

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. 1009, SD2, HD2  
RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: April 3, 2019

Room Number: 308

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Hawaii saved one billion dollars in total health care savings from 2000 to  
2 2017 through tobacco use prevention with youth and pregnant women and adult cessation efforts.  
3 Reducing the initiation of tobacco use and helping people to quit tobacco products will  
4 ultimately reduce health care costs and improve health outcomes.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports Senate Bill 1009, Senate  
6 Draft 2, House Draft 2 (S.B. 1009, SD2, HD2) which proposes to amend Chapter 712, Hawaii  
7 Revised Statutes (HRS) by prohibiting the sale or distribution of all flavored tobacco products,  
8 excluding products with menthol, prohibiting mislabeling of e-liquid products containing  
9 nicotine as nicotine-free, and clarifying the fines and penalties for unlawful sales of flavored  
10 tobacco products in the State of Hawaii, effective July 1, 2050. The Department defers to the  
11 Department of the Attorney General (AG) for enforceability.

12 The availability of flavors is amongst the top reasons given by youth nationally, and the  
13 number one reason in Hawaii for the use of e-cigarettes, also called electronic smoking devices  
14 (ESDs). Moreover, a higher rate of Hawaii high school students than their national peers, 28  
15 percent believe that ESDs are not dangerous. Peer influence is also a significant factor, with 44  
16 percent of youth reporting their four closest friends are ESD users.<sup>1,2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Federal Food & Drug Administration. Youth Tobacco Use: Results from the National Youth Tobacco Survey.

<sup>2</sup> Hawaii State Department of Health 2017 Hawaii Youth Tobacco Survey, Hawaii Health Data Warehouse.

1 Youth vaping is a serious public health issue. Only 4.7 percent of adults report current  
2 use ESDs as compared to 26 percent of Hawaii public high school students.<sup>3,4</sup> Nationally, youth  
3 vaping surged 78 percent in one year between 2017 and 2018.<sup>5</sup> Flavors serve as an enticement  
4 factor to lure youth through candy and fruit flavors along with cartoon characters.<sup>6</sup> Many ESDs  
5 and their refill liquids come in sweet flavors, such as mango, chocolate, gummi bear, and  
6 strawberry. In 2017, researchers were able to identify more than 15,500 unique e-cigarette  
7 flavors available online.<sup>7</sup>

8 On April 1, 2019, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Scott  
9 Gottlieb who has described teen vaping as an “epidemic” stated, “The need is clear. We’ve  
10 heard too many painful stories from parents of teenagers, pediatricians, and young people  
11 themselves; and, they reinforce what we all already know – for many young e-cigarette users,  
12 addiction has already taken hold. These young people are hooked on vaping, and their worried  
13 parents, physicians, and the public health community are searching for tools to help them quit.”<sup>8</sup>

14 While flavors attract youth to vaping, nicotine drives their addiction. Many youth are  
15 unaware of the addictive properties of nicotine. The brain continues to develop until age 25 and  
16 is the last organ to fully mature in the human body. Adolescence is a period of significant brain  
17 development, and nicotine exposure can disrupt the growth of brain circuits that control  
18 attention, learning, lead to increased impulsivity and mood disorders, and increase susceptibility  
19 to addiction.<sup>9</sup> Besides the impact on brain development, more youth who never tried cigarettes,

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<sup>3</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Population Health. BRFSS Prevalence & Trends Data [online]. 2015. [accessed Mar 08, 2019]. URL: <https://www.cdc.gov/brfss/brfssprevalence/>.

<sup>4</sup> Hawaii State Department of Health 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Hawaii Health Data Warehouse

<sup>5</sup> Cullen KA, Ambrose BK, Gentzke AS, Apelberg BJ, Jamal A, King BA. Notes from the Field: Increase in use of electronic cigarettes and any tobacco product among middle and high school students — United States, 2011–2018. *MMWR Morbid Mortal Wkly Rep.* 2018;67(45):1276–1277.

<sup>6</sup> Villanti, A. C., Collins, L. K., Niaura, R. S., Gagosian, S. Y., & Abrams, D. B. (2017). Menthol cigarettes and the public health standard: a systematic review. *BMC Public Health*, 17. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12889-017-4987-z>

<sup>7</sup> Zhu, S-H, et al., “Evolution of Electronic Cigarette Brands from 2013-2014 to 2016-2017: Analysis of Brand Websites,” *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 20(3), published online March 12, 2018.

<sup>8</sup> Gottlieb S, FDA Statement from FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, MD, on new efforts to advance treatment strategies for helping youth addicted to nicotine as a result of the epidemic rise in teen use of e-cigarettes. Retrieved 04/02/2019 <https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm634872.htm>

<sup>9</sup> U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (USDHHS). E-Cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General. Atlanta, GA: 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, 2016.

1 are now using ESDs, and research shows these youth are more likely to initiate cigarette use.  
2 Smoking is still the leading cause of preventable deaths in Hawaii and the nation.

3 In Hawaii, from 2011 to 2015, experimentation with vaping among middle school  
4 students increased six-fold, and amongst high school youth the increase was four-fold.<sup>10</sup>  
5 According to the Hawaii 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), 16 percent of middle  
6 school and 26 percent of high school youth are current ESD users, and the rates are even higher  
7 on the neighbor islands with Hawaii County at 34 percent, Maui County at 32 percent, and Kauai  
8 County at 31 percent.<sup>11</sup> These percentages are over twice as high as the national average of 13  
9 percent, and data show that Hawaii has been leading the trend in ESD use by youth.<sup>12</sup> The  
10 National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS) that reported the 78 percent increase from 2017 to 2018  
11 was the first national survey to reflect the impact of rising sales of JUUL and other USB-shaped  
12 ESDs.

13 The current ESD use rate of 26% is comparable to the high school smoking rate of 28%  
14 in 1999. The Department supports this legislation to ban flavored tobacco products, to prohibit  
15 the mislabeling of any e-liquid product that contains nicotine as nicotine-free, and to clarify the  
16 fines and penalties for unlawful sales of flavored tobacco products. Ending the sale of flavored  
17 tobacco products is an issue of both health and social justice. Candy and fruit flavored tobacco  
18 products are marketed to youth intentionally to replace smokers of traditional cigarettes.

19 The major tobacco companies continue to invest heavily in flavored products with their  
20 own brands and are acquiring existing ESD companies. The global ESD industry has grown  
21 dramatically and in 2017 was valued at 22.6 billion U.S. dollars.<sup>13</sup> Altria, parent company of  
22 Phillip Morris, invested 12.8 billion dollars for a 35 percent stake in JUUL, a product so popular

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<sup>10</sup> Hawaii State Department of Health 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey. Hawaii Health Data Warehouse

<sup>11</sup> Ibid

<sup>12</sup> US Department of Health and Human Services. E-cigarette use among youth and young adults: a report of the Surgeon General. Atlanta, GA: US Department of Health and Human Services, CDC, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health; 2016

<sup>13</sup> BBC News, "Vaping – the rise in five charts," Lora Jones, May 31, 2018.

1 with youth that, “to JUUL” has become a synonym for vaping. A single flavored pod of JUUL  
2 contains as much nicotine as 20 regular cigarettes.

3 The Department respectfully requests the help of the State Legislature to support  
4 legislation to protect children in Hawaii, since a federal ban on flavored tobacco products is still  
5 uncertain. The passage of S.B. 1009, SD2, HD2 would be a significant policy to close the  
6 market of appealing products that are addicting our youth and young adults to nicotine.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

8 **Offered amendment:** None





STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 04/03/2019  
**Time:** 02:30 PM  
**Location:** 308  
**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 1009, SD2, HD2 RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

**Purpose of Bill:** Bans the sale of flavored tobacco products except for menthol or mentholated products. Prohibits mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine. Establishes fines and penalties for violations. (SB1009 HD2)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education supports SB 1009, SD2, HD2, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOE approved budget.

The 2017 Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey data indicate that almost half of our high school students have tried e-cigarettes and 25% are now regular users. Although traditional cigarette use has declined in recent years, it is still concerning, with one out of every four youth saying that they have smoked a cigarette.

Flavored tobacco products are disproportionately used by youth, partially due to the false perception that fruit- and menthol-flavored products are less harmful than those that are tobacco-flavored. A 2013 US FDA report on the health impact of menthol cigarettes determined that menthol cigarettes lead to increased smoking initiation among youth and young adults, greater addiction and decreased success in quitting smoking.

The nicotine in tobacco products has been found to be addictive and is especially harmful to youth neurologic development. There are numerous other negative health consequences associated with the use of tobacco products and second hand exposure to tobacco smoke and e-cigarette vapor, including higher rates of asthma and respiratory infection. These health conditions may limit a student's ability to attend and participate fully in school and may have long term effects on their educational attainment.

The Department of Education is committed to supporting all students' well-being by providing a safe learning environment and helping them to develop health literacy skills in order to help

them reach optimal academic success.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at [www.hawaiipublicschools.org](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).

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Kelly T. King

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

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Yuki Lei K. Sugimura



Director of Council Services  
Maria E. Zielinski

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

April 2, 2019

TO: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Tamara Paltin  
Councilmember (West Maui District)

SUBJECT: HEARING OF APRIL 3, 2019; SUPPORTING SB 1009 SD2 HD2,  
RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

Dear Representative Luke and Committee Members:

Mahalo for the opportunity to offer testimony in SUPPORT of this measure. The purpose of this measure is to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products except for menthol or mentholated products. Prohibits mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine. This measure would also establish fines and penalties for violations.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing these comments in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

Currently, candy-flavored tobacco is attracting a disproportionately larger amount of our Hawai'i youth than seen before in regards to tobacco use. Easily hidden vaping devices that are aesthetically pleasing to our children coupled with tasty sounding flavors has 47% of our high schoolers and 27% of our middle school students reporting they have used one of these devices.

In order to secure the health and safety of our youth, I believe this prohibition should be passed and I mahalo for your consideration of this important measure.

Council Chair  
Kelly T. King

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Riki Hokama  
Alice L. Lee  
Michael J. Molina  
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April 2, 2019

TO: Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Yuki Lei Sugimura  
Councilmember

DATE: April 3, 2019

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 1009 S.D. 2 H.D.2, RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT WITH REVISIONS of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products.

According to the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, flavored products play a major role in young people trying tobacco for the first time. Although there has been significant progress in reducing cigarette use amongst youth, overall use of tobacco products remains high due to the popularity of flavored products available for e-cigarettes. With over 15,000 flavors on the market, restricting the sale of kid-friendly flavors is necessary to protect them from a lifetime of nicotine addiction.

According to the Hawaii's 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the percentage of Hawaii high school and middle school students who have tried vaping are 42.3% and 27.0%, respectively. The percentage of Maui County high school and middle school students who have tried vaping are even higher at 50.7% and 32.1%, respectively. These figures show that the prevalence of e-cigarettes is a serious problem and more needs to be done to prevent the use of tobacco products amongst students.

The most current version of this measure includes an exception to the ban on flavored products for menthol and mentholated products. Menthol is a particularly insidious compound since its cooling properties mask the harshness of tobacco smoke and nicotine, making it the starter product of choice for new tobacco users. I would suggest banning the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol and mentholated products.

Council Chair  
Kelly T. King

Vice-Chair  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
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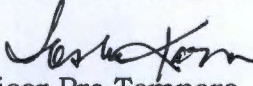


Director of Council Services  
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April 2, 2019

TO: Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Tasha Kama   
Presiding Officer Pro Tempore

SUBJECT: **Hearing of April 3, 2019; Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1009 SD2  
HD1, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to address the sales of flavored tobacco products and prohibits the mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support this measure for the following reasons:

1. Flavored tobacco products are a primary method of attracting the young to try tobacco products. Banning these products will assist the State and the County in curtailing the adoption of tobacco products by impressionable youth, some of whom, despite protestations by the industry, are clearly the target audience for these products.
2. Consumers must be able to rely on product packaging to know what those products contain. The mislabeling of e-liquid products as "nicotine-free" when they contain nicotine undermines the consumers' reliance on labeling to be correct.

**Justin F. Kollar**  
Prosecuting Attorney



**Rebecca Vogt Like**  
Second Deputy

**Jennifer S. Winn**  
First Deputy

**Diana Gausepohl-White**  
Victim/Witness Program Director

**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

**County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i**

3990 Ka'ana Street, Suite 210, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766  
808-241-1888 ~ FAX 808-241-1758  
Victim/Witness Program 808-241-1898 or 800-668-5734

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**THE HONORABLE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
The Thirtieth Legislature  
Regular Session of 2019  
State of Hawai'i**

April 3, 2019

**RE: S.B. 1009 S.D. 2 H.D. 2; RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS.**

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen and members of the House Committee on Finance, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i ("Office") strongly supports S.B. 1009 S.D. 2 H.D. 2.

The purpose of S.B. 1009 S.D. 2 H.D. 2 is to prohibit the sale or distribution of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol, in the State of Hawai'i towards the goal of curbing the recent explosion in use of electronic smoking devices among the youth of Hawai'i.

Flavored tobacco products, primarily those marketed towards users of electronic smoking devices, clearly target children and teens. Flavors like "Fruit Hoops", "Sour Straws" and "Cookie Monsta" with their sweet odors and flavors pervade our middle and high schools. Although the FDA has recently taken some steps towards curbing these predatory practices, those steps are too hesitant and will not prevent irreversible damage from being done to the health of thousands of young people in Hawai'i. Although some proponents have indicated that electronic smoking devices reduce use of conventional cigarettes, they have also resulted in a tremendous and sudden increase in tobacco usage by young people. It must also be noted that electronic smoking devices are NOT FDA-approved tobacco cessation devices.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney of the County of Kaua'i strongly supports S.B. 1009 S.D. 2 H.D. 2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.





**SB1009 SD2 HD2**  
**RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**  
House Committee on Finance

April 3, 2019

2:30 p.m.

Room 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB1009 SD2 HD2, which seeks to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products. This bill would help protect Native Hawaiian adults and youth—who already exhibit high rates of tobacco use and chronic diseases, including those associated with or exacerbated by tobacco use—from the cumulative and harmful health consequences of e-cigarettes and other tobacco products.

OHA has long advocated for meaningful policies which reduce health inequities faced by Native Hawaiians. Most recently, OHA spearheaded the State effort to codify “social determinants of health” through Act 155 (Reg. Sess. 2014) and require state agencies to take a holistic and systemic approach to addressing health disparities seen in Native Hawaiian and other communities. In furtherance of our strategic plan and advocacy efforts, we now seek to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians by reducing substance abuse, including tobacco and nicotine products.

Smoking and tobacco use have had severe consequences for Native Hawaiians. For example, Native Hawaiian women have the highest rates of asthma in the State,<sup>1</sup> and exposure to tobacco smoke exacerbates such respiratory issues. Moreover, health data reveals that lung and bronchus cancers associated with tobacco use kill more kāne (31.3%) than any other form of cancer; this trend has remained steady since 1975.<sup>2</sup> Alarming, nearly one in five Native Hawaiians is a current smoker;<sup>3</sup> and Native Hawaiian youth are more likely than any other ethnic youth group in Hawai‘i to use electronic vaping products, with adolescent Native Hawaiian females comprising one in three vaping product users.<sup>4</sup>

E-cigarette use in particular has become “a major health concern” among youth nationwide, according to the United States Surgeon General. To address the skyrocketing rates of vaping in high schools and middle schools, the FDA has recently moved toward a ban on flavored e-cigarettes, menthol cigarettes, and flavored cigars. National advocacy

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<sup>1</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, HAUMEA—TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN WOMEN AND EMPOWERING WĀHINE WELL-BEING (2018).

<sup>2</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, KĀNEHŌ‘ĀLANI – TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN MEN (2017).

<sup>3</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, HAUMEA—TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN WOMEN AND EMPOWERING WĀHINE WELL-BEING (2018).

<sup>4</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, NATIVE HAWAIIAN DATA BOOK (2019).



is also prompting efforts to ban flavored tobacco products that are clearly marketed toward and popular among youths. By prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products, including e-cigarette “juice”, **SB1009 SD2 HD2 will place Hawai‘i at the lead of such efforts to protect children and adults alike, while promoting the well-being of the Native Hawaiian community and a healthier Hawai‘i overall.**

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB1009 SD2. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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**Paul Kosasa**, ABC Stores, *Advisor*  
**Barry Taniguchi**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*  
**Derek Kurisu**, KTA Superstores, *Advisor*

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TO:  
Committee on Finance  
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chairs

FROM: HAWAII FOOD INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION  
Lauren Zirbel, Executive Director

DATE: April 3, 2019  
TIME: 2:30pm  
PLACE: Conference Room 308

RE: SB1009 SD2 HD2 Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

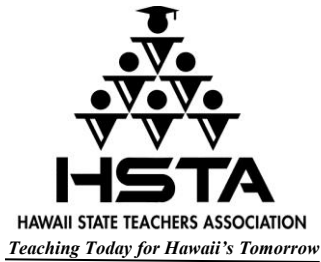
Position: Comments

The Hawaii Food Industry Association is comprised of two hundred member companies representing retailers, suppliers, producers, and distributors of food and beverage related products in the State of Hawaii.

The federal government already has in place adequate regulations regarding flavored cigarettes. Tobacco regulations are handled at the federal level for good reason. Enforcing this type of ban on very specific kinds of a product, which are legal at the federal level would be a potentially logistically difficult and very expensive process. Any additional regulations of these types of products should occur at the federal level.

At the state level tobacco use in Hawaii is already restricted to those who are 21 and older. Kids and adults under 21 don't have legal access to these products and businesses already take measures to ensure that only those 21 and older are buying nicotine products.

This bill unfairly targets and penalizes those who choose to use certain types of products, and the businesses that serve these customers. This type of regulation is not really necessary and can be obtrusive. We thank you for the opportunity to testify.



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Corey Rosenlee  
President  
Osa Tui Jr.  
Vice President  
Logan Okita  
Secretary-Treasurer  
Wilbert Holck  
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE

RE: SB 1009, SD2 , HD2- RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2019

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT  
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Luke, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **strongly supports SB 1009, SD2, HD2** banning the sale of flavored tobacco products.

This measure would ban the sale of flavored tobacco products in the state of Hawaii starting on 1/1/2020.

Flavored tobacco products have been proven as the entry point for youth to start smoking. According to the FDA's 2018 National Youth Tobacco Survey over two-thirds (67.8 percent) are using flavored e-cigarettes, which is a significant increase from 2017. The 2017 CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System reported 8.1% of high school students smoked on at least one day in the past 30 days.

Locally the Hawaii's Youth Risk Behavior Survey of public high school students disclosed the following: over 42% of Hawaii high school students have tried using vapor products; over 25% of Hawaii high school students indicated that they are regular users; and neighbor islands high school students reporting even higher numbers with over 31% of Kauai students, over 32% of Maui students, and over 34% of Hawaii county students reported to be regular users.

This data is clear and the reason the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** SB 1009, SD2, HD2. We need to protect our youth.

Jamil Folio  
The Man Cave  
1993 S. Kihei Rd Suite 18  
Kihei, Hawaii 96733



To our Distinguished Legislators:

My name is Jamil Folio, I am the Administrative Manager for “The Man Cave” retail business in Kihei, Hawaii. I am a property owner, father of young children, concerned citizen and a small business advocate who is proud to call Maui my home.

I am writing in STRONG support of HB 276, the tobacco flavor ban. We sell tobacco products in our store, and understand the trepidation of other business owners/operators concerning potential lost revenue. BUT, we cannot jeopardize the health of our youth and our community by focusing on short term profit.

An alarming number of Maui high school students, 30%, are using flavored vapor products, or e-cigarettes. A good portion of them will go on to use more traditional tobacco products and in case you are unaware that carries significant health risks. Children are 3 to 10 times more likely to start smoking having had exposure to vaping or e-cigarettes in the past.

**21,000 children under the age of 18 currently living in Hawaii will die prematurely from smoking.**

If you could please read the previous sentence one more time. Then consider the financial cost associated with long term cancer and end of life care. Any lost short term revenue from banning the sales of flavored tobacco products is a minor rounding error in the long term costs associated with cancer for tens of thousands of Hawaii’s citizens.

We are not talking about the rights adults have to make informed discussions. We are talking about middle school children being hooked on bubble gum and cotton candy flavored addiction. And that is what is being sold: addiction. This is a tried and true campaign of influence from tobacco companies who have been marketing to children for decades (as proven in their own internal documents multiple times).

