who want to make a change in their lives.

Thank you,

Jinna Kim

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 11:39:22 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rafael Montero		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 2:41:40 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
nicholas		Oppose	No

Comments:

I Oppose this bill cause vapeing save my life

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 2:41:34 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ezzie Kauihana		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill strictly because vaping has saved my life

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 2:52:37 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
kameran self-gomes		Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Tobacco products are not the same as E liquids you cannot compare eliquids to tobacco products due to the type of chemicals in eliquids. The type of chemical in eliquids are things that everyday people inhale on a daily basis not only in the public. If you have a 0mg nicotine eliquids it's proven to not produce second hand smoke. Due to the VG and PG in the juices witch are chemicals that are in foods (VG) and chemicals used in hospitals to purify the air(PG) artificial flavors are added in juices and that's things that people get in drinks and other items. How can you say it's completely bad? Think about it!!

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 3:16:18 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jostin Iriarte		Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Jostin Iriarte I OPPOSE sb 2654. This bill I feel is ridiculous as in the the amount of 70% which has been set. Such a hike in tax could hinder many business, families, employees , jobs & the state itself. This will have a direct impact on business that would also affect the customers that have made the transition of traditional cigarettes. I my self was a smoker, vaping has had a huge impact on me & my family direct. It has helped my health & well being. Such a drastic tax added could cause business to close down directly impacting employees & families income as well as their LIVELYHOOD & health. The cost already of vape products are high. With such a situation that may occur may cause a spike in unemployment uneven families losing their homes or simply couldn't even feed their families. I ask to please reconsider this bill as it is wrong & don't just look at the number but look at the damage that may happen. If a tax should take place it should be reasonable to the public & business that it'll affect. Thank you for your time Have blessed & beautiful day MAHALO NUI LOA

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 3:22:36 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
taeleipu liliu		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 4:14:43 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Stevenson		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. I work in a vape shop here on island. Alot of the exposure comes from online sales. We contact each individual that orders online. We have them send us a picture of them holding their identification to verify it is them ordering the product. We verify via picture that the person making the order clearly shows on the identification that they are 21 years or older. This bill wl cut off a significant portion of revenue coming into the shop. Without the revenue the shop will have to seek other means to supplement that said income. Other shops or us would then close and our fear is that customers will resort back to smoking. We have made a difference in the smoking community and would hate to lose that. Again I add I oppose this bill. Have a great day and thank you for the opportunity to say my piece.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 4:16:47 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kimo Cruz		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 5:31:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Orozco		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 6:15:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mercedes		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 6:35:22 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Zehner	Hawaii Smokers Alliance	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 7:28:04 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David McCann		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 9:00:35 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Owens		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 12:59:42 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Johnathon Myers	Cigar Rights of America	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE prohibiting Internet sales of cigars, e-cigarette, tobacco products. There are plenty of Laws in place already in the State of Hawai'i that prevent youth from purchasing tobacco products--enforce them. There are plenty of Laws in place to tax online sales of purchased products--enforce them. The State of Hawai'i does not need to legislate adults' online purchasing. I am a staunch supporter of the #SUPPORTLOCAL movement in Hawai'i, but this proposed Bill is a clear example of Government overreach--especially on an island with limited resources/retailers. I strongly OPPOSE the increase in the license fee from \$2.50 to \$500, as well as stongly OPPOSE the increase in the retail tobacco permit from \$20 to \$50.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 1:40:03 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Chai		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/2/2018 7:05:26 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sabrina Spencer		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 10:48:53 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Clayton Silva		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 11:57:34 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nathan kaeo jr		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 12:02:09 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michelle Robinson		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 12:19:29 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
michael echiverri		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 1:28:09 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
justin richards		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 3:06:36 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Stevens		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 3:45:11 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Bill Medeiros		Oppose	No

Comments:

I mostly oppose this bill as it infringes on the rights of residents and visitors to purchase and receive legal products from lawfully operating companies. Moreover, while these products may be available from local retailers, these retailers may not provide a full inventory of products and may not provide the same inventory in rural areas of the state, as is available on Oahu. Growing up on the Neighbor Islands in the days of the territory, we depended on mail order suppliers long before there was an internet. We shopped locally but still waited for the Sears Roebuck catalog to come in the mail.