For every potential sale that would be lost, a life might be saved. So please represent your constituents, our community and our island ohana by doing the right thing. No child or adult needs candy flavored cancer causing products.

Thank you for your time.

Mahalo,

Jamil Folio

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# THE ROOT CELLAR STUDIO MAUI

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April 2, 2019

David Stoller Whitney

The Root Cellar Studio Maui

15640 Haleakala Hwy

Kula, HI 96790

To our Legislator:

My name is David Stoller Whitney, I am the own operator of "The Root Cellar Studio Maui" in upcountry Maui. I have lived in Hawaii for 25 years. I have a daughter that was born and raised on Maui and is currently attending University in Hawaii. I am writing today to share my strong support for Senate Bill 1009. In researching this bill. I wanted to share some facts that I discovered while researching this bill.

Candy-and fruit-flavored cigarettes were banned under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act in 2009. However, menthol cigarettes, non-cigarette smoked tobacco products and smokeless products were not included in the ban

Fact: 81% of youth who have ever used tobacco started with a flavored product.

Fact: About one third of youth smokers will eventually die from a tobacco-related disease.

Smoking kills more people than alcohol, AIDS, car crashes, illegal drugs, murders, and suicides combined — and thousands more die from other tobacco-related causes — such as fires caused by smoking (more than 1,000 deaths/year nationwide) and smokeless tobacco use. With over 25% of High School student using e-cigarettes. Our community can not stand by and allow the sale or marketing of deadly products to our children. It is our responsibility to protect them.

I strongly support SB1009.

Sincerely yours,

David Stoller Whitney



April 3, 2019

**RE: SUPPORT SB1009 SD2 HD1 Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the House Finance Committee:

At Blue Zones Projects we are working to make Hawaii a happier, healthier place to live, work and play. We support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which will ban the sale of flavored tobacco products, ultimately reducing the number of users and potential users.

Youth are highly attracted to the variety, 15,500 + and growing, flavors. These are marketed to appeal to young people. With names like Fruit Hoops, Cali Colada, Space Jam, TrollzE, and Blizzard Berry-BRRRST, clearly the industry is targeting children under 21. By attracting young people, the next generation of consumers is being cultivated.

It is targeted, and the messaging is working phenomenally well. Nationally, there was a 78% increase from 2017-2018 in current e-cigarette use among high school students and 48% increase among middle school students. Bringing the total number of middle and high school students currently using to 3.6 million, 1.5 million more than the previous year. Hawaii youth are part of this trend, 42% of HIDOE high school students and 27% of middle school students report having ever used an electronic vaping product.

“Each day more than 2800 adolescents aged 12-17 try smoking with 10.9% of students trying before the age 13. Roughly 700 adolescents transition to daily smoking each day and more than 60% of teen smokers still smoke 5 years later.”<sup>1</sup> The fruity flavors are favored by teens because they mask the taste of the bitter nicotine. Children are the target consumer with these flavors that is shown by the increase in products by young people. Our children are becoming addicts, and although the schools have been given the ability to take ESDs away from students and turn the devices over to the police, it is impossible to stop addiction by simply removing the device. We need to target the source of the adolescent addiction.

Young people are the industry’s target through the sale of flavored tobaccos. This tactic gets children hooked. “Preventing youth from smoking is important because 90% of smokers start before the age of 18, and very few adults will begin to smoke or use smokeless tobacco products after age 26. An estimated 5.6 million youth <18 will die prematurely from a smoking-related illness; these deaths can be averted through concerted public health measures and regulatory measures.”<sup>2</sup> We cannot address this epidemic nationally, but we can address it here for our Hawaii youth, and be an example for others.

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<sup>1</sup> Textbook of Pediatric Care 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. (2017) Chapter 338, 2017.

<sup>2</sup> Merck Manual Professional Version, 2018.

This situation is a public health crisis that costs our state. The trajectory of teen vaping rates will surpass those of teen smoking rates at their peak. The levels of nicotine in one JUUL are making kids addicts immediately. It is not smoking, coughing and gagging on a combustible cigarette. It is enjoying the flavor of something that has the nicotine equivalent of 20 cigarettes. And most teens think they are only vaping flavors, not nicotine.<sup>3</sup>

There has been recent backstepping at federal level regarding this epidemic. As a state, we do not have the time to take a “wait and see” approach. The crisis is now. For years, we have done our keiki a disservice by ignoring the numbers and trusting that the industry has been acting ethically. We are allowing a generation to become addicted to nicotine through the hook of flavored e-liquids.

This measure is the top priority of the youth council. Our children are asking the adults to address the issue of their health and well-being; we can’t fail them. We are grateful to the committees for hearing SB1009 SD2 HD2 and hope that you will consider passing this bill.

Sincerely,

*Peggy Mierzwa*

Peggy Mierzwa  
Blue Zones Project—Hawaii

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<sup>3</sup> Truth Initiative <https://truthinitiative.org/news/6-important-facts-about-juul>

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Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM  
Conference Room 308

**House Committee on Finance**

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson  
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: Testimony in Support of SB 1009, SD2, HD2  
Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

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My name is Michael Robinson, Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

**I write in support of SB 1009, SD2, HD2** which would ban the sale of flavored tobacco products except menthol or mentholated products.

Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States and in Hawai'i. Tobacco use is a serious public health problem in terms of the human suffering and loss of life it causes, as well as the financial burden it imposes on society and our healthcare system. Annually, \$526,000,000 in health care costs are directly attributed to smoking in the State. Flavored tobacco products promote youth initiation of tobacco use and help young occasional smokers become daily smokers by reducing or masking the natural harshness and taste of tobacco smoke, thereby increasing the appeal of tobacco products. Menthol, in particular, is used by the tobacco industry because it has a cooling and numbing effect and can reduce the throat irritation from smoking, thus making menthol cigarettes an appealing option for youth who are initiating tobacco use. Candy and fruit flavors improve the taste and reduce the harshness of tobacco products, making them more appealing and easier for beginners to try tobacco products and ultimately become addicted. The popularity of electronic cigarettes among youth is concerning, as these products contain nicotine.

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 through our Tobacco 21 law and tobacco youth access laws. 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. Marketing strategies by the tobacco industry and electronic smoking device industry have significantly increased the introduction and marketing of flavored non-cigarette tobacco products, especially ESDs. Products are glamorized in order to appeal to our youth, using flavors such as candy, fruit, chocolate, mint, Kona coffee, Maui Mango, Shaka strawberry, and Moloka'i hot bread.

Recognizing the increasing public health concerns of flavored tobacco products, other jurisdictions have enacted bans on the sale of those products. Hawaii should also take the step to impose a similar ban.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019 2019; 2:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**RE: SUPPORTING SENATE BILL NO. 1009, HOUSE DRAFT 2, RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS.**

Chair Luke, Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Primary Care Association (HPCA) is a 501(c)(3) organization established to advocate for, expand access to, and sustain high quality care through the statewide network of Community Health Centers throughout the State of Hawaii. The HPCA **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill No. 1009, House Draft 2, RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS.

The bill, as received by your Committee, would:

- (1) Prohibit beginning January 1, 2020:
  - (A) The sale, offer for sale, or possession with the intent to sell or offer to sell a flavored tobacco product; or
  - (B) The mislabeling of e-liquid containing nicotine as nicotine-free;
- (2) Clarify that a statement or claim is made to the consumer or public that the product has or produces a characterizing flavor be prima facie evidence that the tobacco product is a flavored tobacco product;
- (3) Provide that any flavored tobacco product in the retailer's possession at the time of the violation be considered contraband, promptly seized and subject to forfeiture and destruction;
- (4) Authorize penalties on a retailer whose agent or employee violates the foregoing not to exceed \$500 for the first offense, and not less than \$500 but not more than \$2,000 for any subsequent offense;

**Testimony on Senate Bill No. 1009, Senate Draft 2**  
**Wednesday, April 3, 2019; 2:30 p.m.**  
**Page 2**

- (5) Allow any county to adopt rules or ordinances that place greater restrictions on the access of tobacco products and provide that the more stringent restriction prevail;
- (6) Include both savings and severability clauses ; and
- (7) Take effect on July 1, 2050.

Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) provide desperately needed medical services at the frontlines in rural communities. Long considered champions for creating a more sustainable, integrated, and wellness-oriented system of health, FQHCs provide a more efficient, more effective and more comprehensive system of health.

FQHCs have long seen first-hand how tobacco has literally destroyed the lives of our patients and their families. Because of the ubiquity of cigarettes, chewing tobacco, and now electronic smoking devices, the impacts of tobacco affect our citizenry on a generational basis with people experimenting at even earlier ages. From our perspective, the development of flavored products are intended specifically to introduce these products to younger consumers for the purpose of grooming the next generation of smokers, chewers, and vaporers.

It is for this reason that the HPCA joins the Hawaii Public Health Institute and other advocates in strong support of all efforts to rid the marketplace of these products.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



April 2, 2019

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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 SD1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of candy-flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. HPHA strongly supports SB1009 SD2 HD2 and asks you to pass this out of committee.

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  
Hawaii Public Health Association



Hawaii COPD Coalition  
700 Richards St., Suite 2410  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
[Valerie@hawaiicopd.org](mailto:Valerie@hawaiicopd.org)  
(808)699-9839

April 2, 2019

Honorable Finance Chair, Representative Sylvia Luke,  
Honorable Vice Chair, Representative Ty Cullen,  
Members of the Committees on Finance,

RE: **Strong Support** of SB1009, SD2, HD2 banning sale of flavored tobacco products in Hawaii

Dear Representatives Luke, Cullen and members of the Finance Committee:

This measure is extremely critical to the health of the children of our state and our entire state as well. **Please vote in favor of SB1009, SD2, HD2 banning flavored tobacco products in Hawaii.**

I am Executive Director of the Hawaii COPD Coalition and serve 46,015 Hawaii adults diagnosed with COPD in Hawaii (with an estimated equal number still undiagnosed). Since 2007, I have worked in Hawaii, nationally and internationally with countless people who have had their lungs and lives horribly affected by tobacco and nicotine.

We are grateful that this legislature has been the first in the nation to pass legislation banning the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices to people under 21 in Hawaii. Unfortunately, that doesn't stem the growing epidemic of young people and adults in our state who are smoking electronic smoking devices, commonly referred to as ESDs, e-cigs, or vaping.

With 168,000 young people in our schools and with 42% of all high school students and 27% of middle schoolers reporting ever having used an "electronic vaping product" in 2017, we have an urgent need to act. All our young people deserve protection from a lifetime of addiction.

While the FDA's proposed plan aims to restrict the sale of flavored e-cigarettes in convenience stores and gas stations, **it still allows e-cigarette products to stay on the market and online without review by the FDA until August 2022.** We know rulemaking at the federal level often takes a long time which is why state-level action on menthol and other flavored products is

needed now. We can't wait to protect our keiki. Additionally, the new proposed policies do not address flavors in any form of smokeless tobacco or hookah.

**The chemicals used in e-juice and other products have NOT been tested nor approved for inhalation, particularly butter flavors which has been known to cause popcorn lung, otherwise known as bronchiolitis obliterans (which is a very serious progressive lung condition, basically causing the lungs to disappear from the bottom of the lungs upwards). The people using these products SAY they don't FEEL different and aren't currently having symptoms but the studies show otherwise. The most recent study is the FIRST study to show an independent association of e-cigarette use with chronic respiratory disorders and it's a Hawaii study. The citation is <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/30472577> Drug Alcohol Depend. 2019 Jan 1;194:363-370. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2018.10.004. Epub 2018 Nov 7, E-cigarette use and respiratory disorder in an adult sample. Wills TA<sup>1</sup>, Pagano I<sup>2</sup>, Williams RJ<sup>3</sup>, Tam EK<sup>4</sup>.**

Sadly, addicted tobacco smokers often also said they were "fine," up until they were hospitalized with a severe COPD "lung attack" and put on supplemental oxygen for the rest of their lives as well. The over 15,000 flavors of ESDs are designed to entice and attract youth with flavors and designs and packing like sweet candies they love, like gummy bears, jolly ranchers, and more!

We already have over 46,000 Hawaii adults with COPD. The studies showing that e-cigarettes cause cardiac and respiratory disorders provide further urgency as to why it is imperative that this bill be passed NOW, to prevent our state from having ever more young and older people with COPD, heart disease and the accompanying reduced quality of life.

Please help protect the lungs and lives of our children from these very harmful products that are spreading virally in our schools, from elementary through high school and beyond. We urge you to **please vote in favor of SB1009, SD2, HD1 and pass it out of committee so it can become law**. The Hawaii COPD Coalition thanks you very much for your careful consideration of this most important and timely bill.

Very truly yours,

*Valerie Chang*

Valerie Chang  
Executive Director

April 2, 2019

## Relating to SB1009 SD2 HD2

### The Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii Supports SB1009 SD2 HD2

I am the Executive Director of the Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 ending the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Too many kids are vaping, most if not all start with kid friendly flavors, and they soon become addicted to nicotine products.

The trend of youth use of vaping/e-cigarette products is very troubling. Twenty years ago, the state of Hawaii settled with the tobacco industry for their predatory behavior. Let's prevent this from going any further.

We have an opportunity to make a positive difference on this serious and costly public health concern.

Please pass SB1009 SD2 HD2.

With aloha,



Greg Tjapkes  
Executive Director  
Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii



# BRIDGE CLUB HAWAII

April 2, 2019

RE: **SUPPORT for SB1009 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, members of the House Committee on Finance

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of SB1009 SD2 HD2 related to a ban on the sale of flavored tobacco products.

Bridge Club Hawaii is a youth-led community organization with ties to over 10,000 youth in Hawai'i and across the globe. Locally, our members attend over 30 different elementary, middle, and schools across the state, as well as the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Our mission is to empower youth to become global leaders ready to tackle the problems of tomorrow and make the world a better place. With that goal in mind, we strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2.

Flavored tobacco products are a direct attack on our youth; There are over 7,000 different flavors of tobacco and there is clear evidence that these products are both unsafe and made to take advantage of young audiences decision by negatively influencing their decisions.<sup>1</sup> Research shows that chemicals used in flavorings of ESD liquid, such as Diacetyl and acetyl propionyl, are not approved by the FDA for inhalation and are associated with respiratory disease when inhaled.<sup>2</sup> Specifically, high doses of diacetyl have been shown to cause acute-onset bronchiolitis obliterans, a severe and irreversible obstructive lung disease when inhaled.<sup>3</sup> Additionally, human lung cells that are exposed to ESD aerosol and flavorings are show increased oxidative stress and inflammatory responses.<sup>4</sup>

As a community, we must stay committed to the well-being of our youth, which is why Bridge Club Hawaii strongly supports SB1009 SD2 HD2. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Garrett Cho  
President  
Bridge Club Hawaii

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<sup>1</sup> CDC (2018). Quick facts on the risks of e-cigarettes for kids, teens, and young adults. Retrieved from [https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\\_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html)

<sup>2</sup> Konstantinos E. Farsalinos, KE; Kistler, KA; Gilman, G; Voudris, V., "Evaluation of electronic cigarette liquids and aerosol for the presence of selected inhalation toxins," *Nicotine and Tobacco Research* 17(2): 168-174, February 2015.

<sup>3</sup> "Preventing Lung Disease in Workers: Who Use or Make Flavorings," National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. DHHS (NIOSH) Publication Number 2004-110, December 2003.

<sup>4</sup> Lerner CA, Sundar IK, Yao H, Gerloff J, Ossip DJ, McIntosh S, et al. "Vapors Produced by Electronic Cigarettes and E-Juices with Flavorings Induce Toxicity, Oxidative Stress, and Inflammatory Response in Lung Epithelial Cells and in Mouse Lung," *PLoS ONE* 10(2): e0116732, February 6, 2015.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:09:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Madison Langer	Tobacco Free Kids	Support	No

Comments:

**was 14 years old when I saw an e-cigarette for the first time. I was a varsity athlete and cared very much about my health, I did not use drugs. In fact, I was so health-focused I hardly ate sugar. My best friend, who was a gymnast with me, offered me an e-cigarette. I had not heard much about these products and believed as most youths still do, that it only contained water vapour. The real decision maker for me though, it was captain crunch flavoured. My FAVOURITE cereal! All of the sudden e-cigarettes were not scary to me and I began using them frequently, I even bought my own. I quickly became addicted to nicotine and one day when I did not have my e-cigarette I began using combustible cigarettes. Throughout this period I got in with the wrong crowd, quit gymnastics and became a user of other substances. A year later when I tried to become sober I struggled to get away from nicotine. As a 16-year-old, I felt trapped and lost. My story does not stand alone, 81% of youth who use tobacco started with a flavoured product. I urge you to protect Hawaii's youth and pass SB1009.**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:02:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suzie Wallace	Radford High School & Honolulu Chinese Jaycees	Support	No

Comments:

Dear SB 1009 Chair and Committee,

I, Suzie Wallace, testify in strong support of SB 1009. I am in strong support as a school teacher and active community member with the belief that we can't leave inappropriate health choices up to children now that we have strong scientific evidence of the harm of this product.

Please make the right decision to move this bill forward as, like smoking tobacco, many were harmed for generations until the law required that the health risks were on packaging and tobacco companies were required to inform the public of these products specific harm.

Please do not let the vaping industries prolong the passing of this measure into law just to keep your present positions in the Senate. I've seen so much corruption in the House and Senate that I will be personally organizing campaigns to bring students and volunteer members to your hearings to prevent any such violations of moral justice.

Sincerely,

Suzie Wallace

Radford High School Science Teacher

2019 Honolulu Chinese Jaycees Treasurer

217 Prospect Street, Honolulu, HI 96813

suzwallace11@hotmail.com

(808) 383-8830





**HIPHI Board**

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University of Hawaii at Manoa, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources

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McCorriston Miller Mukai MacKinnon LLP

JoAnn Tsark, MPH  
John A. Burns School of Medicine, Native Hawaiian Research Office

En Young, MBA  
Sansei, Lanai

Date: April 2, 2019

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the Finance Committee

Re: Strong Support for SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30pm at Conference Room 308

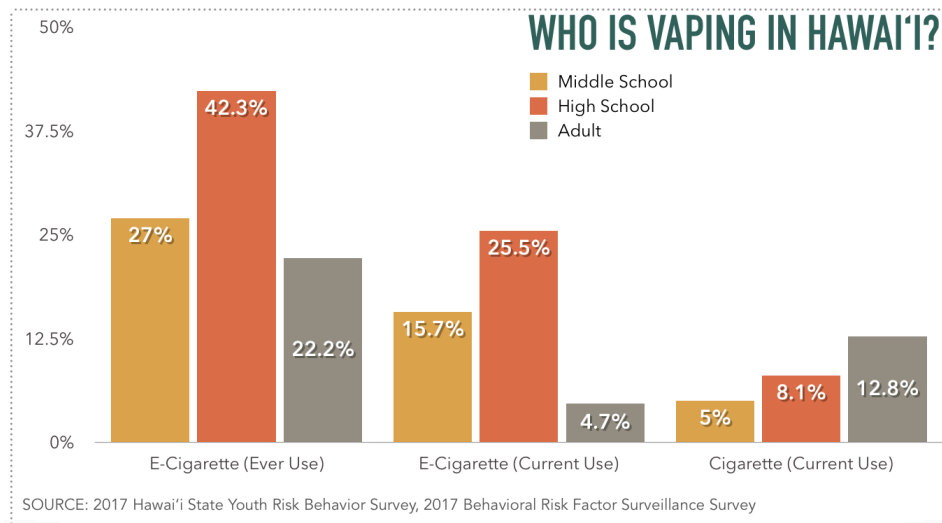
The Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i, a program of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute<sup>i</sup> is in **Strong Support of SB 1009** which would end the sale of all flavored tobacco products in the state.

## TOBACCO TAX LANDSCAPE IN HAWAI'I

TYPE OF TAX	AMOUNT	DISTRIBUTION	FY18 REVENUE
Cigarette	16¢ per stick or \$3.20 per pack	Various Special Funds, General Fund	\$110,762,990.55
Little Cigar	16¢ per stick	General Fund	\$182,994.53
Large Cigar	50% Wholesale Price	General Fund	\$1,615,682.85
Other Tobacco Products	70% Wholesale Price	General Fund	\$7,934,276.61
Electronic Smoking Devices	No Tobacco Tax	N/A	\$0

The above table currently shows that the total tobacco tax revenue collected in FY18 total \$120.5 million. Of the total, 92% comes from cigarettes, 0.2% comes from little cigars, 1.3% comes from large cigars, and 6.6% comes from other tobacco products. Currently no tobacco tax revenue is collected from vaping products, and menthol cigarettes are exempt from the bill, which means that the sale of flavored tobacco products will only impact cigars and other tobacco products.

**This measure helps to protect our keiki from a lifetime of addiction.** Hawaii is experiencing a vaping epidemic among our young people. The State Legislature has worked hard to protect our residents from the harms caused by tobacco use, but the rapid growth of e-cigarette use is alarming.



With 42% of all high school students and 27% of middle schoolers reporting ever having used an “electronic vaping product” and 4.7%<sup>ii</sup> of adults regularly using ESDs in 2017, we have an urgent need to act.

In addition, the latest report released in Feb 2019 by the CDC (attached) is very concerning:

- E-cigarette use increased from 11.7% to 20.8% among high school students and from 3.3% to 4.9% among middle school students from 2017 to 2018.
- There were 1.5 million **more** current youth e-cigarette users in 2018 than in 2017.

**The industry claims that they’re not targeting kids, but their actions tell a different story.** With 15,500 e-cigarette flavors and growing, these products are not being responsibly marketed. Candy flavors such as Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, Gummy Bears, and Cookie Monsta are designed to appeal to kids, and make nicotine go down easier. With 81% of youth starting with a flavored product<sup>iii</sup>, regulating the flavors designed to capture and addict new customers prioritizes the health and safety of our community over tobacco’s special interests. The industry selects colorful packaging and ads that appeal to taste and pop culture. Tobacco companies have a long history of using these same tactics to entice new and younger users and make them repeat customers. In addition, despite our Tobacco 21 law, several stores to continue to sell to underage minors, as reported in the FDA Compliance Check inspections site<sup>iv</sup>:

Retailer Name	Street Address	City	State	Zip	Sale to Minor	Product Type	Decision Date	Inspection Result
HC DRIVE INN	94-210 LEOKANE STREET	WAIPAHU	HI	96797	Yes	E-liquid	11/10/2016	Warning Letter Issued
HELE SNACK EXPRESS	74-5590 PALANI ROAD	KAILUA KONA	HI	96740	Yes	E-liquid	01/12/2017	Warning Letter Issued
IMM 10TH AVE #1016	1451 10TH AVE	HONOLULU	HI	96816	Yes	E-liquid	08/10/2017	Warning Letter Issued
7-ELEVEN / HELE 54128	85-010 FARRINGTON HIGHWAY	WAIANAE	HI	96792	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	11/29/2018	Warning Letter Issued
7-ELEVEN HAWAI'I 54127	1247 KAILUA RD	KAILUA	HI	96734	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	08/16/2018	Warning Letter Issued
ALOHA ISLAND MART	95-280 KIPAPA DRIVE	MILILANI	HI	96789	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	09/06/2018	Warning Letter Issued
EXPRESS MINI MART / SHELL	94-380 PUPUPANI STREET	WAIPAHU	HI	96797	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	09/06/2018	Warning Letter Issued
VAPORFI	555 N KING ST	HONOLULU	HI	96817	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	08/16/2018	Warning Letter Issued
VOLCANO	98-1005 MOANALUA ROAD, SPACE K 7	AIEA	HI	96701	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	09/06/2018	Warning Letter Issued
WALGREENS 10048	46-021 KAMEHAMEHA HIGHWAY	KANEOHE	HI	96744	Yes	ENDS / E-liquid	09/06/2018	Warning Letter Issued

**These new products are glamorizing nicotine addiction.**

The vaping industry has taken full advantage of delays by the FDA to regulate these products. Large volume (30-60mL), highly concentrated (5-5.9%) nicotine sale e-liquids have entered the market in youth-oriented flavors. Most recently, pod-based systems such as Juul and Suoprin have disrupted the e-cigarette market by creating an easily concealable sleek device that can deliver higher concentrations of nicotine. Tobacco giant Altria, maker of Marlboro, spent \$12.8 billion to purchase a third of Juul, which has 76% of the e-cigarette market share and is worth \$38 billion.



JUUL introduced 5% nicotine salt solutions in 0.7mL pods (about the size of your thumb). The company claims that it releases the same amount of nicotine found in a pack of cigarettes.

At the risk of allowing these products to remain on the market, we are addicting a new generation to these deadly products. The health of Hawaii's keiki must be protected from the predatory marketing of tobacco companies.

**Hawai'i has an opportunity to act now and be the first state to end the sale of flavored tobacco.**

Over 180 localities<sup>v</sup> have passed restrictions on the sale of flavored tobacco products, and over two dozen restrict the sale of menthol cigarettes. FDA's proposed plan aims to restrict the sale of flavored e-cigarettes in convenience stores and gas stations, however, it still allows e-cigarette products to stay on the market and online without review by the FDA until August 2022. Since recognizing flavors and vaping as a national public health concern, the FDA has only sent warning letters to 18 manufacturers since May 2018. We know rulemaking at the federal level is often a long process, which is why state-level action on menthol and other flavored products is needed now. E-cigarettes are not FDA-approved tobacco cessation products. We have yet to see any scientific evidence, beyond anecdotal data, that e-cigarettes have helped smokers to quit completely from tobacco use. The concern is that with the aggressive and deceptive marketing of these products, we are seeing other consequences: **1) people who have never smoked are using e-cigarettes, 2) children are picking them up as a path to smoking, and 3) smokers are using them to perpetuate their habit instead of to completely quit.**

Example of a high-dose nicotine e-liquid – 60mg/mL or 6% nicotine in gummy bear flavor.

Prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products can help to keep kids from ever starting to smoke or vape, and can encourage those addicted to these products, to quit. We appreciate Hawaii's leadership in tobacco control and the legislature's actions to protect our young people from a deadly addiction. Taking action is even more important with the recent resignation announcement of FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb. We respectfully urge the committee to **pass SB1009 SD2 HD2.**

***Page 4-5: List of organizations and leaders supporting the #FlavorsHooksKidsHI campaign  
Page 7: CDC Feb 2019 report: Tobacco Use by Youth Is Rising, E-cigarettes are the main reason***

Mahalo,



Trish La Chica, MPA  
Policy and Advocacy Director



As listed on

<https://flavorshookkidshi.org>

## HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS

'Ohana Health Plan  
Adventist Health – Castle  
Akamai Recovery Maui  
American Academy of Pediatrics – Hawaii Chapter  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)  
American Heart Association  
American Lung Association  
American Pharmacist's Association – Academy of Student Pharmacists (APhA-ASP)  
Big Island Substance Abuse Council  
Blue Zones Project  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids  
Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii  
Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i  
Get Fit Kauai  
Hamakua Kohala Health Centers  
Hana Lima Physical Therapy  
Hawaii Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance (HAHPERD)  
Hawaii COPD Coalition  
Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association  
Hawai'i Nurses' Association  
Hawaii Pacific Health  
Hawaii Primary Care Association  
Hawaii Public Health Association  
Hawai'i Public Health Institute  
Hui Malama Ola Na Oiwī  
I Ola Lahui  
Kaho'omiki; Hawaii Council of Physical Activity and Nutrition  
Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children  
Kauai Rural Health Association  
Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition  
Lāna'i Community Health Center  
National Community Pharmacist Association – Hawaii Student Chapter  
Oahu Kidney Care LLC  
Papa Ola Lōkahi  
Pediatric Therapies Hawaii  
Project Vision Hawai'i  
Tobacco Prevention Project, Daniel K. Inouye

College of Pharmacy  
West Hawaii Community Health Center

## YOUTH AND COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Ahuimanu Elementary's School Community Council  
Alexander Academy of Performing Art  
American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO)  
Baldwin HS Peer Education  
Bridge Club Hawaii  
Hale 'Ōpio Kaua'i Inc.  
Hawaii Appleseed Center for Law & Economic Justice  
Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS)  
Hawaii Children's Action Network  
Hawaii Health and Harm Reduction Center  
Hawaii High School Athletic Association (HHSAA)  
Hawaii Job Corps Center  
Hawaii Youth Services Network  
Hui Ola Pono (UH Public Health's Student Organization)  
Kauai Path Inc.  
Kiwanis Club of the Valley Island  
Konawaena HS Wellness Committee  
Maui Interscholastic League (MIL)  
Moanalua HS Peer Education Program  
Pacific American Foundation  
Pono Hawaii Initiative  
The Food Basket, Hawaii Island's Food Bank  
The Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park-Beach Cleanup Team  
Waiakea High School PTSA  
Waimānalo Health Center  
Waipahu Int. Youth for Safety Club  
We Are One Inc.

## ELECTED OFFICIALS & GOVERNMENT

Sen. Stanley Chang  
Rep. Stacelynn Eli  
Rep. Sharon Har  
Maui County Councilmember Kelly King  
Hawai'i County Councilmember Sue Lee Loy  
Kuliouou-Kalani Iki Neighborhood Board #2

Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale  
Neighborhood Board #34  
Mililani/Waipio/Melemanu Neighborhood  
Board #25  
Pearl City Neighborhood Board #21  
Waipahu Neighborhood Board #22  
County of Kauai Office of the Prosecuting  
Attorney  
Department of Education  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

Bryan Mih, M.D.  
Michael Robinson, MBA, MA  
Janice Shishido  
Elizabeth K. Tam, M.D.  
Catherine Taschner, J.D.  
Jill Tokuda  
John A. H. Tomoso, MSW, ACSW, LSW  
Linda Weiner, M.D.  
Stacy Woodson  
Cassiopia Yamashita

## HEALTH & COMMUNITY LEADERS

Tina Alcain  
Frank R. Baum, M.D.  
Danielle Bergan  
Janet Berreman, M.D.  
Gregg Brenes, pastor  
Jeenna Canche  
Clifford Chang, MPH  
Valerie Chang, JD  
Michelle Ching, JD  
Jeffrey H. Chester, DO  
Carmen Cook, LMFT  
Patti Cook  
Joan Craft, RN  
Keawe Kaholokula. PhD  
Gary Hooser  
Carol R. Ignacio  
Colleen F Inouye, M.D.  
Mark Levin, J.D.  
Jasmin Kiernan, RN

## SCHOOLS

Chiefess Kamakahahei Middle School  
Maui Preparatory Academy  
Mid Pacific Institute  
Sacred Hearts Academy  
Saint Louis Schools  
Waiakea High School  
Waimea Middle Public Conversion Charter  
School

## BUSINESSES

Emma Whitney Photography  
Ganesha Body Piercing  
Heartlight Montessori Homeschool  
Home Remedies Interior Design  
Paia Tattoo Parlor  
The Man Cave  
The Root Cellar Studio Maui

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<sup>i</sup> 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 than 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.

The Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.

<sup>ii</sup> 2016 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

<http://www.hawaiihealthmatters.org/indicators/index/view?indicatorId=5203&localeId=14>

<sup>iii</sup> Ambrose BK, Day HR, Rostron B, et al. Flavored Tobacco Product Use Among US Youth Aged 12-17 Years, 2013-2014. JAMA. 2015;314(17):1871-1873. doi:10.1001/jama.2015.13802

<sup>iv</sup> US Food and Drug Administrations. Compliance Check Inspections of Tobacco Product Retailers (through 01/31/2019) from [https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/inspections/oc\\_insp\\_searching.cfm](https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/oc/inspections/oc_insp_searching.cfm)

<sup>v</sup> States and Localities That Have Restricted the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products, Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. January 22, 2019, from <https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/assets/factsheets/0398.pdf>

# CDC Vitalsigns™

## Tobacco Use By Youth Is Rising E-cigarettes are the main reason



Want to learn more?  
[www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/youth-tobacco-use](http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/youth-tobacco-use)

**1.5M**

There were 1.5 million **more** current youth e-cigarette users in 2018 than 2017.

**4.9M**

4.9 million youth were current tobacco product users in 2018.

**38.3%**

Use of any tobacco product grew by 38.3% among high school students (2017-2018).

### Overview:

Tobacco product use among US youth is increasing. More than 1 in 4 high school students and about 1 in 14 middle school students in 2018 had used a tobacco product in the past 30 days. This was a considerable increase from 2017, which was driven by an increase in e-cigarette use. E-cigarette use increased from 11.7% to 20.8% among high school students and from 3.3% to 4.9% among middle school students from 2017 to 2018. No change was found in the use of other tobacco products, including cigarettes, during this time.

### Among youth:

- E-cigarettes are still the most commonly used tobacco product, ahead of cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, hookah, and pipes.
- E-cigarettes are the most commonly used product in combination with other tobacco products.
- E-cigarette use is highest for boys, whites, and high school students.



### PROBLEM:

## Nearly all tobacco product use begins in adolescence.

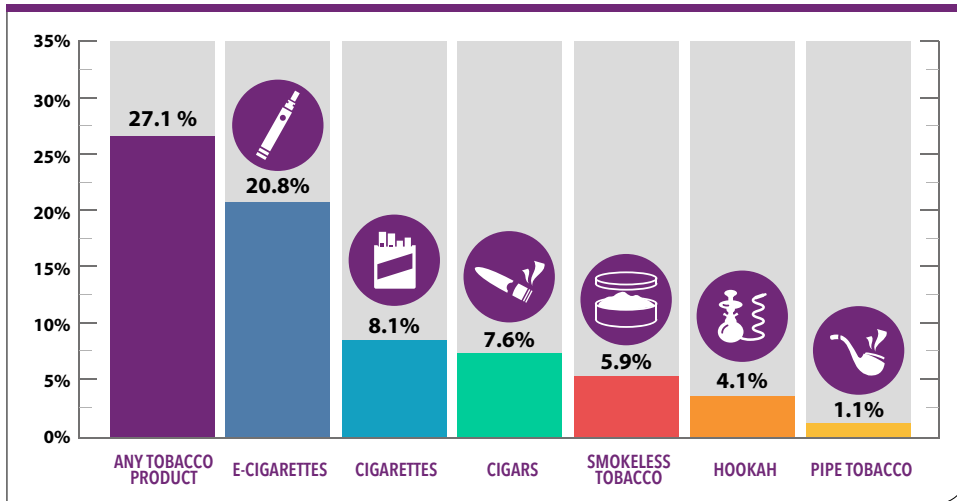
### Any tobacco product use among youth is unsafe, including e-cigarettes.

- Cigarette smoke contains over 7,000 chemicals, including about 70 that cause cancer.
- Nearly all tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, contain nicotine.
- Youth nicotine use can lead to addiction and can harm the developing brain, impacting learning, memory, and attention.

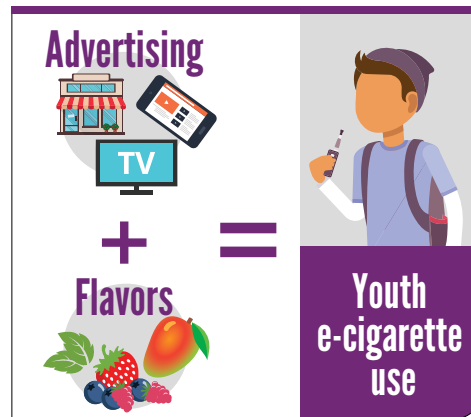
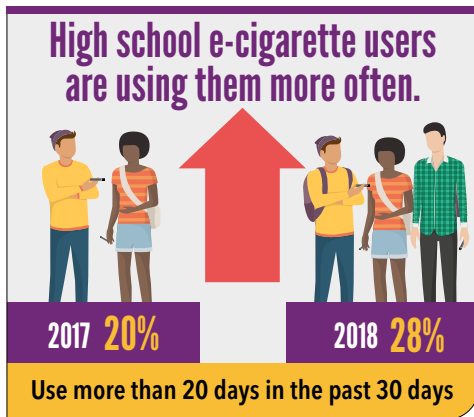


**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

# Tobacco product use among high school students—2018



SOURCE: Tobacco Product Use Among Middle and High School Students — United States, 2011-2018. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR), February 2019.



## JUUL is now the most commonly sold e-cigarette in the US.

- JUUL is an e-cigarette shaped like a USB flash drive and is easy to conceal.
- JUUL uses liquid nicotine refills called “pods,” which contain at least as much nicotine as a pack of cigarettes and are available in flavors that appeal to youth.
- JUUL devices are being used by youth in schools, including inside bathrooms and classrooms.

## THE WAY FORWARD

### PARENTS AND EDUCATORS CAN:

- Set a positive example by not using tobacco products themselves.
- Learn about different types and risks of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.

### HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS CAN:

- Ask specifically about e-cigarettes when screening for tobacco product use.
- Warn youth about the risks of all tobacco product use, including e-cigarettes.

### SCHOOLS CAN:

- Adopt and enforce tobacco-free campus policies that include e-cigarettes.
- Reject tobacco industry-sponsored prevention programs, which are proven not to work.

### STATES AND COMMUNITIES CAN:

- Prohibit smoking and e-cigarette use inside workplaces and public places.
- Increase the minimum age of sale of tobacco products to 21 years.
- Prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products.

#### For more information

1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)  
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 | Web: [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, GA 30333

Publication date: February 11, 2019

April 2, 2019

To: Chair Luke  
Vice Chair Cullen  
House Committee on Finance

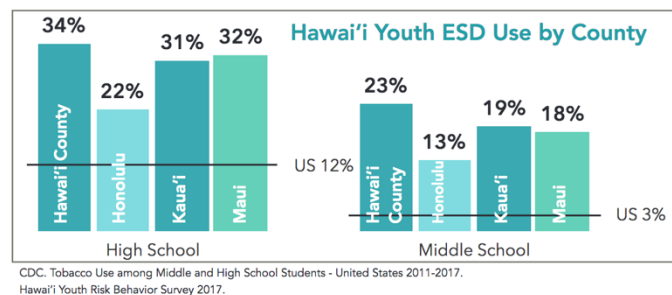
Re: **Support for SB1009 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and the House Committee on Finance:

Thank you for your dedication to our community and for this opportunity to provide testimony in strong **support** of **SB1009 SD2 HD2**.

Kaho'omiki, the Hawai'i Council on Physical Activity and Nutrition, supports and encourages lifelong healthy lifestyles and closely works with organizations across the state to better the lives of youth. It is clear that ESD use by youth is on an upward trend, and overwhelming data from local and national sources, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), cite numerous safety and public health concerns with its use. The CDC notes that "young people who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to smoke cigarettes in the future."

We also know that flavored products target kids and lead to an increased use; in 2018, there was a 78% increase in youth vaping nationally, a majority of which involved flavored products, and even higher increases in Hawai'i. Hawai'i must take a stand against this critical public health epidemic for the benefit of our most vulnerable populations.



Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of **SB1009 SD2 HD2**.

Sincerely,



Colby Takeda  
President, Kaho'omiki



Wednesday April 3, 2019  
State Capitol, House Conference Room 308

**To:** Representative Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

**From:** Maile Ketelsen, Program Coordinator  
Kapi'olani Smokefree Families: Tobacco & Nicotine Cessation Program

**Re: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

Kapi'olani Smokefree Families, the tobacco & nicotine cessation program at Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, **strongly supports SB 1009 to ban the sales of flavored tobacco products in Hawaii.**

At Kapi'olani Medical Center for Women & Children, we often treat pediatric patients who are adversely affected by tobacco products in multiple ways. We have babies in the NICU (neonatal intensive care unit) who were born early due in part to the effects of smoke exposure during pregnancy. We see young children routinely coming in with asthma and ear infections because they are being exposed to secondhand and thirdhand smoke. Now, we have teenagers and young kids coming in who are screening positive for e-cigarette or vape use.

One of the biggest concerns with e-cigarettes is the lack of longitudinal studies on health and safety of these products. It took decades for the harmful side-effects of combustible cigarettes to become well-known, and we do not want our youth to be the ones to suffer from any potential health effects of e-cigarettes or vape products. We cannot sit by as a generation of adolescents becomes addicted to nicotine because of these flavored products.

Initiation of e-cigarette use is almost always associated with a flavored product. Studies have shown that flavored tobacco-use is particularly enticing to youth. The e-cigarette and vape companies use attractive packaging and flavors that are very similar to candy products and sweets that are easily recognizable by children and teens. These flavors include common candies like cotton candy, sweet tart, blue raspberry, and even local Hawaii-inspired flavors like POG (passion orange guava), Hawaii Sweet Roll, and Pele's Papaya.

In the best interest of our local youth, we would like to request your support of SB1009 to ban flavored tobacco products.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.