Finally, making something illegal to purchase, does not necessarily make it impossible to purchase - aerial fireworks have been illegal for decades, and yet, people still find a way.

For these reasons, I am opposed to this bill.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/3/2018 6:44:46 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jon Fia		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It will be yet another law that really can't be enforced. If the state were really committed to enforcing this, where are the funds going to come from to enforce it?

In addition, its not fair to a consumer that they can not purchase items that are not readily available locally. As for premium cigars, the selection is limited due to there being so few retailers here in Hawaii. Between the difficult business environment Hawaii already has and the onerous tobacco taxes already being levied, not many retailers are left.

Instead of trying to make a bill to prevent people from buying outside of our state, why not create a fair business environment where the local retailers can be on a level playing field? There will be no need to enforce shipments from outside of the state. The biggest reason consumers buy tobacco outside of the state is due to the high tobacco taxes that they can circumvent. A tax cap such as the one that HB2083 proposes would increase sales here locally and decrease out of state sales.

If, however, the creation of high tobacco taxes was to generate more revenue, it actually did the opposite. It sent consumers to the internet instead of their local retailers. Now the state loses out on tobacco tax revenue as well as excise tax revenue. If the creation of high tobacco taxes was intended to deter tobacco use, that is wrong as government should not be in the business of legislating behavior. If the big concern is really about health, then just ban tobacco altogether and be done with it.

Thanks for your time.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/4/2018 12:13:33 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Park		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/4/2018 10:17:33 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sean Higa		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 12:21:20 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kaipo Keohuhu-Paaluhi Jr		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 9:54:20 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dory Kong		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 2:55:20 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jess Lovely	Island Vapor	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB2654 states in its justification that the bill and its regulations are needed to curb youth usage. It states "The Surgeon General's report noted that e-cigarette use has increased considerably in recent years, growing an astounding nine hundred percent among high school students from 2011 to 2015". However, it fails to mention the most recent CDC report that shows youth use of tobacco products are at the lowest levels ever. Also, youth use of vapor products have been declining since 2016, and recent studies have shown that the majority of youth who have reported using e-cigarettes are not using e-liquids that contain nicotine - further suggesting that youth who do use e-cigarettes are doing so to replace the use of traditional tobacco cigarettes.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 3:10:07 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerald Honma	Smokeless Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

- **Submit Testimony - OPPOSE:** SB2654 states in its justification that the bill and its regulations are needed to curb youth usage. It states "The Surgeon General's report noted that e-cigarette use has increased considerably in recent years, growing an astounding nine hundred percent among high school students from 2011 to 2015". However, it fails to mention the most recent CDC report that shows youth use of tobacco products are at the lowest levels ever. Also, youth use of vapor products have been declining since 2016, and recent studies have shown that the majority of youth who have reported using e-cigarettes are not using e-liquids that contain nicotine - further suggesting that youth who do use e-cigarettes are doing so to replace the use of traditional tobacco cigarettes.

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2017/p0615-youth-tobacco.html>

<https://www.psc.isr.umich.edu/events/archive/feature-detail/1833>

- The most Recent CDC report has shown e-cigarettes have supplanted all other traditional nicotine replacement therapies and are now the most commonly used product by consumers to quit using traditional tobacco cigarettes

[http://www.journalnow.com/business/business_news/local/cdc-report-shows-more-smokerstry-](http://www.journalnow.com/business/business_news/local/cdc-report-shows-more-smokerstry-to-quit-with-e/article_a33383f3-5300-5178-9f14-28b52884c45c.html)

[to-quit-with-e/article_a33383f3-5300-5178-9f14-28b52884c45c.html](http://www.journalnow.com/business/business_news/local/cdc-report-shows-more-smokerstry-to-quit-with-e/article_a33383f3-5300-5178-9f14-28b52884c45c.html)