**American  
Heart  
Association.**

## **American Heart Association Testimony Supporting the INTENT of SB 1009, SD2, HD2 “Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products,”**

### **Chairman of the Board**

Mark Yamakawa

### **President**

Kahealani Rivera, MD

### **Board Members**

Rick Bruno, MD, FACEP

Brandt Farias

Mimi Harris

David Honma

Glen Kaneshige

Brandon Kurisu

Howard Lee

Michael Lui, MD

Kazuma Nakagawa, MD,

FAAN, FAHA

Barbara Petrus

Andrew Rosen

Dave Underriner

Elisa Yadao

Serving Hawaii since 1948

### **Mission Statement:**

“To be a relentless force  
for a world of longer,  
healthier lives.”

For more information on  
the AHA’s educational or  
research programs, visit  
[www.heart.org](http://www.heart.org) or contact  
your nearest AHA office.

Office: (808) 377-6630

Fax: (808) 524-0556

Neighbor Islands:

Serviced by the Oahu  
office

The American Heart Association supports the intent of SB 1009, SD2, HD2 “Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products” but strongly recommends amending the bill to include menthol as a flavor included under the restrictions.

The 2014 Surgeon General’s Report projects that if current trends continue, 5.6 million of today’s youth under 18 will die prematurely in adulthood from smoking-related illness. To protect this vulnerable population, policymakers need to move quickly and ban the use of characterizing flavors, including menthol, from all tobacco products.

The evidence supporting a flavor ban is clear. As we discuss below, flavored tobacco products are highly attractive to youth and have led to increased initiation and use among children and adolescents. The number of flavored products on the market has also increased substantially with the tobacco industry marketing thousands of fruit, candy, and mint flavored products that appeal to children. Allowing these products to remain on the market puts a new generation at risk of a dangerous addiction.

While we understand that some adult tobacco users report using flavored products to transition or switch from combustible cigarettes, there is little evidence supporting their use as a cessation tool. In addition, there is some evidence that flavored tobacco products have enticed adult never smokers to try tobacco for the first time – just as they have with children. We encourage legislators to make protecting children its top priority when considering legislative options for flavored tobacco.

AHA feels that a blanket flavoring ban is needed because a wide array of flavors appeal to youth and young adults, which increases the risk of initiation and continued tobacco use. Also, many of the flavorings, including some of the most popular, contain known toxins. Among those toxins include: nicotine (lung tumor promoter, addiction, gastrointestinal carcinogen, raises blood pressure and heart rate, reduces brain development in adolescents), cotinine (reduces fertility and reproduction), formaldehyde (carcinogen; bronchitis, pneumonia and increased asthma risk in children), propylene glycol (throat and airways irritation, carcinogen, gastric distress, increases risk of asthma in children, ocular irritation), nitrosamines (carcinogen), and the metals chromium (pulmonary irritation and inflammation, nasal mucosa atrophy and ulcerations), cadmium (increase risk of lung cancer, pulmonary and nasal irritation), lead (hypertension induction, renal damage), and nickel (carcinogen, pulmonary damage, renal and hepatic toxicity). We believe this would make it extremely difficult to identify specific flavors to ban. Studies show that menthol cigarettes increase initiation, especially among youth.

The number of flavored tobacco products on the market increased substantially after flavored cigarettes were banned. After the 2009 federal ban on flavored cigarettes took effect, the tobacco industry started producing different types of flavored tobacco products that were

not subject to the prohibition. This led to the rise in the number of youth using flavored cigars, and especially in Hawaii, e-cigarettes. Both the tobacco industry and youth adjusted to the flavored cigarette ban by moving to other tobacco products where flavors were still allowed. If the legislature were to pass a flavoring ban, but limit it to certain types of products or flavorings, we are likely to see the same thing happen again.

The availability of flavors is one of the main reasons youth and young adults use cigarettes and other noncombustible products. If the legislature wants to decrease youth tobacco use, removing flavors from noncombusted products is key. In addition, current smokers will be motivated to move to noncombusted products – even if they are unflavored – when the nicotine content in cigarettes is reduced through federal regulation.

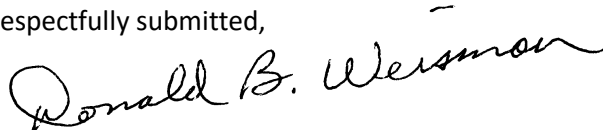
In Hawaii alone, tobacco use claims 1,400 lives each year and creates \$526 million in annual health care costs directly caused by smoking (\$141.7 million of that is covered by the state Medicaid program). Hawaii residents' state & federal tax burden from smoking-caused government expenditures is \$836 per household. Hawaii's estimated tobacco tax revenue, estimated to be approximately \$110 million per year, does not come close to offsetting the losses to the state caused by tobacco use. Smoking declines caused by state cigarette tax increases directly reduce these smoking-caused economic burdens for all taxpayers, and Hawaii businesses which bear the brunt of employee healthcare costs in our state.

Those who might quit tobacco addiction as a result of a comprehensive flavor ban would then have additional money to spend on taxable products that don't result in over a \$500 million in healthcare costs to the state. The money doesn't go up in smoke or vapor; instead it will likely be spent on more productive things that can benefit the smokers/vapors and/or their families and our state.

It's time to end the use of candy flavors and menthol to entice our children into a deadly addiction.

The American Heart Association asks for your support of SB 1009, SD2, HD2 with the suggested amendment to restore menthol as part of the flavor ban..

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald B. Weisman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the name.

Don Weisman  
Hawaii Government Relations/Communications Director



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:08:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
shalea	peer education (BHS)	Support	No

Comments:

**To the House Committee on Health,**

**I strongly support SB1009, which would regulate electronic smoking devices (ESD) and e-liquids as tobacco products through taxation, online shipment restrictions, and licensing and permitting. In addition, it also appropriates \$200,000 to the Hawai'i Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund.**

**I am a junior at H.P Baldwin High school and vaping is very prominent here in school. Students vape in class without the teacher knowing because of how small the newer models are. A lot of the students that I know that vape, their parents do not know. They get access to the e-cigarette from buying online because it is that easy to but an ESD online. On top of that, the e-liquids are just as easy to access because they are inexpensive. I believe that this regulation will prevent even more students from getting their hand's on e-cigarettes and e-liquid.**

**Hawai'i is in the midst of a youth vaping epidemic, and we must regulate these products to reverse this trend. ESDs are the only tobacco products without a tobacco tax and sellers are not required to obtain a tobacco permit and license to sell. Tobacco taxes and increasing the price is a proven strategy that discourages use of these products, especially among youth. I appreciate that a portion of revenues generated from this tax will be dedicated to tobacco prevention, cessation, education programs, which will help support individuals who want to quit. In addition, restricting online sales to retailers with a tobacco license will prevent sales to underage youth.**

**I strongly support SB1009 and ask you to pass this out of committee.**

**Sincerely,**

**Shalea Castillo**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:38:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
LENA GAN	ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WOMEN	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Finance Members of the Hawaii Legislature,

I am a committee member of the Association of American University Women and I strongly support SB1009. Our organization, established in 1881 empowers women and girls through advocacy education and research. For the past 138 years, we have worked tirelessly to help women and girls by giving them scholarships, financial assistance, skill training so that they can contribute to their community, state and country. We have been very encouraged to see how these young girls in middle and high school in Hawaii reach their potential through our countless workshops we organize each year in the area of STEM. However, it has also been very discouraging to see that the rise in tobacco use amongst these young women as they are lured by the exotic flavors that are exclusive to Hawaii. During the workshop breaks, I asked them why they are smoking and their response is that they are enticed by flavored tobacco products which are not marketed as containing nicotine. I believe that these scrupulous retailers are capitalizing and exploiting the youth with their misleading advertisements and therefore, a banning the sale of flavored tobacco products, especially the mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine, will further prevent the youths in Hawaii from being deceived.

I sincerely hope that the committee will give due consideration and think about the future of these young women and girls in Hawaii.

Thank you.



April 2, 2019

**Committee  
Members**

Annaleah Atkinson  
808 652-7743

Regina Floyd  
702 292-2372

Doug Haigh  
808 635-1120

Eve Hands  
808 346-7799

Jonathan Lee  
530 208-9738

Larry Lindsay  
808 634-4559

Scott McCubbins  
816 781-5883

Graeme Merrin  
808 651-7211

Lelan Nishek  
808 245-7747

Tommy Noyes  
808 639-1018

Valerie Woods  
808 822-2420

Elle Vitt  
808 635-5221

Ron Wiley  
808 245-9527

House Committee on Finance, Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

**STRONG SUPPORT FOR  
SB1009 SD2 HD2 (HSCR 1668)  
RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

Aloha Chair Luke and Committee Members,

This testimony is submitted on behalf of the Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park, and we would like to register our strong support for SB1009, SD2 HD2 (HSCR 1668).

March 20 was Kick Butts Day at the capitol. Hopefully each of you made time to speak with the concerned youth—more than 70 students from six islands—who visited the capitol. They shared their personal stories of how the vaping epidemic is impacting their young lives now, and their realization that because vaping tastes like candy, every day their friends and classmates—*children*—are establishing life-long nicotine dependencies.

The Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park collaborated with appointed and elected officials to designate portions of Lydgate Beach Park as the County of Kauai's first tobacco-free park. We firmly believe in advancing the health and wellness of our youth by protecting them from becoming tobacco product addicts.

Flavoring tobacco products—especially but not limited to vaping compounds—is a pernicious practice clearly intended to assure tobacco industry profits by addicting children to nicotine. The detrimental long-term public health effects of tobacco use and nicotine addiction are established science.

As elected officials, please fulfill your allegiance to the people of Hawaii and advance Senate Bill 1009 SD2 HD2 (HSCR 1668) as written and without dilution. It is your responsibility to protect our youths' health, not to assure the tobacco industry's and tobacco retailers' profits at the expense of assured life-long health degradation and quality of life impairments.

Sincerely,

Tommy A. Noyes  
General Coordinator  
The Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Emma Whitney, and I am the owner of Emma Whitney Photography. I live in Kula and I am writing you regarding a very important issue, for our community and out keiki.

I am writing regarding the upcoming hearing for the measure SB1009. I am testifying in STRONG, and UNYIELDING SUPPORT of SB1009.

For me, it is inconceivable that this is even a question on the table, for the facts regarding the harm of tobacco are undeniable. The use of candy flavors to directly target children, are reprehensible and as undeniable. When I was coming of age, in the 80's and 90's, tobacco manufacturers used menthol tobacco to do this, and it worked. This is the cigarette that my friends chose, because it tased minty.

The tobacco industry is depending on our lifelong addiction, for their monetary security, so it is no surprise that they are scared, for when the true nature of the addiction and health impacts, came to light, the number of smokers hit record lows. To now use flavors that mirror sugar children's candies, to gain new smokers, reaches a whole new level of low! This tragic and disgusting and it is only hurting our children and our community.

It should alarm you, that 42% of all High School students, and 27% of Middle School students have tried these products. Of course, they have! Candy flavored anything, is appealing. All of these children are at an enormous risk for long term, severely detrimental, and terminal health issues.

These products do not help people quit, as they are touted. Instead, children are picking them up and getting hooked. By choosing to sell these products, we are contributing to the inevitable long term harm of these children.

Please, protect our children. No one needs candy flavored tobacco.

Mahalo for doing right by our community.

Aloha,  
Emma Whitney



Ph: (808) 446-2032  
Fax: (833) 565-3144  
PediatricTherapiesHawaii@gmail.com

To: The Honorable Members of the Committee

From: Dr. Amy Peterson, Executive Director

I am in full support of banning flavored tobacco. Flavored tobacco is marketed to children and is a way for the tobacco industry to get kids hooked on this horrible drug. I am a mother and a health care professional and this bill is in the best interest of our children and our community. This is a common sense bill that will protect the health of our keiki. Please do the right thing and pass this bill.

Thank You,

Dr. Amy Peterson, PT



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI  
PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
April 3, 2019**

**Re: SB 1009 SD2 HD2 Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

Good afternoon Chairperson Luke and members of the House Committee on Finance. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) as founded in 1901 and is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

We OPPOSE SB 1009 SD2 HD2 Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products. This measure bans the sale of flavored tobacco products except for menthol or mentholated products. Prohibits mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine. Establishes fines and penalties for violations.

**This bill would essentially ban ALL electronic vapor products and e-liquids.** As a result, people would be compelled to purchase these goods online, on the black market, trying to mix flavored e-liquids themselves and essentially force many small local businesses who sells these items to shut down, thus leaving many of our family, friends and neighbors out of work.

Currently **Hawaii has a law in place that states that it is unlawful for a person under the age of 21 years to purchase electronic vaping devices, e-liquids and tobacco products.** However adults that are 21 and older are able to purchase these items and enjoy them like an electronic vaping device with their favorite flavored e-liquid. **Many adults like the sweet flavors of chocolate, candy, fruit, and vanilla to name a few.**

Furthermore, it is our understanding **that electronic vaping devices and E-liquids have no “natural tobacco” taste, or any taste for that matter, without the addition of flavorings.** And although almost every electronic vaping device and e-liquid available worldwide is “flavored” not all of the flavors contain nicotine and those that do, not all nicotine strengths are the same. And flavored e-liquids are enjoyed by many adults.

It almost impossible for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase vape products from reputable law abiding local online or at a brick and mortar retail stores. The online verifications vetting process is intense to ensure those purchasing are 21 or older and retailers do check IDs. **We are seeing that the vape products are being purchased by those who are legitimately 21 and older like parents, friends and siblings and then they gift the product to those under 21.** Once the product leaves the store, we have no control over who it is given to. **We are also aware that organized crime sells products on the black market - where people are reselling stolen items and not caring what the age the person it purchasing it.**

In addition, vapor products and e-liquids are NOT the same as a tobacco product. Many electronic vaping devices contains NO tobacco and NO smoke is emitted when vaporized. **The New England Journal of Medicine published an article recently that found that electronic vaping devices were nearly twice as effective as conventional nicotine replacement products, like patches and gum, for quitting smoking.** The study was conducted in Britain and funded by the National Institute for Health Research and Cancer Research UK.

We are also aware that the **US Food & Drug Administration has recently “deemed” various tobacco products, including e-vapor, to be subject to federal regulation.** Under FDA’s regulatory authority, e-vapor products will face a number of important requirements, such as domestic manufacturer establishment registration, ingredient disclosures, reporting of harmful or potentially harmful constituents, and prohibitions on selling to minors.

**We urge you to hold this measure until the Federal product regulations come out.**

Mahalo again for this opportunity to testify.



April 2, 2019

To: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Representative Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members, House Committee on Finance

**RE: SB 1009 SD2 HD2 – oppose.**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

VOLCANO Fine Electronic Cigarettes® is the largest retailer & wholesaler of vapor products and vaping accessories in the State of Hawaii. We currently own and operate 15 locations statewide and employ over 110 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 1009 SD2 HD2 for the following:

- **SB 1009 SD2 HD2 would decimate the Hawaiian vapor industry by banning the sale of all electronic cigarette liquids and cartridges. Every electronic cigarette available on the worldwide market is “flavored.” Because they do not contain tobacco, electronic cigarettes have no “natural tobacco” taste, or any taste for that matter, without the addition of flavorings. Even electronic cigarettes advertised as coming in “tobacco flavor” are actually just the result of the blending of several different flavorings such as caramel and nut flavors in an attempt to mimic the flavor of tobacco.** To use the language of the proposed statute, every electronic cigarette imparts to the user a “distinguishable or distinctive” aroma, or taste other than tobacco. As a result, SB 1009 SD2 HD2 will act as a de facto ban of the manufacture and sale of all electronic cigarettes.
- Even if SB 1009 SD2 HD2 permitted the sale of electronic cigarettes flavored to taste like tobacco, its enactment would still ban the manufacture and sale of the vast majority of our products. **This bill would present more than just a competitive disadvantage for local suppliers and retailers. It would be a death knell for vapor industry in Hawaii. Local consumers will either flavor liquids themselves or purchase from out of state, causing a loss of jobs and tax revenues for the state.** Similarly, we will be forced to close our stores and move all or most of our business and operations to the mainland, taking with us jobs and tax revenue that has grown every year since our founding.
- Enactment of SB 1009 SD2 HD2 will deal a similar fate to our competitors in the electronic cigarette industry. Between them these businesses have likely created 1000 jobs in Hawaii. All or more of these jobs will be lost as a result of this legislation. Additionally, convenience stores and other businesses that sell vapor products will feel the impact of consumers purchasing products from the mainland.





- **The baseless claims that electronic cigarettes flavors are made to attract children must be weighed against the significant evidence that electronic cigarette flavors are very popular with adult users. The International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Research recently published the most expansive survey performed on the subject.** We urge you to read the full text of this study, which we have attached to our testimony. Below are some highlights:
  - Researchers conducted an Internet survey of over 4,500 adult electronic cigarette consumers. The participants' average age was 40 years old. The vast majority (90%) of those surveyed were ex-smokers, with the average respondent having been cigarette-free for approximately one year.
  - Among the survey respondents, the most commonly used flavors were fruits, followed by sweets and tobacco.
  - Those electronic cigarette users who were still smoking ("dual users") were actually more likely to use tobacco flavors than those vapers who had quit smoking.
  - On a scale of 1-5, the average score given by the respondents for the importance of flavor variability in reducing or quitting smoking was 4 ("very important").
  - **Almost 50% of the respondents answered that a lack of flavor availability would increase their cravings for tobacco cigarettes and would decrease their chances of remaining abstinent from smoking.**
  - <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/10/12/7272>
  
- **The use of flavorings in electronic cigarette liquids is one of the driving factors in helping prevent adult former smokers who switch to e-cigarettes from going back to traditional cigarettes.** Most users report that after switching to electronic cigarettes and experiencing the pleasant tastes one can enjoy with an electronic cigarette, they no longer find the taste of traditional tobacco cigarettes appealing.
  
- **Enactment of this bill will actually benefit Big Tobacco by stifling their competition.** Analysts credit electronic cigarettes, not government intervention, nor traditional nicotine replacement therapy products, with causing cigarette sales to experience larger than forecasted declines in the U.S. and Europe. Regardless of the good intentions involved, every step taken to reduce adult access to electronic cigarettes is really a step towards protecting cigarette markets and the programs their tax dollars fund.
  
- SB 1009 SD2 HD2 exempts traditional Nicotine Replacement Therapy (NRT) products that contain nicotine even though electronic cigarettes 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](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 consumers to quit using traditional tobacco cigarettes
  - [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](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)
  
- **A recent study published by the New England Journal of Medicine concluded that E-Cigarettes are twice as effective for smoking cessation than traditional nicotine**



replacement therapy products which are not taxed or controlled the same way this bill proposes to tax and control E-Cigarettes. The state should be creating easier access for adult smokers to these products, not tighter regulations that steers current vapers back to tobacco cigarettes

○ <https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa1808779>

- If flavors are not important in helping adult smokers switch from, or quit traditional cigarettes, why is GlaxoSmithKline's nicotine gum exempt from this bill and sold in flavors?



- SB 1009 SD2 HD2 would not successfully remove all flavored e-liquid products from the market. It would simply force local customers to go online and purchase them from vendors across the 49 other states who would not be subject to this ban. It would severely impact local based businesses from competing with businesses from the 49 other states who would not be subjected to this law further lowering jobs and revenues already being created in the state.

While we agree that curbing youth usage and enforcing our current laws prohibiting the sale and use of vapor products is of utmost importance, doing so at the detriment to adults who use these products every day as an alternative to traditional tobacco is not the right way to do it. This bill is not in the best interests of 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



VOLCANO®

CEO & Owner

VOLCANO Fine Electronic Cigarettes®

1003 Bishop Street #1260, Honolulu, HI 96813

[cory@volcanoecigs.com](mailto:cory@volcanoecigs.com)

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:45:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Zehner	Hawaii Smokers Alliance	Oppose	No

Comments:

We stand on our testimony to Strong Opposition.

I **strongly oppose SB 1009 HD2**, which would ban the sale of flavored tobacco products. Flavored e-liquid is what got me off of cigarettes. I would not have been able to quit standard tobacco if I did not have them. By removing access to them for ADULT customers. Would be detrimental to the health and well being of people in our state.

I realize kids are using the. And being a vape shop owner. I check all ID's. And anyone that comes in a group, everyone gets checked. We cant just baby every move of every person. This should be handled by the parents. Let them parent their children. I have had kids come in and try to be sly. I have denied sales to numerous people. If I get the slightest hint they are buying for someone under age we deny the sale.

We have current laws that are not being enforced, that make possession illegal. Creating this law. Would put law abiding small business owners in a struggling place. It would create a black market, where the drug dealers now also sell flavored tobacco and e-liquid products along with their marijuana, Ice, Cocaine and heroin. Creating an even bigger problem.

I looked at my GET tax collected for the last year. Now granted as a much smaller shop. I took in about **\$7300 in GET tax** for the state. If we times this by say **100** vape shops. We are at **\$730,000 Tax** income for the state. And say **1000** C-stores we have **7.3 Million**. Combined with the tobacco tax from 2018 of **43 Million**. The state could stand to lose **51 Million** or more in tax income.

This would force small businesses to close. And all employees to be laid off. Lets say I have 3 full time employee's. They would be paying about **\$2325** in state income tax. If **100** vape shops had on average **6** employee's that is **\$465,000** in state income tax. If C-stores like ABC, 7 eleven etc had on average **10** employee's you are looking at losing **7.7 Million in state income tax**.

Now you would also be increasing the unemployment rate by a great deal. Creating an even harder time for the local population.

**So as a recap banning the sale of flavored e-liquid in the state has a high probability of increasing crime, Increasing unemployment. Plus the state losing upwards of 60 Million in tax income.**

We need to come up with a better solution to this problem than outright ban. Prohibition does not work. It will not work for this. It will only create more problems. Please consider this during decision making.

-Devin Wolery PCG Enterprises LLC



House Committee on Finance

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Re: SB1009 SD2 HD2 Hearing 4/3/2019 2:30PM

I Strongly OPPOSE SB1009 SD2 HD2. Vape Kings LLC, which I own and operate, consists of two branches with ten employees. We help Adults to find E-Liquids and ENDS to accommodate their desires, we teach proper use and identify dangerous devices. At NO point do we encourage underage use, or encourage anyone that doesn't already smoke, to try ENDS.

In order to continue to employ my staff and generate GE, we rely on the sales of E-Liquids, Nicotine containing and not. 98% of our current catalog would be banned by this bill (the remaining 2% I am still uncertain according to the definitions proposed by the bill), and January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020 is a unrealistic amount of time to source an adequate amount of new E-liquids which would qualify under this ban. Over the last five years, we have accumulated a vast knowledge of hundreds of unique ENDS, and maintain a unique skill set which includes service, assembly, and training of proper ENDS use. I fear that combined with the loss of revenue to the state, this knowledge base would be lost. It is far different to be a knowledgeable consumer, than to do this for a living.

Yes, a nicotine-addicted pool of youth that may later adopt cigarettes, would be a disaster, and as I read each revision, I've become increasingly scared. SB1009 went on from a straight flavor ban, to a ban of

a flavored tobacco product, except for menthol or mentholated products

yet I am further confused by the definition

"Characterizing flavor" means a distinguishable taste or aroma, or both, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, imparted by a tobacco product or any byproduct produced by the tobacco product. Characterizing flavors include but are not limited to tastes or aromas relating to any candy, chocolate, vanilla, honey, fruit, cocoa, coffee, dessert, alcoholic beverage, mint, wintergreen, herb, or spice.

Aren't Menthol or Mentholated products derived from Mint plants? Furthermore, aren't the flavors Mint and Wintergreen, Menthol or Mentholated Flavors? This definition seems to read as all Cigarettes will be legal for sale, while E-Liquids will be held to a higher restriction, solely because they do not generate enough money for the State? I also do not see how the seizure portion of the bill will apply to an out of state, online retailer of ENDS and E-Liquids.

With these revisions, I do not see why this bill still leads with,

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States and in Hawai'i. Tobacco use is a serious public health problem in terms of the human suffering and loss of life it causes, as well as the financial burden it imposes on society and our healthcare system. Annually, \$526,000,000 in health care costs are directly attributed to smoking in the State.

Don't these revisions now even further refute this statement? In the absence of potentially harm reducing products, won't these costs only increase?

I apologize if my comments seem brash, I truly value your time and consideration. My fear is that this bill will increase youth smoking rates, while decreasing the number of adults who vape or quit nicotine altogether.

Paul Azuma

Owner

Vape Kings LLC



Box 959-633  
Kihei – Maui - Hawaii 96753  
Tel 808- 283-0521  
Fax 801-858-6992  
Email [frobin47@gmail.com](mailto:frobin47@gmail.com)  
To: Hawaii State Legislature



**Re: SB 1009 OPPOSE**

Dear Legislators

I am the President of Hawaiian Royal Trading Company, DBA Hula Girl Cigars, Volcano Cigars and the Maui Cigar Company. Our most popular item is the Kona Coffee Flavored Cigar. We are the largest cigar dealer in the State of Hawaii. In past years we have grown tobacco in Kula, Maui; and also import, distribute, wholesale, and retail cigars since 1997. A total of 22 years in business here in Hawaii.

We have offices in Kihei and a warehouse in Kapolei and town.

**We do not target the youth market**

We manufacture all sizes, flavors and shapes of cigars; they retail from \$2.00 to over \$50.00. We make over 20 different flavors including the world famous Hula Girl Kona Coffee Flavored cigar. Our Macadamia nut flavored cigars are a popular visitor industry gift. We currently ship these cigars to all 50 states and many foreign countries. We do not target the youth market with our Hawaiian Flavored cigars; our customers are adult smokers who want a chance to enjoy a new and unusual taste, much the same as flavored coffees. The average age of our retail customer is 42.

Our customers include Duty Free International, ABC stores, Blind Vendors, Longs, Wal-Mart and hundreds of small and large gift and tobacco shops throughout the Islands.

At our previous farm locations in Maui we grew tobacco that was dried, aged and exported for use in cigars that are hand rolled in the Philippines and shipped back to the US or direct to our foreign customers.

We offer assistance to any farmer who wants to grow tobacco. We have found great interest in Hawaiian tobacco and in 2015 increased by three times the number of seedlings. Last year there were 8 billion cigars sold in the US.

**I do not support the SB 1009.**

This bill lumps our flavored souvenir style cigars with vaping. These are two different types of smoking. Our cigars are usually purchased as a gift item to take back home for friends and family where they are traditionally enjoyed in a relaxing atmosphere. This tradition has existed since our country was founded in 1620 at Jamestown.

**We do not support vaping**

Vaping is a much different product and purchased by a totally different customer than a cigar. A cigar smoker is not a cigarette or vape user. We don't use chemicals in our products, just natural tobacco and natural flavors. I can speak from my own experience that after my first cigar 50 years ago I gave up cigarettes. I enjoy a good cigar once a week after dinner in a relaxing social situation. I've never tried vaping. We are responsible business people who sell adult products to adults.

**SB 1009 would put us out of business**

Our cigars are available at resort shops throughout the Islands and not generally available at small local gas stations or stores. Our marketing efforts are focused on the tourist customer. We do not design our product or flavors for the youth market anywhere. Over the years we have sold millions of cigars and I have never heard from any of our retail customers any attempt by a minor to purchase our products.

I attend many international trade show to promote Hawaiian tobacco and have never met anyone who has experienced a problem with youth purchases with cigars.

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'FR' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Fred Robinson  
President  
Hawaiian Royal Trading Company



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:50:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Keanu Guynes	Vape Kings Kapolei	Oppose	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

My name is Keanu Guynes and I am an employee at Vape Kings Kapolei.

At the age of 14 years old I started smoking cigarettes. Marlboro Reds to be exact. I am now 25 years old and havent had a single cigarette in over 4 years. Being a fitness "wanna be" I've noticed a substantial increase in my abilities once I gave up the cigarettes and started vaping. Im in no way saying that vaping is healthy, but I strongly believe that we the people need an alternative to smoking tobacco products. From my personal experience, I feel stronger, faster, and have more energy throughout my day once I let go of cigarettes and began to try vaping.

Not only has it made a dramatic impact on my life, having the chance to work at a Vape shop opened my eyes and ears to many other peoples stories as well. I've heard stories of making the switch to vaping increase car salesmans business at work because the smell of cigarette smoke comes off as unprofessional. I've heard many stories of Federal, Military, and Law Enforcement workers switch to vaping and the switch helps change their physical abilities at work; same with many athletes. I've had people say that it has changed their encounters and interactions with meeting new people. I've seen drug addicts give up smoking meth and other hard core drugs and come clean. Vaping helped a big part in that. Ive seen vaping impact peoples relationships at home. Their relationships with their families. And I find this one the most touching. Smoking cigarettes were ruining peoples marriages, peoples relationships with their children, their friends. Once their significant other introduced them to vaping, their relationships grew stronger. Not only as a couple, but as a family.

In the midst of it all, if vaping flavored nicotine is banned from sales in Hawaii, it will only lead people back to smoking cigarettes. A substance that is 100% known to give cancer and affect peoples lives forever. This will only lead people back to something much more worse.

Again, I strongly oppose this bill 100% and hope this does not pass.

Regards,

Keanu Guynes

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:12:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Garett Uyesugi	Island E-cig and Vape Co.	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear our elected representatives

I oppose this bill. To ban flavors is pretty much prohibition of vape. Black market will still sell them and they have no problem selling to anyone and everyone kids included. I foresee a massive rise in black market dealers to fill the vacuum you will create. Mail order and internet sales will still flow and kids get them that vway ez enough. My vape store cards everyone vvho walks in the store and no underage will be able to view or purchase as they are told they cannot come into store. FDA has also said the specialized vape store is the best underage deterrent. I employ 4-5 Hawaii residents. you will put them in the unemployment line. My average GET taxes is monthly at \$1500. Do the math with the vast amount of vape stores and C-stores across Hawaii and that is a huge amount the state of Hawaii vvill lose. Internet wont pay Hawaii state taxes. Black Market won't pay Hawaii state taxes. By passing this lavv you are penalizing the responsible specialized vape stores in the state of Hawaii and at the same time opening the floodgates of irresponsible future dealers. The youth problem is not flavored vape. The problem exploded when JUULS became available in Hawaii everywhere. IMHO JUULS has all the features of what underage looks for. Its discrete, It looks cool, It packs 5 percent nicotine massive hit<normal vape best seller is .3 percent nicotine, 17 times less nicotine> and its advertised on main stream TV. Vape is the reason why cigarettes sales has plummeted per the CDC. By having a vape prohibition you will force majority of the current Vapors back to Cigarettes. Our youth epidemic could also be said to be in Alcohol, Tobacco and Pakalolo. Out of those 4 choices is vape really the worst of the bunch?

aloha

garett uyesugi

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 12:05:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gerald Honma	Smokeless Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii State Legislature,

Smokeless Hawaii strogly opposes this bill and all other bills targeting our Hawaii Vape Industry.

Smokeless Hawaii in 2007 introduced Ecigarette and Vaping to Hawaii (2007 Food And Product Show) and since then 100's of other Vape shops Followed. We as a whole have reduced smoking of traditional tobacco (Burning of Tobacco/ Cancer Sticks) in a large scale % wise here in Hawaii. Do we really want to take a step backwards and have many of our Hawaii Vape population go back to traditional cigarettes?

By having restictions on Law abiding Retailers, Wholesalers, And Responsible adults who prefer to Vape instead of Smoke or Burn Traditional Tobacco products puts us in a Government controled Nani State.

With this ban many clients will go back to Traditional Cigarettes including Teens. With having responsible Retailers who almost all are 100% ID check at time of purchase, I assure you these teens are not likly getting their Vape supplies from local Vape Shops.

This ban will have a worst outcome then your folks Fireworks Ban, (How is that working for Hawaii?). More Illegal Fireworks every year and almost zero arrest and prosecutions.

In final outcome would be more Illegal, backyard, Black market, unregulated, Mainland Website, Untaxed, Unsafe E-Juices sold to our Teens and Hawaii Vaping Adults.

Also we will all be at such a disavantage here in Hawaii compared to our Mainland counter parts, That we will have to relocate our Business to the Mainland and ship our products here and everywhere else to compete in this industry.

Thank you for reading our testimony and hope you will consider not implementing these bills at this time. And instead work on these bills w/ the FDA and Federal compliance, So that we can be on a equal playing field with our Mainland Competitors.

Sincerely,

Gerald Honma

Smokeless Hawaii Enterprises



Testimony of Jim Yates,  
President of the Hawaii Petroleum Marketers Association

**IN OPPOSITION TO SENATE BILL 1009, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 2,  
RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

House Committee on Finance  
The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony on Senate Bill 1009, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products. I am Jim Yates, president of the Hawaii Petroleum Marketers Association (“HPMA”). HPMA is a non-profit trade association comprised of members who directly market liquid motor fuel products across the Hawaiian Islands. Our membership includes individuals and companies who operate as independent marketers, jobbers or distributors of petroleum products and who buy liquid motor fuel products at the wholesale level and sell or distribute products to retail customers, other wholesalers, and other bulk consumers. HPMA’s primary purpose is to protect and advance its members’ legislative and regulatory interests in Hawaii and Washington, DC.

Senate Bill 1009, Senate Draft 2, House Draft 2 bans the sale of flavored tobacco products except for menthol or mentholated products; prohibits mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine; and establishes fines and penalties for violations.

**HPMA strongly opposes certain provisions in this bill and asks for the committees’ consideration of two amendments.**

While HPMA does support strict enforcement of laws governing underage tobacco product sales, this bill goes too far in banning most types of flavored tobacco products. The bill does exempt menthol and mentholated tobacco products from the ban. We believe all smokeless tobacco products should be exempt, as well. This group of products includes snuff and chewing tobacco, most of which are flavored beyond menthol and are labeled and marketed toward a narrow set of adult users.

Additionally, HPMA would support a uniform statewide law in banning tobacco products. We believe allowing a county to adopt ordinances that place greater restrictions on the access to

Testimony by the Hawaii Petroleum Marketers Association  
In Opposition to S.B. 1009, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products  
House Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 308  
Wednesday, April 3, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.  
Page 2

tobacco products than the State law may lead to an uneven regulatory landscape from county to county that would complicate compliance.

Therefore, HPMA respectfully requests the following amendments:

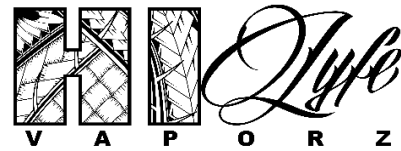
**§ 712 -      Sale of flavored tobacco products**

~~[(5) Any county may adopt a rule or ordinance that places greater restrictions on the access of tobacco products than provided for in this section. In the case of a conflict between the restrictions in this section and any county rule or ordinance regarding access to tobacco products, the more stringent restrictions shall prevail.]~~

(6) For the purpose of this section:

“Flavored tobacco product” means any tobacco product that contains a constituent that imparts a characterizing flavor, except for menthol or mentholated products and all smokeless tobacco products that are flavored.

Thank you for considering the HPMA’s suggested amendments and for providing this opportunity to submit written testimony.



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[info@hilyfevaporz.com](mailto:info@hilyfevaporz.com)

4/02/2019

Dear Chair and Members,

Aloha,

My name is Jostin and I Strongly oppose the SENATE BILL 1009 (SB 1009). As a small business owner and active member in the Vape community, I have no doubt that a bill of this magnitude will affect thousands of people in the state of Hawaii that have nothing short of a positive impact in their lives, health, and especially, the purpose of quitting combustible cigarettes. We DO NOT support teenage vaping; WE DO NOT SELL OR MARKET TO ANYONE UNDER THE LEGAL AGE OF AN ADULT PRODUCT; WE COMPLY WITH ALL THE CURRENT STATE AND U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION'S (FDA) LAWS AND REGULATIONS. Being a small business owner in Hawaii, my business Hi Lyfe Vaporz, LLC has acquired over 10 active employees. A bill like this will impact our business, as well as, many across the state in a negative manner such as: causing people to lose their jobs and homes, they would be unable to provide for their families, and many may end up going back to combustible cigarettes, which has been proven to be a known negative health factor throughout the world. The FDA has implemented many stringent rules and regulations which makes it very difficult for all the Vape industry's manufactures, and retailers to comply with, as well as stay up to date.



One of the problems with the youth vaping epidemic isn't Flavors, the issue is with enforcement to retailers of age restriction. By completely banning anything in this industry that has helped many adults, it will have a negative impact. Taxes alone from the industry generates a good amount of funding to our state. It's important to understand taking away vaping may greatly impact revenue to the state for enforcement, ect.

Bill's like this simply goes against the positive impact vaping has made for all legal adults, who transitioned to a better alternative than combustible cigarettes. I humbly ask to think about this impact before passing such a bill. Myself, my family, as well as our employees, and customers will be greatly affected in a negative way. I am a former smoker of 20 years and I oppose SB 1009 for the simple fact that this bill is unfair in the statement of making Flavors as the being the root cause of the teenage vaping epidemic. That is false. As a former smoker of traditional combustible cigarettes, vaping and its Flavors has helped myself, family members, and friends of legal smoking and vaping age, (whether it be state age laws or federal) to stay away from and stop smoking cigarettes. Since I've quit smoking and started vaping, having flavors to enjoy while vaping should be a right, as a law-abiding citizen that shouldn't be taken away from legal adults. As an adult we should have a choice to vape our preference of flavor!! The vaping epidemic in Hawaii and the USA of teenagers are because of certain devices like "Juul" and similar ones like it being easily accessible through gas stations, convenience stores, etc. At least 90% of actual vape shops have taken part in sales to minors prior to laws being in place it started from 18 years of age now in some states like here in Hawaii its 21. The vape shops, manufactures, and companies that have followed the rules will be getting punished for the fact that the reasons behind the epidemic isn't being directed toward the real issue, which is age enforcement.

The product that most of the vaping community disagrees with due to the accessibility in gas stations & convenience stores is what most teens are using because places other than vape shops do not take it seriously when asking for ID. There should be more stings to help aid the root cause & not punishing responsible Vape shops and adults, by taking away something "flavors" or vaping Eliquids etc, has made a huge impact on, by lessening the amount of Traditional tobacco cigarette use state and nationwide.

This will greatly urge citizens to go back to combustible cigarettes which is definitely more toxic due to the fact that my own Doctor has told me since I quit smoking cigarettes my health is much better in comparison.

Attachment "A1" is a letter from The FDA Commissioner, Scott Gottlieb. It states that the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) has contributed to a decline of combustible tobacco, which is known to cause cancer. It also clearly states that it intends on limiting flavored cigarettes to age restricted stores, or areas. Also please take a look at Senator Richard Burr in his explanation of what his thought are on this matter here is the link.

[https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2tx2xiS590W\\_qe6WHKH6gq-zoelg8tkh57g3f9V61aOjxwX3HfPRq68yM](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2tx2xiS590W_qe6WHKH6gq-zoelg8tkh57g3f9V61aOjxwX3HfPRq68yM)

Here is a statement by Senator Burr

[https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2z1rLX\\_JvapjK2KmZUNLe0eW\\_D\\_G1AbPiLxgldNRnA--RQOfRFg61DLu8](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2z1rLX_JvapjK2KmZUNLe0eW_D_G1AbPiLxgldNRnA--RQOfRFg61DLu8)

Mahalo for your time and consideration Jostin Iriarte [jostin@hilyfevaporz.com](mailto:jostin@hilyfevaporz.com)



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**"E-cigarettes have the potential to benefit adult smokers who are not pregnant if used as a complete substitute for regular cigarettes and other smoked tobacco products."**

<https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic-information/e-cigarettes/about-e-cigarettes.html>



US Department of Health and Human Services

Secretary Alex Azar:

**"I want to reiterate: E-cigs could help many American adults end their addiction to cigarettes."**



Dec 18, 2018 (youtu.be/y0u2gooy80 @ 3:33)



**"If you could take every adult smoker and fully switch them to e-cigarettes, that would have a substantial public health impact"**



**FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb**

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?452001-1/fda-commissioner-scott-gottlieb-discusses-cigarettes-public-health-concerns>

**FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb**



**"E-cigarettes may present an important opportunity for adult smokers to transition off combustible tobacco products and onto nicotine delivery products that may not have the same level of risks associated with them."**



<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/UCM620185.htm>



**Dr. Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General**

**"E-cigs and vaping as harm reduction not inherently a problem (though we need to continue research to ensure overall & max harm reduction)"**

<https://twitter.com/JeromeAdamsMD/status/1058453736208412672>



**"How could the same compound associated with so much death and disease be so safe that you can buy it without a doctor's prescription?" he asks.**

**"The answer is that it's about the delivery mechanism, not the drug."**

**Mitch Zeller, JD, Director, Center for Tobacco Products**

<https://www.roll2stop.com/culture/culture-news/e-cigs-inconvenient-with-its-quick-ref-to-veps-28972>



**Mitch Zeller, Director, Center for Tobacco Products**

**"If we can get all of those people to completely switch all of their cigarettes for one of these non-combustible products, that would be good for public health"**



<https://www.help.senate.gov/hearings/progress-and-challenges-the-state-of-tobacco-use-and-regulation-in-the-us> (01:59)

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:10:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mariner Revell	Irie Hawaii Stores	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly oppose SB1009. Adults ages 21 & over should not have their freedom to choose taken away from them. Also flavored vape is SAVING LIVES!