Thank You,

Gerald Honma

Smokeless Hawaii

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/5/2018 6:37:31 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathy Kim		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:42:01 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keane Tanaka		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 8:50:24 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rebecca Powell		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 11:15:37 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keala		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill cause simply all stores in hawaii won' be able to sell Tabacco products, you go anywhere on oahu any vape shop, gas station, or market that sells Tabacco is within 750 feet of a school, housing complex, beach etc. 750 feet is ridiculous, but selling of alcohol products is only 150 feet that makes no sense. Locally owned brick and mortar shops feed their families, pay bills etc. With the opening of their shops. Do not pass this bill

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:01:30 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Folio		Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Katie Folio and I am submitting this testimony as a private citizen in STRONG support of SB 2654, which would begin to regulate ESDs along the same lines as other tobacco products. The FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, so it makes no sense that they are not held to the same standards. They are using the same tactics, marketing, and promotions that big tobacco used to target youth, and it's working very effectively. We have some of the highest youth use rates in the nation (and Maui may have the highest youth use rates!), and since we don't know the long term health consequences of vaping yet, this could have serious implications for our youth and the health of our future population! We already spend half a billion dollars on tobacco related health care, so if vaping causes health issues down the road (which is a safe bet), then we will be spending even more. Our kids are our future, and as the mother of two beautiful young daughters, I hope to spare them from becoming a victim of the tobacco as I did when I was in high school, or the vaping industry which is doing everything they can to mimic the highly effective and lucrative tactics of the tobacco industry. Please help protect our kids by taxing these products - it's a win-win for the health of the community and for state income. Please also require permitting and licensing of retailers/distributors. Right now the industry has free reign, and it's just not right.

Thank you very much for protecting Hawaii's people, especially our keiki.

Sincerely,

Katie Folio

Kula, HI

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 12:23:00 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
C. Azelski		Support	No

Comments:

Please regulate electronic smoking devices to help young people avoid starting an life-long, expensive and health damaging habit. Thank you.

Date: February 6, 2018

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair

The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services

Re: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

Thank you very much for your time and consideration as I present my testimony in **strong support** of SB2654. My name is Maggie Morris and I am a Masters of Public Health student at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Not only are electronic smoking devices (ESD) spreading across the nation among adults, but our youth are taking up vaping and this is a major public health concern. E-cigarettes are a tobacco product that has become a popular trend and although individuals in Hawaii are smoking cigarettes less, numbers in ESD use are rising rapidly. Despite our tobacco 21 law and tobacco youth access laws, many middle school to high school students still use e-cigarette devices which allows them to get addicted to the small amounts of nicotine¹. It has been proven that even the smallest exposure to nicotine can cause a user to become addicted in the long-run². Additionally, individuals are at a much higher risk of taking up smoking cigarettes if they regularly use an ESD. Although vaping has a much lower impact on the lungs than that of a traditional cigarette, ESD usage contributes to cardiovascular disease and impaired brain development found in regular smoking³. Our youth in Hawaii should not have to worry about the long-term heart and brain damages because of how easy accessing an ESD device is.

ESD companies will continue to market and make easily accessible their products to our youth without any regulation. We should seek to improve the health of everyone and this can often be attained through preventative measures. This issue needs to be addressed at its root of the problem, and as seen with other tobacco products, regulating as well as taxing e-cigarettes will discourage consumers from purchasing the devices.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,
Maggie Morris

¹ Hawaii School Health Survey/ Youth Risk Behavior Survey (2017)

² U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. *Nicotine Addiction and Your Health*. 2017, <https://betobaccofree.hhs.gov/health-effects/nicotine-health/index.html>

³ Annual Review of Public Health. *E-Cigarettes: Use, Effects on Smoking, Risks, and Policy Implications*, Vol. 29. 2018

From: berniefreitas71@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bernadette Freitas](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 2:34:55 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Bernadette Freitas
Pahala, HI 96777

From: kelsie.cajka@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kelsie Cajka](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 2:42:02 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