Just a few years ago the solution to curbing underage smoking was to raise the smoking age to 21. That did not work. All the age restriction did was take adults aged 18-20 rights away, take away access to a safer alternative to smoking, put lives in jeopardy, and hurt local business.

Now a ban on flavored tobacco products? How is hurting local businesses, forcing many businesses to close, forcing the employees of these businesses on hardship, forcing families on hardship, forcing local native HAWAIIAN owned businesses to close help underage smoking? The answer is IT WONT!

The availability of flavored tobacco products online is a problem. Parents who do not supervise their children is also a big part of the smoking problem!

We have the most strict smoking laws in the country already, If you people suspect stores of selling these products to underage people, INVESTIGATE! Do not harm businesses and take the rights away of thousands of people!

How is it that flavored alcohol is fine but tobacco products are not? It is insane to think prohibition of flavored tobacco products will curb the underage smoking problem! Just like the prohibition of alcohol and FIREWORKS, PROHIBITION DOES NOT WORK!

I strongly oppose this bill which is takes away freedoms of Adults, will take away a safer alternative to smoking away from the people (an alternative that has been proven to work BETTER than BIG PHARMA poison do a search of how vaping works better than the patch or gum to STOP SMOING!! Also watch the documentry A BILLION LIVES), and will force many businesses including native HAWAIIAN woened businesses such as my own to CLOSE.

I ask all of you reading this to do PROPER RESEARCH before choosing to harm people using vape as a means to quit tobacco smoking, taking peoples freedoms away, and harming SMALL BUSINESS FAMILIES!

Call an expert like Dr Michael Wald on the Big Island a Toxicologist Doctor that will explain the pros and cons of vaping. A real professional scientific DR who specializes in SAFETY and biological effects of chemicals, drugs, agents and VAPING!

This bill is unfair and a BIG overreach of government! If passed this bill will claim lives, take away or freedom, and kill local businesses. Please do not support SB1009. Mahalo for your time.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:05:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
dillon rellez	irie hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

This flavor ban is very uncalled for. We have strict requirements that we follow everyday with every customer. If you take flavors away you will make life so much harder for the people who work hard and have addictions that they're trying to get rid of. E cigarette is a proven way to stop letting carcinogens into your lungs on a daily basis. Please rethink before you put such big restrictions on your people. Thank you for your time.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:07:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
puna	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha

my name is Puna Hayashida and I am strongly opposing to bill #SB1009 Due to the simple fact that as a everyday vaper and an adult that is over the age of 21 we should have rights to choosing what flavors we want to vape. I do not vape to look cool or to portray my self to show adolescences that vaping can be cool for reasons such as exhaling a big cloud or doing cool tricks like blowing Os and such. I do it for the simple fact that it got me off of traditional combustible cigarettes and I got to choose a very healthy alternative. I was a cigarette smoker of 6 years and ever since I started vaping it had made such a positive impact on my life and my other half. I'm happy I can breath better, I smell better and not like a ash tray. I can also taste food better I noticed that when I first quit smoking cigarettes I did not know that all the chemicals in a traditional cigarette kills your natural taste buds in your mouth also the tar build up in your lungs does not help at all what so ever with breathing. Now as an vape shop employee of HiLyfeVaporz Hilo a bill of this multitude will effect my livelihood of myself and my family. I'll need to look for another job that keeps the roof over my head and puts the food on the table for my wife and chirdren. I know many adolescents out here in Hawaii has been making a bad name for us vapers by asking parents to buy them these devices. As an employee I check every customers I.D prior to making a purchase. If there child comes in and shows the parent what they want I have the right to refuse service due to the fact I am trying to save this industry little things like this help minimize the problem. For us who do the right thing in our shops we shouldn't suffer for others mistakes with not following FDA and state laws and regulations. Please reconsider mahalo for your time.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:42:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teddy Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:46:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robin Fujiwaki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha my name is Robin and I oppose SB1009. Passing a complete flavor ban would be devastating as my husband was a smoker for many years and it was very hard for me having to breathe in second hand smoke. Since he started vaping I have not had any symptoms of Asthma which is amazing. I believe that vaping is a healthier alternative to smoking and it has also helped individuals to kick substance abuse, alcoholism, etc.. please take into consideration that there are many people who has benefitted from this and by taking it away is taking away our rights to vape

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:41:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Loren Yazawa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

My name is Loren Yazawa. I am a vape retailer and former cigarette smoker. **I would first like to state that I, along with many others I have spoken with, supports STRICT REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF UNDERAGE VAPING. Vaping is NOT the same as smoking.** Smoking is proven to be detrimental to health, vaping has NOT BEEN PROVEN SO. (Even the anti-vaping FDA agrees). Smoke is a by-product of combustion, which vaping ELIMINATES. If you are under 21, you will not and should not be able to buy any vape product at ANY LEGITIMATE vape store!

Vaping has helped MILLIONS of adult users quit smoking, and at nearly DOUBLE the success rate of nicotine patches and gum. This is shown not only by studies, but also by the steady decline of cigarette sales over the past years. I beg you to take into consideration that vaping has directly saved the lives of countless adults (including me) who have successfully made the switch to vaping from cigarette smoking.

The simple truth is, the vast majority of underage users are currently purchasing their products ONLINE, not physically at a vape businesses. SB1009 will essentially destroy all brick-and-mortar vape businesses in Hawaii, which contributes to over \$100 million a year in taxes for the people of Hawaii. If SB1009 is passed, youth will continue to purchase through online sources, many adults will most likely revert to smoking cigarettes, and a black market for these products will emerge as with any prohibited goods.

As a former cigarette smoker who has successfully made the switch to vaping, I urge you to please take into consideration that vaping has led many adult smokers away from cigarettes. I've read through every testimony on this page and one thing is clear, most people testifying in support of the ban do not even know the difference between smoking and vaping, and are lumping them together. EVERYBODY already knows smoking is detrimental.

Please allow adults to continue to make their own choices, this bill unfortunately, will truly only affect adult smokers, adult vapers, and vape businesses that take pride in helping adults choose a safer alternative to cigarettes. Why are we pretending like adults do not enjoy flavors and that flavors are meant to be marketed to youth? Adults enjoy all type of flavored food, snacks, and drinks. Does this mean a ban on flavored alcohol is coming next?

I believe a better alternative would be to enforce stricter fines for any retailer caught selling vape products to youth, rather than essentially eliminating the entire vape market here in Hawaii. Enforce possession laws for youth caught vaping. Ban them in schools, if a youth is found with one on campus, a faculty member should be allowed to confiscate! Banning a safer alternative for adult smokers is simply not the right answer.

Thank you for your consideration.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:26:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lance Fung Chen Pen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I am opposing the bill presented. As a long time vaper of 7+ years, vaping has been a huge help in my life and my health. I've been cigarette free for the last 4 years due to vaping and my doctor has commended me for the improvement of my overall health condition.

I believe this bill is unfair and unconstitutional to what us Americans believe in, which freedom of choice. It's unfair that something like vaping which is so innovative in helping millions of Americans quit dangerous traditional tobacco cigarette is being ignored and demonized as being far more dangerous, even though there's hundreds of studies saying otherwise or opposite.

This bill will cause thousand of Hawaii residents to go right back to smoking and thousand who work at small mom and pop vape shops to be unemployed, and their shops shut down and go out of business. There are much bigger issues here in Hawaii:

-Homelessness

-Alcohol, Flavored Alcohol, deaths caused by drunk driving.

-Over budgeted rail funds which is going nowhere, while we're still being Taxed here and there for years.

-High cost of living and limited homes and apartment rentals for locals born and raised here, causing thousands each year to leave their homes to live in the mainland.

Hawaii is slowly becoming an anti-local and anti-small business State. These bills only cater to the wealthy, deep pocket businessmen who can afford high tax and interest rates. With these bills you're only pushing local businesses away to the mainland where they can survive.

I implore you to please look over this bill you're trying to pass and see if it's in the best interest for the people of Hawaii.

I vape and I use flavored e-liquids and it saved my life along with millions around the world. Please don't take that away from us.

Sincerely, Vince Tran of Honolulu, Hawaii

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:39:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Vin Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Flavors help smokers quitting smoking. Taking it away will just make us go back to cigarette smoking.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:00:01 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rafael Montero	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:01:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Cooper	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:09:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark Owens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:10:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dallas Nelson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

This bill is so nasty to people that vape and lacks basic logic since under 21 can't buy the products.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:13:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
naomi muronaka	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:17:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erin R.	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I stand in opposition to SB 1009 because of the fact that it takes away a proven option that has helped millions of people quit smoking. Smoking is still one of the leading causes of preventable death around the world. In the U.S. alone, over 16 million Americans suffer from smoking-related diseases and half a million die each year as a result of health effects arising from their habit. But, instead of embracing all avenues that could reduce this health burden, many within the public health profession stubbornly cling to an “abstinence only” approach.

At this point, no credible researcher can deny that e-cigarettes are significantly less harmful than smoking, simply because of the fact that, unlike traditional cigarettes, e-cigarettes have no combustion. Yet anti-vaping advocates continue to push government to regulate these two different products the same way. They justify this based on the unproven hypothetical that e-cigarettes, especially candy- and fruit-flavored varieties, attract adolescents who would otherwise have never smoked. Their anxiety about this so-called “gateway effect” has no basis in reality or research.

An issue that seems to be pervading the vaping industry is the usage of flavored vape juices by adolescents. But did you know based on the U.S. government’s own evidence, tobacco use among adolescents has declined faster since e-cigarettes came to the market? Furthermore, despite claims that youth vaping is an epidemic, the government’s own data shows that e-cigarette use among teens has been declining since 2015. In fact, among high schoolers e-cigarette use has dropped an impressive 30 percent, despite the proliferation of both e-cigarette devices and flavors since 2015.

Despite claims that sweet and candy-like e-cigarette flavors attract non-smoking teenagers to initiate use of electronic cigarettes, the evidence indicates that e-cigarette flavors hold little appeal to nonsmoking adolescents. In small 2015 study researchers found that flavors had no significant appeal to teens. Though statistically insignificant, the study found that the flavors that teens expressed the greatest preference for were actually “classic tobacco” and “single malt scotch.” This might indicate that when adolescents are interested in flavors, it is not the stereotypical “kid-friendly” varieties, but rather the more seemingly-adult flavors that are most attractive.

More importantly, if vaping were really the “gateway” to nicotine addiction some advocates believe, we should expect to see smoking increase with the rise of e-cigarette popularity. However, the opposite has happened. Youth smoking has plummeted to the lowest levels ever recorded, falling by half between 2011 and 2016. Similarly, while the decline in adult smoking plateaued between 2006 and 2008, after 2009 adult smoking began declining again, reaching the lowest levels ever by 2015.

All the existing evidence indicates that limiting flavor variety in e-cigarettes will have no effect on nonsmokers—young or old. However, it would significantly reduce e-cigarettes’ attractiveness to existing smokers who might consider such devices as a means of reducing or quitting smoking. Since there is no doubt, even among the most strident anti-vaping advocate, that e-cigarettes are less harmful than smoking (though perhaps not risk-free), the State of Hawaii should recognize that banning e-cigarette flavors through SB 1009 could only have a net negative affect on public health and reject such proposals. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:25:07 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
VALENTINO MIRANDA-KEPA	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha Board,

I strongly oppose bill SB1009. This bill is written to protect under age vaping but hurt all the people that vape helped quit traditional cigarette. It's a move in the wrong direction I've tried quitting cigarette's a few time's with your traditional gum, patches, pills and even hypnotism and only thing work for me is VAPE. After smoking for 15 years I am now free of cigarette PLEASE DON'T TAKE THIS AWAY FROM ME. And under age vaping could be controlled with a possession law like alcohol.

With Aloha, Valentino Miranda-Kepa

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:31:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andy Takaaze	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I'm an adult who enjoys having the choice to choose anyone of the many great tasting flavors of Eliquid. These flavors enabled me to quit smoking cigarettes. Banning flavors bans law abiding adults like myself access to the cure. Adults like flavor choice. If you want to curb children use of e-cigarettes make a possession law, make it illegal for those under 21 to possess ecigs. STOP TAKING AWAY ADULT'S CHOICES AND ADULT RIGHTS.

Thank you for your time.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:33:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimo Cruz	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Not only no but hell no to this bigoted flavor ban.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:59:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathy Kim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:04:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Hoku	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:30:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
austin carvalho	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have opposed this bill due to the fact that I have personally seen my loved ones and friends get off cigarettes from the use of vape.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:10:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
stacia deonte	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I OPPOSE TO THIS BECAUSE MY GRANDPARENTS AND PARENTS HAVE STOPPED SMOKING CIGARETTES BECUASE THEY WERE INTRODUCED TO VAPING. I HAVE KIDS SO THE FACT THAT THEY DONT SMOKE CIGARETTES OR VAPING NOW IS GREAT! THEY WERE VAPING FOR ABOUT 6 MONTHS TO 1 YEAR AND THEY ENDED UP QUITTING THAT AS WELL AND IS NOW SMOKE FREE!

**SB-1009-HD-2**

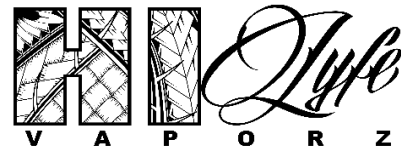
Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:15:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Punahele Victorino	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have made great progress with reducing smoking by using vape products. I personally enjoy candy and fruit flavored e liquid. It has increased my everyday abilities, no shortness of breathe or bad smelling odor that is dangerous for my young children. I do not wish to return to traditional tobacco.



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Suite 206  
Waianae, Hi 96792  
808-200-4798  
[info@hilyfevaporz.com](mailto:info@hilyfevaporz.com)

4/02/2019

Dear Chair and Members,

Aloha,

My name is Jostin and I Strongly oppose the SENATE BILL 1009 (SB 1009). As a small business owner and active member in the Vape community, I have no doubt that a bill of this magnitude will affect thousands of people in the state of Hawaii that have nothing short of a positive impact in their lives, health, and especially, the purpose of quitting combustible cigarettes. We DO NOT support teenage vaping; WE DO NOT SELL OR MARKET TO ANYONE UNDER THE LEGAL AGE OF AN ADULT PRODUCT; WE COMPLY WITH ALL THE CURRENT STATE AND U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION'S (FDA) LAWS AND REGULATIONS. Being a small business owner in Hawaii, my business Hi Lyfe Vaporz, LLC has acquired over 10 active employees. A bill like this will impact our business, as well as, many across the state in a negative manner such as: causing people to lose their jobs and homes, they would be unable to provide for their families, and many may end up going back to combustible cigarettes, which has been proven to be a known negative health factor throughout the world. The FDA has implemented many stringent rules and regulations which makes it very difficult for all the Vape industry's manufactures, and retailers to comply with, as well as stay up to date.

One of the problems with the youth vaping epidemic isn't Flavors, the issue is with enforcement to retailers of age restriction. By completely banning anything in this industry that has helped many adults, it will have a negative impact. Taxes alone from the industry generates a good amount of funding to our state. It's important to understand taking away vaping may greatly impact revenue to the state for enforcement, ect.

Bill's like this simply goes against the positive impact vaping has made for all legal adults, who transitioned to a better alternative than combustible cigarettes. I humbly ask to think about this impact before passing such a bill. Myself, my family, as well as our employees, and customers will be greatly affected in a negative way. I am a former smoker of 20 years and I oppose SB 1009 for the simple fact that this bill is unfair in the statement of making Flavors as the being the root cause of the teenage vaping epidemic. That is false. As a former smoker of traditional combustible cigarettes, vaping and its Flavors has helped myself, family members, and friends of legal smoking and vaping age, (whether it be state age laws or federal) to stay away from and stop smoking cigarettes. Since I've quit smoking and started vaping, having flavors to enjoy while vaping should be a right, as a law-abiding citizen that shouldn't be taken away from legal adults. As an adult we should have a choice to vape our preference of flavor!! The vaping epidemic in Hawaii and the USA of teenagers are because of certain devices like "Juul" and similar ones like it being easily accessible through gas stations, convenience stores, etc. At least 90% of actual vape shops have taken part in sales to minors prior to laws being in place it started from 18 years of age now in some states like here in Hawaii its 21. The vape shops, manufactures, and companies that have followed the rules will be getting punished for the fact that the reasons behind the epidemic isn't being directed toward the real issue, which is age enforcement.

The product that most of the vaping community disagrees with due to the accessibility in gas stations & convenience stores is what most teens are using because places other than vape shops do not take it seriously when asking for ID. There should be more stings to help aid the root cause & not punishing responsible Vape shops and adults, by taking away something "flavors" or vaping Eliquids etc, has made a huge impact on, by lessening the amount of Traditional tobacco cigarette use state and nationwide.

This will greatly urge citizens to go back to combustible cigarettes which is definitely more toxic due to the fact that my own Doctor has told me since I quit smoking cigarettes my health is much better in comparison.

Attachment "A1" is a letter from The FDA Commissioner, Scott Gottlieb. It states that the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS) has contributed to a decline of combustible tobacco, which is known to cause cancer. It also clearly states that it intends on limiting flavored cigarettes to age restricted stores, or areas. Also please take a look at Senator Richard Burr in his explanation of what his thought are on this matter here is the link.

[https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2tx2xiS590W\\_qe6WHKH6gq-zoelg8tkh57g3f9V61aOjxwX3HfPRq68yM](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2tx2xiS590W_qe6WHKH6gq-zoelg8tkh57g3f9V61aOjxwX3HfPRq68yM)

Here is a statement by Senator Burr

[https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2z1rLX\\_JvapjK2KmZUNLe0eW\\_D\\_G1AbPiLxgldNRnA--RQOfRFg61DLu8](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4777366/senator-burr-floor-speech-fda-ban-menthol-cigarettes&fbclid=IwAR2z1rLX_JvapjK2KmZUNLe0eW_D_G1AbPiLxgldNRnA--RQOfRFg61DLu8)

Mahalo for your time and consideration Jostin Iriarte [jostin@hilyfevaporz.com](mailto:jostin@hilyfevaporz.com)





The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**"E-cigarettes have the potential to benefit adult smokers who are not pregnant if used as a complete substitute for regular cigarettes and other smoked tobacco products."**

<https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic-information/e-cigarettes/about-e-cigarettes.html>



US Department of Health and Human Services

Secretary Alex Azar:

**"I want to reiterate: E-cigs could help many American adults end their addiction to cigarettes."**



Dec 18, 2018 (youtu.be/y0u2gooy80 @ 3:33)



**"If you could take every adult smoker and fully switch them to e-cigarettes, that would have a substantial public health impact"**



**FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb**

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?452001-1/fda-commissioner-scott-gottlieb-discusses-cigarettes-public-health-concerns>

**FDA Commissioner Dr. Scott Gottlieb**



**"E-cigarettes may present an important opportunity for adult smokers to transition off combustible tobacco products and onto nicotine delivery products that may not have the same level of risks associated with them."**



<https://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/UCM620185.htm>



**Dr. Jerome Adams, U.S. Surgeon General**

**"E-cigs and vaping as harm reduction not inherently a problem (though we need to continue research to ensure overall & max harm reduction)"**

<https://twitter.com/JeromeAdamsMD/status/1058453736208412672>



**"How could the same compound associated with so much death and disease be so safe that you can buy it without a doctor's prescription?" he asks.**

**"The answer is that it's about the delivery mechanism, not the drug."**

**Mitch Zeller, JD, Director, Center for Tobacco Products**

<https://www.roll2stop.com/culture/culture-news/e-cigs-inconvenient-but-it-s-not-easy-to-veg-28972>



**Mitch Zeller, Director, Center for Tobacco Products**

**"If we can get all of those people to completely switch all of their cigarettes for one of these non-combustible products, that would be good for public health"**



<https://www.help.senate.gov/hearings/progress-and-challenges-the-state-of-tobacco-use-and-regulation-in-the-us> (01:59)

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:21:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shannon Stevenson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha All,

I strongly oppose sb1009. A flavor ban will Kill an industry that helped thousands of adults change their health for the better. I am one of those adults. If not for vaping I would have continued to smoke cigarettes and fell into health issues much ealier in my life. Vaping became an essential part of my life in transforming a better healthier me. Once I found out that vaping was a better option for me it was a no brainer for me to switch from smoking to vaping. A flavor ban isnt the answer to get children to stop being addicted to nicotine. I believe the resolution is in the control aspect of such products. Not allowing convenient stores, gas stations or grocery stores to carry any vapor products. Leave vaping products to vaping stores. Kids will always try to explore what they can not access. Making vapor lounges and stores a 21+ to enter would be a start in that direction as well. I do not support the flavor ban because I as an adult has the right to choose what I ingest and its flavor. I as an adult can choose what alcohol or food to eat so why can I not have the same right to choose what I want to taste while vaping.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:24:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
pua	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I have been smoking cigarettes since Elementary grade school. I've smoked ever since. These past 5 years I haven't smoked a cigarette or vape. I was able to completely kick the cigarette habit, when i started vaping. I vaped 50 mg of nicotine. I then went down to 35mg, to 6mg, 3mg, and eventually 0 mg of nicotine. Having these options of flavor and nicotine ranges is what untilymetly lead me to be able to ween myself off my of addiction. Getting rid of these flavors isn't fair to the adults who utilize it for their overall health. The freedom to chose is what gives us contentment through our day to day lives. It would also very much distroy small business and the income of people that work for those companies. Please don't pass this bill. Mahalo.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:26:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teikiheekua Taupu	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:34:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brian Baker	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I Brian Daniel Baker oppose this bill regarding taxes and limitations on tobacco and e-liquids.

i have personally helped get people off smoking cigarettes while working at a smoke shop, e-liquids have helped me personally quit and control my tobacco intake please reconsider your actions towards this bill for you would be affecting the progression of other humans trying to quit.

Dear Chair Luke & House of Representatives Committee on Finance,

I am writing in STRONG OPPOSITION to SB1009 (SD2 HD2).

Any regulation of flavors should occur at the federal level - Congress empowered FDA to establish tobacco product standards such as restricting flavors only if FDA determines that such action would be appropriate for the protection of the public health based on science and evidence.

Potential Harm Reduction Should Be Considered - E-vapor category is relatively new, some public health and tobacco control researchers have reached the preliminary conclusion that e-vapor products may present a compelling risk reduction opportunity compared to combustible cigarettes. Mitch Zeller, Director of the Center for Tobacco Products at FDA, along with many scientific experts, has recognized the promise tobacco harm reduction and potentially reduced risk products may hold for public health. In a recent letter to the World Health Organization, 53 global experts on nicotine policy stated that policies that are excessively restrictive or burdensome on lower risk products can have the unintended consequence of protecting cigarettes from competition from less hazardous alternatives and cause harm as a result. In a recent survey of 4,618 e-vapor consumers, almost half of participants said that a lack of variety of flavors would make reducing or completely switching from smoking cigarettes less likely.

Approximately 90% of adult e-vapor consumers report using flavored products. Hawaii should respect the preferences of adult consumers to use flavored products, especially when they could play a role in reducing tobacco-related harm. We believe regulators and legislators should tailor public policies to reflect the uniqueness of this category, including the fact that these products emit vapor, not smoke.

A ban on characterizing flavors could contribute to the growth of the “Do-It-Yourself.” DIY involves purchasing separately, and then mixing, liquid nicotine, propylene glycol, glycerin, and flavors to make an e-liquid for an open device. Details on how to mix flavors and liquid nicotine are readily available online. Materials for DIY – some of which are of unknown quality and origin – are inexpensive and widely available. FDA has not yet explored issues raised by the separate sale, and home-mixing, of nicotine and flavorings.

21 Age Restriction Already in Place. Hawaii already has put a 21 and older ban on sales of vapor products in place. Kids should not use any nicotine product and not have access to such products, including those with characterizing flavors. No manufacturer should use children’s cartoons or youth-oriented candy trademarks to market their products. When its rulemaking is final, FDA will have comprehensive authority over the sale and marketing of all tobacco and tobacco-derived nicotine products. This authority includes the ability to take further action as required to prevent illegal underage purchase.

This ban would essential destroy the vapor industry as all flavors - even the “natural tobacco flavor” mentioned in the bill are the results of flavoring. This means all vapor products would be illegal if this bill passes. I am sure this is not what you meant to do with this bill, and its result would mean the loss of a multitude of local businesses, creation of a black market, and increased online sales of unregulated products.

Thank you for considering this testimony.

Aloha,  
Johnathon Myers  
Concerned Constituent & Consumer

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:15:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sean Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Sean Wong and I'm a parent of 4 daughters, ages 15-21. I am also a principal at a DOE high school in Hawaii.

I am writing in support of SB 1009. I believe this bill will help in preventing our youth from experimenting with or start using tobacco like products. As a school administrator, vaping is one of the biggest issues we are currently dealing with on our campus. Many students start vaping due to the flavored products that are available, and before they realize it, they become hooked. We spend a good amount of time counseling students who have been caught vaping and that time could be used in other productive ways to support student learning.

I am in full support of SB1009 and hope that our lawmakers will do the right thing by making it tougher for our keiki to have access to tobacco products that could lead to bigger health problems in the future.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sean Wong

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:52:50 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ellen May	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am first a mother, and also a center director of over 275 students in the state of Hawaii for the Maui and Oahu campuses. I am writing a personal testimony to speak for a subject matter I never thought would be an issue! Nicotine flavored tobacco entices and encourages youth to begin this harmful habit. Adults have every right to smoke, but children are too young to make such harmful decisions. With the teens and young adults I work with, vaping is growing more and more popular. Of course, their tobacco of choice is flavored. It makes them desire it more and more.

There are mountains of facts that speak to the dangers of tobacco products, vaping and smoking in general. I am including one fact that should leave everyone making these decisions speechless: Fact: **81%** of youth who have ever used tobacco **started** with a **flavored product**.

**Source:** <https://www.thetruth.com/sites/default/files/villanti2017.pdf>

This isn't about taking away adult choices. This is about ensuring we are protecting our children from making choices that could lead to a lifetime addiction with serious health concerns.

The answer is simple - choose our children, and choose a better future for them and their families!

Mahalo,

Ellen May



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:53:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christine Davis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I am Christine Davis from Kihei. As a 12th grade student from Kihei Charter School and an active member of the Maui Nui Youth Council and Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii, I am testifying in support of SB1009.

Smoking is harmful to people, the environment, and the economy. Not only does smoking cost the state lots of money, \$526 million every year to be exact, it also harms the consumer's body. Kids my age don't realize how harmful smoking and vaping is. With 81% of youth who ever tried tobacco products started with a flavored product, it is evident that flavors are a big lure to get youth using vapes and other smoking devices, leading to a lifetime of addiction and health problems.

Please protect the youth in Hawaii from becoming addicted and harmed by tobacco. SB1009 is a step in the right direction, and I strongly support it as a high school student.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:38:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Royce Fukuroku	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:07:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Yoshi Hirai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support!

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:01:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Molly Mamaril	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:01:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cori Takesue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support bill SB1009. Hawai'i has some of the highest rates of vaping in the country, with 25% of high school students and 15% of middle school students reporting they vaped in the past 30 days. 81% of kids nationwide use a flavored tobacco product as their introduction to tobacco, including vaping. 30% of vapers start using combustible tobacco within 60 days of starting to vape and 95% of current smokers started before the age of 21. Youth are often drawn to the candy-like flavors. Banning flavored tobacco and regulating the sales of vaping products is key to breaking this cycle. Flavored tobacco has no place in Hawai'i and we hope you feel the same. We don't need candy flavored tobacco to entice youth into starting a potentially life-long addiction to nicotine. Please champion these bills to be heard by the Finance Committee and don't let these bills die so we can continue to keep Hawaii's Keiki safe.

Sincerely,

Cori Takesue, PsyD

Post-Doctoral Psychology Fellow, Behavioral Health Specialist

Lanai Community Health Center

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:55:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelli Buenconsejo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the ban of flavored tobacco products. Vaping was touted as a way to quit smoking, but people are smoking more because of the sweet tasting liquid. They are enticed to buy the cool, inconspicuous looking devices. Children are gaining access to these devices and bringing them into our schools, further exposing others to second hand smoke. Please ban and regulate the sale of flavored tobacco products and paraphernalia.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:51:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
mary santa maria	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Senators,

Please pass SB1009. This bill will support the efforts to **prevent marketing to youth, while still making available vaping to adults who wish to use this** as a method to decrease their use of nicotine products. I urge you to support our youth. Pass the bill.

Mary Santa Maria

Makawao, Hawaiiis

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:37:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jana Sasada	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Jana Sasada and I am a mother of 2 teenagers, an aunty to 32 direct nieces and nephews and an aunty to hundreds of young children & teens on the island of Molokai.

I am here to STRONGLY SUPPORT SB1009 in hopes that our law makers who have children of their own or nieces and nephews who are gullible to this vaping fad that has been putting tons of our children at risk for immediate and severe health problems and in danger with cheaply made explosives that have been blowing people's faces off and causing young teens to have severe respiratory problems due to toxic chemicals found in these vaping juices that are easily accessible and available to our youths with barely any restrictions.

More than 80% of "E-Juice" contain Nicotine even if the bottle is labeled "no nicotine". These companies will leave traces of nicotine in these bottles that youth are purchasing because companies know that nicotine is a very highly addictive drug.

Just a tiny drop of nicotine injected directly into a person's bloodstream, can kill them within hours. Nicotine is so poisonous that not even bugs will go onto tobacco plants.

I beg you all to please please please help us to keep our youths safe by passing this bill which will minimize the ease of access for our keiki to expose their bodies to harmful chemicals and dangerous/explosive materials.



Date: April 2, 2019

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: **Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2**, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM in Capitol Room 308

Aloha House Committee on Finance,

As a father, community member and health professional, I am writing in **strong support of SB1009 SD2 HD2**, which bans the sale of flavored tobacco products except for menthol or mentholated products; prohibits mislabeling of e-liquid products containing nicotine; and, establishes fines and penalties for violations.

Hawai'i is in the midst of a youth vaping epidemic, with 25.5 percent of high school and 15.7 percent of middle school students vaping regularly. To put this into perspective, less than 5 percent of adults in Hawai'i vape.

*Flavors attract kids.* More than 80 percent of youth who vape say that they started because of the flavors and continue because of the flavors. 75 percent say that if flavored vape was not available they would quit. The reality is that youth who start vaping don't seek nicotine – many don't even know that most vape products contain nicotine, which is derived from tobacco plants.

**I respectfully ask the Committees to amend SB1009 SD2 HD2 to include menthol** in the flavor ban. Menthol is a particularly insidious flavor in tobacco and vape products. Its cooling properties mask the harshness of nicotine, making it the starter product of choice for new tobacco users. The tobacco industry's long history of marketing menthol cigarettes to vulnerable populations has led to higher tobacco use and higher rates of lung cancer among Native Hawaiians and Filipinos.

Although many teenagers may vape with what manufacturers claim is "just flavored fluid," the crux of the issue is the exposure of youth to the highly-addictive drug, nicotine, which is as addictive as heroin and cocaine. Nicotine doesn't just interfere with brain development into the mid-20s, it permanently changes kids' brains who are exposed to it. Kids who use nicotine products will experience impaired behavior, learning and impulse control, as well as increased anxiety and depression. Once nicotine changes their brains, kids are at higher risk for other addictions in their youth and in adulthood.

Because advertising of vape products targets them, kids think vaping is harmless. If it is legal to sell it must be safe, right? What kids don't appreciate is that vape products are not regulated. Federal rules to regulate vaping products that were set to start in 2018 were pushed back to 2022. To this day, no vape product has been

reviewed by FDA for safety or quality. We see this in the regular reports of exploding e-cigarettes, including 133 documented injuries between 2009 and 2016, and a recently reported death.

After more than 20 years of consistent reductions in youth tobacco use, from 36 percent of high school seniors smoking in 1997 to 8 percent in 2018, the fast-growing youth vaping epidemic is threatening public health. With the confluence of thousands of fun-sounding flavors and new generation, sleek, easily-concealable devices, kids are vaping in unprecedented numbers in school and at home. Considering that vaping was essentially a non-existent habit in 2011, the best indicator that we are not doing enough is that U.S. high school student use of e-cigarettes jumped 78 percent in just one year, from 2017 to 2018.

Proponents of vaping will argue that using e-cigarettes has helped them to quit smoking tobacco cigarettes. For long-time established adult smokers, e-cigarettes may lower health risks for the individual user compared with the risk of smoking cigarettes or using other forms of tobacco. However, while any health benefits of switching have yet to be proven, this should not outweigh the overwhelming evidence that e-cigarettes are addicting kids who have never smoked to nicotine in record numbers.

Given the rapid escalation of youth vaping in Hawai'i, SB1009 SD2 HD2 is our best chance to reverse this disturbing and harmful trend. SB1009 SD2 HD2 does not ban vaping for adults – it will significantly reduce the appeal and attraction of vaping to kids. Adults will continue to have access to tobacco-flavored and unflavored products if they choose. We need this bold policy action to protect current youth from a lifetime of addiction and harm.

Think of your kids or kids you know and love. Think of how bright their future could and should be. Hawai'i has a long history of putting the well-being of our keiki first.

Arguments against the flavor ban are distractions from the real issue. The sad reality is that youth who vape may never reach their full potential and the long-term health consequences of vaping will not be known for many years. It is time to end the sale of all flavored tobacco products throughout Hawai'i for the sake of our kids and future generations.

I **strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2**, respectfully ask you to amend this bill to include menthol in the flavor ban and pass it out of committee.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD  
Keaau, HI

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:52:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeannine Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 3:22:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Samonte	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Support!

**Ryan S.**

Hawaii Partnership to Prevent Underage Drinking (HPPUD) Volunteer

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:57:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kirstin Kahaloa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is all about our keiki and their future. 15,000+ candy flavors hook kids, that's it. Kids are hooked because they want the flavors. Please do not be be distracted by any other argument because this bill is to stop kids from wanting the flavors and becoming addicted to nicotine. Please support the health of our keiki by supporting this bill.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 4:56:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Doug Pyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Douglas Pyle and I am testifying as an individual in strong SUPPORT of SB1009, an important bill to protect youth from becoming addicted to nicotine, due to the cynical appeal of using flavors and colors to promote tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and electronic smoking devices. Such flavorings are designed to appeal to youth.

There is no public good, and much harm to health, in the increasing use by teenagers of electronic smoking devices, that include nicotine products designed to look and taste like candy or fruit in order to appeal to youth. Please protect the public health, especially youth who are especially targeted by flavored tobacco and vaping products, by passing SB1009. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in Stong SUPPORT of this important bill.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:17:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
K. McGlone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Flavors should not be used to make these unhealthy products more palatable, especially to young people.

Thank you for supporting SB1009.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:37:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bonnie Oda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We must end vaping amongst our youth. With over 15,000 flavors on the market, restricting the sale of kid-friendly flavors that appeal to youth is necessary to protect them from a lifetime of nicotine addiction.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:58:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wesley Oda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Wesley Oda, and I am a concerned Honolulu resident who believes that we must do whatever we can to improve the overall health and well-being of our State and therefore strongly encourages our legislators to make a bold statement against products - like flavored tobacco - that are obviously meant to make them more palatable for the younger generation, including young adults and children who should not and cannot be enticed to even try it. We have a major health crisis in the United States - and if we continue to allow the sale of these kinds of products then all we have done is add an inevitable future strain to our already broken system. I therefore encourage our State legislative leadership to show the rest of the country that Hawaii can/will do its best to make it less convenient for our residents to purchase and use these kinds of products as it will ultimately lead to poor health to anyone who tries/uses it. And we must do whatever we can to prevent our youth - the next generation - from making poor lifestyle decisions. I have attached a recent Scientific American article that indicates young adults ARE being enticed to using these kinds of products because of its flavor.

Please do what is right for our state and for the next generation. Wesley Oda, 3237 Keahi Street, Honolulu 96822

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 5:59:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Isaac Weber	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am 19 years old and have been nicotine free for 6 months. I used an e-vape in highschool because i thought it was cool, and the flavor tasted good. I wouldn't have juuled if it didn't taste so good; I derived alot of pleasure from the taste.

Withdrawal means the shakes, depression, fever, lack of appetite for weeks. I don't wish it on anybody, and I believe this bill will help kids not get addicted the way I was in highschool.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:05:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Leah Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Finance Committee,

As a school teacher, I am terribly concerned that there is currently a nation-wide vaping epidemic with more than 3 million high schoolers and middle schoolers using what is known as "vape" that essentially gets them addicted to nicotine and has been seen as a trendier alternative to smoking. However, there are already health reports coming out that have shown that high schoolers are likely to go from vaping to smoking and this year, the youth smoking rate has actually RISEN, when it was previously in decline. Additionally, it's been proven that high schoolers and the youth in general are far more likely to get addicted to these products than adults, disputing the claim that vaping can help end smoking.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB1009 to help protect the health of our youth.

Thank you for your time,

Leah Anderson

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:11:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Colleen Inouye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee on Finance,

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2. This would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

The US Surgeon General has declared that vaping by teen-agers has reached epidemic proportions. He has asked for a ban on flavored tobacco products in order to prevent a new generation from becoming hooked on nicotine and having a lifetime addiction. When I ask my young patients if they know the risks of vaping; they do not. We need to protect our youth from an addiction that is enhanced by the promotion of flavored tobacco products.

Please support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and get it passed.

Sincerely,

Colleen F Inouye MD MMM CPE FAAPL FACOG Jefferson Univ College of Population Health

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:10:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Madison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have seen first hand the devastating effects of smoking tobacco products. Every day at school, I see numerous youth using vapes and juuls because they think it's "harmless" and "cool". This truly saddens me. Tobacco companies take advantage of youth, and it is our responsibility to protect them. Tobacco products, especially e-cigarettes and vapes, should not be candy flavored. This is unacceptable and should not be allowed, thus I strongly support this bill. Thank you for you time and consideration.

From: patriciablair@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Blair  
<patriciablair@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:56 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Blair  
Kailua, HI 96734

From: james.yee@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of James Yee  
<james.yee@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:52 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Please protect Hawaii's youth from tobacco products.

Sincerely,  
James Yee  
Honolulu, HI 96821

From: tmmi@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tiffany Marquez  
<tmmi@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:48 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Tiffany Marquez  
Waianae, HI 96792



From: shay.chanhodges@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shay Chan Hodges  
<shay.chanhodges@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:39 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Shay Chan Hodges  
Haiku, HI 96708

From: kodiekaina@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of kodie kaina  
<kodiekaina@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 6:20 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

My name is Kodie Kaina, im 13 years old in 8th grade at Kapa'a Middle school. I strongly support SB100 9 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

I am in strong support of the SB1009 because if it werent for the flavoring of the tobacco, i dont think i would have picked up a vape in the first place. You see, the flavoring is what drewed me in and the nicotine is what kept me hooked. Luckily i was caught and had to go through the consequences which eventually got me to stop vaping all together. But now i see the lives of my friends and the little kids, who looked up to me, in the hands of flavored vape juice. All because of their favorite candy flavored E-juice is specifically advertised towards them. I dont want to see the life span of the children in Hawaii being shortened because of something that can be prevented. Do you?

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

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Sincerely,  
kodie kaina  
Lihue, HI 96766

From: shilpa.patel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shilpa Patel  
<shilpa.patel@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 6:17 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Shilpa Patel  
Honolulu, HI 96822

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 6:22:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendi Kamiya	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the ban of flavored tobacco products to minors. As an educator of teenagers, I see the media pressures to engage in harmful activities and experiments. It is imperative that if we know something to be harmful, that we create barriers for minors for protections. Flavored tobacco products are not only aimed at marketing to minors, but are addictive and harmful to health. Please consider the health and safety of our children and ban the sale of these products.

Moreover, youth have helped to design this bill as a call to action for the adults. Support the health of our keiki. Thank you.