Right now, it is impossible to know where these devices are being sold and the long-term effects of use are still unclear. This tax would help regulate the sales of devices across the state.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Kelsie Cajka

Sincerely,
Kelsie Cajka
Honolulu, HI 96813

From: lisakehl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa Kehl](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 3:54:46 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Lisa Kehl
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: keawe9@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Keawe Kaholokula](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 4:22:03 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Keawe Kaholokula
Honolulu, HI 96826

From: kmedeiros@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kendra Medeiros](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 4:00:25 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kendra Medeiros
Lanai City, HI 96763

From: lisakehl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Lisa Kehl](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 3:54:46 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Lisa Kehl
Honolulu, HI 96822

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 3:48:38 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Devin Wolery		Oppose	Yes

Comments:

Adding the current tobacco tax to Eliquids will destroy the local economy on vaping. In every other state that a huge tax has been placed. It has decimated the market. Vaping is used to get off of more harmful tobacco cigarettes. By doing this, you are telling current vapors to go back to smoking. As the price for eliquid will go from \$25-30 a bottle to \$45-50. Basically doubling the price on it. Users will find it more cost effective to go back to a more harmful choice.

The intention of this supposedly is to protect the children. By increasing the price of the product. We have laws in place already to stop the sale to under 21.

Increasing the cost will only kill the industry enough to where people go back to smoking. And the problem doesn't even go away.

you are making a mistake. And will cause harm to more people in the long run.

Date: February 6, 2018

To: The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Re: **SUPPORT for SB2654**, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawai'i Revised Statutes

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

Aloha Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health,

I am writing in strong **SUPPORT of SB2654** that would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

Use of ESDs among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. ESDs are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While cigarette smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD vaping has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because ESDs provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, ESD manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing their use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable ESDs and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy to reduce use. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This legislation will also require permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly **support SB2654** and respectfully ask you to pass this bill out of committee.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Keaau, HI

From: jcpwrs04@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Joan Powers](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 4:25:58 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Joan Powers
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: vyontz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Valerie Yontz](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 4:26:09 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229
Dear Committee Members,

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,

Valerie Yontz, PhD
vyontz@hawaii.edu

Sincerely,
Valerie Yontz
Kailua, HI 96734

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/6/2018 5:34:32 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ned Garcia		Oppose	No

Comments:

From: normandgorby@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Normand Dufresne](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 6:11:11 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Normand Dufresne
Pahoa, HI 96778

From: debz96789@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Apolo](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 6:40:47 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Debbie Apolo
Mililani, HI 96789

From: mikeching@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Michael Ching](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 7:50:08 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Michael Ching
Honolulu, HI 96825

From: mkyono@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Mae Kyono](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 8:15:57 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Mae Kyono
Honolulu, HI 96826

From: wdatario@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Wilson Datario](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 8:48:18 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Wilson Datario
Pepeekeo, HI 96783

From: bmih@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Bryan Mih](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 11:29:06 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229
Dear Senators:

As a pediatrician in Honolulu and medical director of the Kapiolani Smokefree Families Tobacco & Nicotine Cessation Program, I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

Electronic smoking devices are clearly products meant to approximate the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products. Electronic smoking devices take a mixture of chemicals, including nicotine, and vaporize it at high temperatures. These devices emit nicotine byproducts and a variety of other chemicals, and they have not been fully studied in regards to safety. E-cigarette vapor has been shown to include carcinogens and toxins including nicotine, nitrosamines, diethylene glycol, formaldehyde, and acetaldehyde. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has exhibited concern regarding the safety of electronic smoking devices as well.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

Thank you for your consideration and support of this important measure.

Sincerely,
Bryan Mih
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: pualei.kaohelaulii@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Pualei Kaohelaulii](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 8:36:07 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Pualei Kaohelaulii
Kekaha, HI 96752

From: john.s.ishoda@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Ishoda](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 9:40:15 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
John Ishoda
Honolulu, HI 96817

From: john.s.ishoda@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [John Ishoda](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 9:40:15 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
John Ishoda
Honolulu, HI 96817

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 10:55:23 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Vince Yamashiroya, MD	Vince Yamashiroya, MD, Inc.	Support	No

Comments:

I am a pediatrician in private practice and strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 1:48:21 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesus Avila		Oppose	No

Comments:

From: rcastro002@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Leenal Castro](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 11:29:17 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Leenal Castro
Hilo, HI 96720

From: ddrummon@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Debbie Drummondo](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 11:32:16 AM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

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Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Debbie Drummondo
Aiea, HI 96701

From: atrinh3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Alan Trinh](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 12:23:39 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Alan Trinh
Hilo, HI 96720

From: ddella@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Denise Della](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 2:16:04 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Denise Della
Kapolei, HI 96707

From: kcruz4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Kathleen Corpuz](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 3:34:52 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Kathleen Corpuz
Honolulu, HI 96817

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 4:38:05 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
shaina young		Support	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 5:23:45 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Oswald		Oppose	No

Comments:

From: momo.modus@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Laura Mo](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 4:59:44 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Laura Mo
Honolulu, HI 96818

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 7:47:50 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Fujiwaki		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill It is unfair many working households have to work multiple jobs just to make ends meet leaving them no time to go to stores and purchase their supplies. This results in them ordering online in the convenience of their own home. By going forward with this bill it would affect many being that they won't be able to order online.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 7:53:30 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeremy Cunningham		Oppose	No

Comments:

I am 36 year old father/husband that has turned to vaping to help kick the habit of smoking cigarettes

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 8:06:16 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jostin A Iriarte		Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I OPPOSE an 2654 for simple fact and reasons the impact, with such a bill will have a terrible affect on many people's lives, not just owners of business that this affect but the general public. Many have transitioned to a better alternative from smoking traditional cigarettes, which is & has been a proven fact that impact the live of many in Hawaii n worldwide. Rather than exposing such crude bills to the people I would expect our government leader to propose fair bills and instead of concentrating on such ridiculous n percentages add in fair tax amount to certain parts. HOW is 70 % a fair number, At that rate you are basically telling people to smoke traditional cigarettes or even worst, it may decimate small business owners, as well as customers and consumers, causing people to lose their ,jobs ,homes ,families will no longer enable to provide for their families.Further more putting people on either welfare or unemployment. PERSONALLY I feel this is absurd.may even lead some that has used vaping to find themselves stressed out cause of the high prices n go back to drugs or alcohol. Please reconsider putting these type of bills in affect.

1. Customers ordering online will now be criminals and will have to pay a \$5000 fine for each order.
2. Making eliquid a tobacco product will add the current 70% tobacco tax to it. Making it cost prohibitive. and more likely for you to switch back to cigarettes.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 8:39:53 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
garett uyesugi		Oppose	No

Comments:

aloha

I am opposed to this and any other bills that seem to make it a crime to use a ecig and vape. There are so many credible studies worldwide that have shown how effective this product is as a smoking tobacco cessation device with a tiny fraction of its health implications. technically the fact that its even considered "tobacco" is so far reaching and sketchy. nicotine is derived from tobacco but it also can come from other vegetables and even be made synthetic and the most popular level in vape is 3mg which is right next to the number "0" meaning its at a super low level. the reference that because it looks like smoking so its tobacco is as far reaching as saying drinking water looks like drinking alcohol. according to scientific definition nicotine and caffeine are grouped together as similiar attributes. done in moderation it does not harm anyone. done in excess it can be dangerous. energy drinks have killed people.

a reasonable goverment regulated industry where the food like product is made in a clean, safe, sterile, food grade approved facility by people who know what they are doing is far better then outlawing it or making it impracticle so people will be forced to buy it black market where a safe product is not the number 1 goal or worse people will buy the raw ingrediants and attempt to create their own product for their needs and have on hand nicotine concentrate in the households which would be deadly if someone or a child got a hold of it.

I have always felt why at the very least has the goverment not pushed for the product to be made in a approved food grade facility. since day 1 I have asked the health dept to inspect me to make sure i am of food grade level and they said they wont do it. This requirement alone would weed out all the fly by nighters who are only in it to make a quick buck and the serious ones will abide and create a safe food grade product.

I am fda registered and have been fda inspected. according to a file i have seen there are only 2 fda registered ejuice makers on maui. I have been following all the fda directives from day 1 and play by the rules.

aloha

garett uyesugi-owner

island ecig and vape co

island hobbies

in business in maui since 1993

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 8:40:50 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mariner Revell		Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose bill SB2654 this bill is anti small business and has hidden tax increases which are not written in the discription of the bill.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 8:50:42 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
JamesDustin Ling	4FreedomFugitiveRecovery LLC	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose for the fact that this is unfair to local businesses. We already struggle trying to keep money in the state and not given out to mainland businesses. Local businesses help our schools and our community. This 70% is a unfair amount and is uncalled for.

From: maarit@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Maarit Tiirikainen](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 6:04:22 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawai'i have decreased through the years, ESD use has rapidly increased, threatening significant public health gains made over the last decade. This is particularly concerning because e-cigarettes provide a new way to deliver the addictive drug nicotine. No matter how it is delivered, nicotine exposure can lead to addiction and harm the developing brain. Studies are also finding that ESDs can lead to smoking cigarettes for new users, including kids.

Without regulation, e-cigarette manufacturers will continue to aggressively market their products by using young adults and celebrities as endorsers, glamorizing its use, promoting deep discounts, and offering popular local e-liquid flavors such as Kona coffee, Maui mango, and pineapple.

Now that the FDA has deemed ESDs as tobacco products, I urge the legislature to regulate and tax disposable e-cigarettes and e-liquid the same way as other tobacco products. ESDs are the only tobacco product without a tobacco tax and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages access to these products. In addition, a portion of these revenues should be dedicated to tobacco prevention and quit programs.

This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Maarit Tiirikainen
Kaneohe, HI 96744

From: ijo808@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Irene GEBIN](#)
To: [CPH Testimony](#)
Subject: Strong Support of SB2654, Relating to Chapter 245, Hawaii Revised Statutes
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 8:35:27 PM

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

The Honorable Rosalyn Baker, Chair
The Honorable Jill Tokuda, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection & Health

Hrg: February 8, 2018 at 8:30am at Capitol Room 229

I strongly support SB2654 which would regulate disposable electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting.

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This bill will also require a permitting and licensing which will allow the state to know who is selling e-cigarettes in Hawai'i and work with these merchants to educate and enforce current tobacco laws.

I strongly support SB2654 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,
Irene GEBIN
Hilo, HI 96720

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 9:28:59 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andy Takaaze		Oppose	No

Comments:

This is another tax hike reworded and hidden in a bill. I oppose this bill.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 9:40:24 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ASHLEY MATTOS		Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 9:48:06 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Heaukulani		Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. This will affect every person who wants to quit smoking cancer related cigarettes, including myself. E-cigarettes has helped me and a lot of people I know quit cigarettes. If you add a rediculous sales tax on it, alot of people including myself will have to resort back to buying cancerous cigarettes again.

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 9:57:44 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
VALENTINO MIRANDA-KEPA		Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Board,

I strongly oppose this bill for the fact that the state of hawaii have already strengthen the laws on Vape and Tobacco products. Tobacco and Vape industries get attack every year but we do not see any movement towards other leagal vices like Alcohol. I feel like we obey the already strict laws behind Tobacco and Vape industries gotta face year in and year out please take my testimony into consideration as i ask you to OPPOSE THIS BILL

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 10:04:10 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dean Kroh	Kroh Acres Graphic design	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 10:32:01 AM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
LOVEY SILVA		Oppose	No

Comments:

I OPPOSE ON THE BILL

SB-2654

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 1:27:05 PM

Testimony for CPH on 2/8/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sebastian henline		Oppose	No

Comments:

Vaping help m quit smoking cigarettes, a few tokes every few hours maybe more if I'm stressing or having a rough day satisfies my nicotine needs instead of a few cigarettes every 20-30 minutes.. i fully support electronic cigarette devices as do many other ex smokers.