FIN-Jo

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From: kcassel@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kevin Cassel  
<kcassel@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:21 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Kevin Cassel  
Honolulu, HI 96822

FIN-Jo

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From: pbossert@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Philip Bossert  
<pbossert@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:18 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

The explosion of e-cigarette use among teenagers in our schools – not just high school students but also increasingly middle school students – is a true epidemic that is slowly addicting thousands of students to nicotine. Our state does not need a candy-flavored drug targeted precisely at creating new nicotine addicts for life.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Philip Bossert  
Honolulu, HI 96817

FIN-Jo

---

From: surfnshred@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Dennis Barger  
<surfnshred@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:15 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Dennis Barger  
Kihei, HI 96753

FIN-Jo

---

From: pualei.kaohelaulii@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Pualei Kaohelaulii  
<pualei.kaohelaulii@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:13 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Pualei Kaohelaulii  
Kekaha, HI 96752



FIN-Jo

---

From: keikidoc1998@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jenny Welham <keikidoc1998@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:12 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Jenny Welham  
Honolulu, HI 96816

FIN-Jo

---

From: levin@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mark Levin  
<levin@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:10 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Mark Levin  
Honolulu, HI 96822

FIN-Jo

---

From: cassi.yamashita@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cassiopia Yamashita  
<cassi.yamashita@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:04 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Cassiopia Yamashita  
Wailuku, HI 96793

FIN-Jo

---

From: aseales@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Allison Seales  
<aseales@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:04 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Allison Seales  
Honolulu, HI 96817

FIN-Jo

---

From: vinceyamashiroya@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Vince Yamashiroya  
<vinceyamashiroya@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:03 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Vince Yamashiroya  
Honolulu, HI 96814

FIN-Jo

---

From: tenaya.jackman@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tenaya Jackman  
<tenaya.jackman@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:03 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Tenaya Jackman  
Honolulu, HI 96815

FIN-Jo

---

From: dshaw@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Diana M Shaw  
<dshaw@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:24 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Diana M Shaw  
Lanai City, HI 96763

FIN-Jo

---

From: pat.fleckconsulting@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Fleck  
<pat.fleckconsulting@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:26 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
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Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Fleck

Sincerely,  
Patricia Fleck  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740



FIN-Jo

---

From: kanikapila2011@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bob Dircks <kanikapila2011@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:34 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Bob Dircks  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: hoart@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Paul Ho  
<hoart@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:31 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

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Sincerely,  
Paul Ho  
Honolulu, HI 96814

FIN-Jo

---

From: goomaile@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maile Goo  
<goomaile@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:29 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

Aloha,

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Mahalo,  
Maile Goo  
699-3772

Sincerely,  
Maile Goo  
Honolulu, HI 96822

FIN-Jo

---

From: jlakritz90@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jane Lakritz <jlakritz90@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:41 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Jane Lakritz  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: tylercp@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tyler Peterson  
<tylercp@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:40 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Tyler Peterson  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: rrector@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Robyn Hart  
<rrector@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:05 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Robyn Hart  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: helenb@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Helen Barrow  
<helenb@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:03 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Helen Barrow  
Wailuku, HI 96793

FIN-Jo

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From: annes@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Anne Scharnhorst  
<annes@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 5:02 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Anne Scharnhorst  
Wailuku, HI 96732



FIN-Jo

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From: alysha.cosier@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alysha Cosier  
<alysha.cosier@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:53 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Alysha Cosier  
Pahoa, HI 96778

FIN-Jo

---

From: sophianeddavis@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Hojung Nam  
<sophianeddavis@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:51 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Hojung Nam  
Kihei, HI 96753

FIN-Jo

---

From: wdatario@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Wilson Datario  
<wdatario@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 4:47 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

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Sincerely,  
Wilson Datario  
Pepeekeo, HI 96783

Members of the Committee,

Flavors are a very important part of the success story of vapor products in getting thousands of Hawaii residents off of cigarettes. Throughout my life I have never seen anything more effective at helping people stop smoking. Vaping is estimated to be at least 95% less risky than smoking, so this is a huge win for public health.

A recent study, attached, confirms what I have seen firsthand. Cigarettes are proven scientifically to be better than standard nicotine replacement therapy -- therapy which is supported by insurance companies and workplace policies across the state. Surveys of vapor product users confirms the near-universal importance of non-tobacco flavors in their replacement of combustible tobacco. People do not stop liking tasty flavors after age 18 -- ADULTS LIKE FLAVORS.

As a practical matter, flavor bans are unenforceable. Almost all eliquid is artificially flavored, including tobacco-flavor eliquids. Thus to define what a "tobacco flavor" is will have to identify specific chemical compounds that make up the flavor. Judging what those compounds are and measuring them will be effectively impossible and very expensive to even attempt.

The proposed legislation is misguided and misinformed, and should not be adopted.

P. Kuromoto

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# A Randomized Trial of E-Cigarettes versus Nicotine-Replacement Therapy

Peter Hajek, Ph.D., Anna Phillips-Waller, B.Sc., Dunja Przulj, Ph.D.,  
 Francesca Pesola, Ph.D., Katie Myers Smith, D.Psych., Natalie Bisal, M.Sc.,  
 Jinshuo Li, M.Phil., Steve Parrott, M.Sc., Peter Sasieni, Ph.D.,  
 Lynne Dawkins, Ph.D., Louise Ross, Maciej Goniewicz, Ph.D., Pharm.D.,  
 Qi Wu, M.Sc., and Hayden J. McRobbie, Ph.D.

## ABSTRACT

**BACKGROUND**

E-cigarettes are commonly used in attempts to stop smoking, but evidence is limited regarding their effectiveness as compared with that of nicotine products approved as smoking-cessation treatments.

**METHODS**

We randomly assigned adults attending U.K. National Health Service stop-smoking services to either nicotine-replacement products of their choice, including product combinations, provided for up to 3 months, or an e-cigarette starter pack (a second-generation refillable e-cigarette with one bottle of nicotine e-liquid [18 mg per milliliter]), with a recommendation to purchase further e-liquids of the flavor and strength of their choice. Treatment included weekly behavioral support for at least 4 weeks. The primary outcome was sustained abstinence for 1 year, which was validated biochemically at the final visit. Participants who were lost to follow-up or did not provide biochemical validation were considered to not be abstinent. Secondary outcomes included participant-reported treatment usage and respiratory symptoms.

**RESULTS**

A total of 886 participants underwent randomization. The 1-year abstinence rate was 18.0% in the e-cigarette group, as compared with 9.9% in the nicotine-replacement group (relative risk, 1.83; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.30 to 2.58;  $P < 0.001$ ). Among participants with 1-year abstinence, those in the e-cigarette group were more likely than those in the nicotine-replacement group to use their assigned product at 52 weeks (80% [63 of 79 participants] vs. 9% [4 of 44 participants]). Overall, throat or mouth irritation was reported more frequently in the e-cigarette group (65.3%, vs. 51.2% in the nicotine-replacement group) and nausea more frequently in the nicotine-replacement group (37.9%, vs. 31.3% in the e-cigarette group). The e-cigarette group reported greater declines in the incidence of cough and phlegm production from baseline to 52 weeks than did the nicotine-replacement group (relative risk for cough, 0.8; 95% CI, 0.6 to 0.9; relative risk for phlegm, 0.7; 95% CI, 0.6 to 0.9). There were no significant between-group differences in the incidence of wheezing or shortness of breath.

**CONCLUSIONS**

E-cigarettes were more effective for smoking cessation than nicotine-replacement therapy, when both products were accompanied by behavioral support. (Funded by the National Institute for Health Research and Cancer Research UK; Current Controlled Trials number, ISRCTN60477608.)

From Queen Mary University of London (P.H., A.P.-W., D.P., K.M.S., N.B., H.J.M.), King's College London (F.P., P.S.), and London South Bank University (L.D.), London, the University of York, York (J.L., S.P., Q.W.), and Leicester City Council, Leicester (L.R.) — all in the United Kingdom; and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, Buffalo, NY (M.G.). Address reprint requests to Dr. Przulj at Queen Mary University of London, Health and Lifestyle Research Unit, 2 Stayner's Rd., London E1 4AH, United Kingdom, or at d.przulj@qmul.ac.uk.

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SWITCHING COMPLETELY FROM CIGARETTE smoking to e-cigarette use would be expected to reduce risks to health.<sup>1-3</sup> There are questions about risks and benefits of use of e-cigarettes for different purposes, but an important clinical issue is whether e-cigarette use in a quit attempt facilitates success, particularly as compared with the use of nicotine-replacement therapy.

A Cochrane review showed that e-cigarettes with nicotine were more effective for smoking cessation than nicotine-free e-cigarettes.<sup>4</sup> A trial that compared e-cigarettes with nicotine patches for smoking cessation used cartridge e-cigarettes with low nicotine delivery and no face-to-face contact. It showed similar low efficacy for both treatments.<sup>5</sup> (For further details of previous trials, see the Supplementary Appendix, available with the full text of this article at NEJM.org.) Our trial evaluated the 1-year efficacy of refillable e-cigarettes as compared with nicotine replacement when provided to adults seeking help to quit smoking and combined with face-to-face behavioral support.

## METHODS

### DESIGN AND OVERSIGHT

We conducted a two-group, pragmatic, multicenter, individually randomized, controlled trial. National Health Service (NHS) stop-smoking services are available free across the United Kingdom.<sup>6</sup> This trial was conducted in three service sites from May 2015 through February 2018. The Health and Lifestyle Research Unit that delivers the service for two London boroughs (Tower Hamlets and City of London), along with the Leicester and East Sussex services, recruited participants and delivered the interventions. Participating services included trial information in their advertising. Participants were also recruited through social media. Adult smokers were invited to participate if they were not pregnant or breast-feeding, had no strong preference to use or not to use nicotine replacement or e-cigarettes, and were currently not using either type of product.

The trial was approved by the National Research Ethics Service (reference number, 14/LO/2235). Collective unblinded data were seen only for the purposes of the meetings of the data

monitoring and ethics committee. Data analyses were conducted with blinding to treatment assignments. All the authors contributed to the trial design, participated in the interpretation of the data, vouch for their completeness and accuracy, and made the decision to submit the manuscript for publication. All the authors vouch for the fidelity of the trial to the protocol, available at NEJM.org.

### PROCEDURES

Smokers were provided with trial information, prescreened for eligibility, and, if eligible, invited to a baseline session. There, eligibility was confirmed, written informed consent and baseline data were obtained, and participants set up their quit date (normally the following week).<sup>7</sup>

Randomization took place on the quit date to limit differential dropout. Randomization sequences (1:1 ratio in permuted blocks of 20, stratified according to trial site) were generated with the use of a pseudorandom number generator in Stata software and were embedded into an application that only revealed the next treatment assignment once a participant had been entered into the database.

Product use started immediately after randomization. All the participants received the same multisession behavioral support as per U.K. stop-smoking service practice.<sup>7,8</sup> This support involved weekly one-on-one sessions with local clinicians, who also monitored expired carbon monoxide levels for at least 4 weeks after the quit date.

Participants were contacted by telephone at 26 and 52 weeks. Interviewers asked about product use and thus were aware of the treatment assignments. Participants who reported abstinence or a reduction in smoking of at least 50% at 52 weeks were invited back to provide a carbon monoxide reading. Participants were compensated £20 (\$26 U.S.) for their travel and time at the 52-week validation visit.

### *Nicotine-Replacement Group*

Participants were informed about the range of nicotine-replacement products (patch, gum, lozenge, nasal spray, inhalator, mouth spray, mouth strip, and microtabs) and selected their preferred product. Use of combinations was encouraged, typically the patch and a faster-acting oral product. Participants were also free to switch

products. The way that nicotine replacement was provided differed slightly among trial sites (see the Supplementary Appendix). Supplies were provided for up to 3 months, as per standard practice. The cost to the NHS of a 3-month supply of a single nicotine-replacement product is currently approximately £120 (\$159 U.S.).

#### *E-Cigarette Group*

A starter pack, called One Kit (Aspire, U.K. Ecig Store), was provided to facilitate initial use and teach participants how to use refillable e-cigarette products, along with one 30-ml bottle of Tobacco Royale flavor e-liquid purchased from U.K. Ecig Store, containing nicotine at a concentration of 18 mg per milliliter. The kit had a 2.1-ohm atomizer and 650-mAh battery. During the trial, the company discontinued this kit, so One Kit 2016 (Innokin, U.K. Ecig Store), with a 1.5-ohm atomizer and 1000-mAh battery, was used for 42 participants. Participants were asked to purchase their future e-liquid online or from local vape shops and to buy a different e-cigarette device if the one supplied did not meet their needs. They were encouraged to experiment with e-liquids of different strengths and flavors. Those who were unable to obtain their own supply were provided with one further 10-ml bottle, but this was not offered proactively. Participants received oral and written information on how to operate the e-cigarette.

The original One Kit, including five atomizers, U.K. adapter, spare battery, and e-liquid, was purchased wholesale for £19.40 (\$26 U.S.). The cost of One Kit 2016, including the same extras, was £30.25 (\$40 U.S.).

Participants in the e-cigarette group and those in the nicotine-replacement group were asked to sign a commitment to not use the non-assigned treatment for at least 4 weeks after their quit date. This was to minimize contamination between the trial groups.

#### MEASURES

At trial visits, the following data were recorded: smoking status, expired carbon monoxide level (at baseline, 4 weeks, and 52 weeks), use and ratings of trial products, ratings of withdrawal symptoms (weeks 1 through 6), adverse reactions (presence or absence of nausea, sleep disturbance, and throat or mouth irritation), and

respiratory symptoms (presence or absence of shortness of breath, wheezing, cough, and phlegm). The Supplementary Appendix provides further details of trial measures.

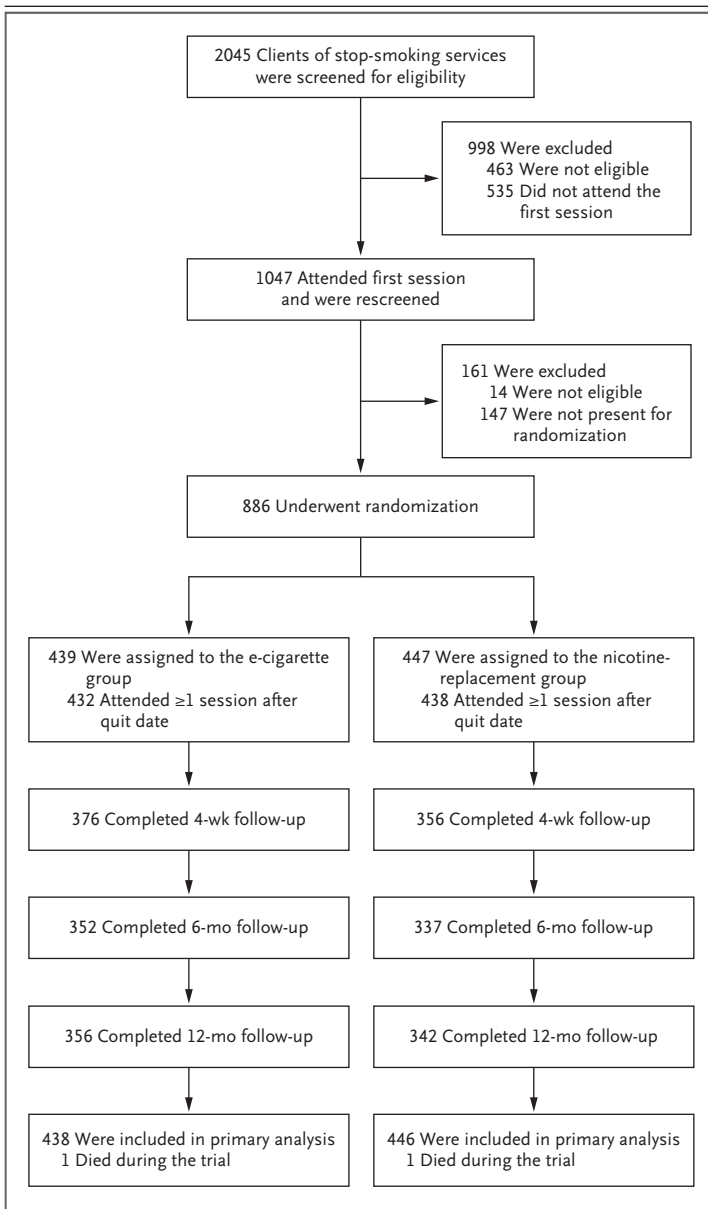
The primary outcome was 1-year sustained abstinence, calculated in accordance with the Russell Standard<sup>9</sup> as a self-report of smoking no more than five cigarettes from 2 weeks after the target quit date, validated biochemically by an expired carbon monoxide level of less than 8 ppm at 1-year follow-up and not contradicted by any previous self-report or validation result. Carbon monoxide validation is the standard measure in trials assessing nicotine-containing products (see the Supplementary Appendix). Participants who died (one in each group) were excluded. Participants who were lost to follow-up or did not provide biochemical validation were classified as not being abstinent in the primary analysis.

Secondary abstinence outcomes included sustained abstinence from 26 to 52 weeks, at 4 weeks, and at 26 weeks and the percentage of participants without sustained abstinence from 26 to 52 weeks who reduced their cigarette consumption by at least 50%. We also assessed 7-day abstinence at 4, 26, and 52 weeks. In addition, we compared the trial groups with respect to relapse rate and time to relapse and with respect to the measures listed above.

#### STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

We calculated that a sample of 886 participants would provide the trial with 95% power (at a two-sided alpha level of 0.05) if the true percentages of 1-year abstinence were 23.8% in the e-cigarette group and 14.0% in the nicotine-replacement group (relative risk, 1.7). Since trial setup, the abstinence rate in stop-smoking service clinics declined to 10%, but the sample of 886 participants would provide 85% power if the percentages were 17.0% and 10.0% in the respective groups.

The primary and secondary abstinence outcomes were analyzed by regression of smoking status at each time point onto trial group. Primary analyses were adjusted for trial center to account for the stratification factor. In sensitivity analyses, each model was further adjusted for baseline covariates selected with the use of stepwise regression. Binary regressions were conducted by means of the generalized linear model



**Figure 1. Screening, Randomization, and Follow-up.**

Reasons for ineligibility in 463 of the 2045 persons screened are detailed in Table S11 in the Supplementary Appendix. Of the 438 participants in the e-cigarette group who were included in the primary analysis, 3 stopped treatment and declined follow-up and 13 stopped treatment and permitted follow-up. Of the 446 participants in the nicotine-replacement group who were included in the primary analysis, 5 stopped treatment and declined follow-up and 36 stopped treatment and permitted follow-up.

with binomial distribution and logarithmic link to estimate the relative risk for e-cigarettes as compared with nicotine-replacement therapy.

To assess the effect of missing data on the primary outcome, we conducted four prespecified

sensitivity analyses, which excluded participants who did not attend at least one behavioral-support session, excluded participants who used the nonassigned product for at least 5 consecutive days, excluded participants who did not complete the 52-week follow-up, and imputed missing information with the use of multiple imputation by chained equations.<sup>10</sup> Missing data were imputed for 136 participants in each group, and 50 data sets were imputed.

We also estimated mean differences and 95% confidence intervals between trial groups in product ratings and in change scores between baseline and follow-up time points in withdrawal symptoms, as well as between-group differences in the percentage of participants who had adverse reactions or respiratory symptoms, using binomial regression with adjustment for trial center (see the statistical analysis plan, available with the protocol at NEJM.org). Analyses were conducted with the use of Stata software, version 15 (StataCorp).

## RESULTS

### PARTICIPANTS

A total of 2045 clients of stop-smoking services were screened, and 886 underwent randomization (439 to the e-cigarette group and 447 to the nicotine-replacement group). Of the randomly assigned participants, 78.8% completed the 52-week follow-up (Fig. 1). The sample was composed largely of middle-aged smokers, with 40.7% entitled to free prescriptions (a marker of social disadvantage or poor health) (Table 1, and Table S1 in the Supplementary Appendix).

### EFFECTS OF TREATMENT ON ABSTINENCE

The rate of sustained 1-year abstinence was 18.0% in the e-cigarette group and 9.9% in the nicotine-replacement group (relative risk, 1.83; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.30 to 2.58;  $P < 0.001$ ) (Table 2). The absolute difference in the 1-year abstinence rate between the two groups was 8.1 percentage points, resulting in a number needed to treat for one additional person to have sustained abstinence of 12 (95% CI, 8 to 27). The result did not change substantially in the four sensitivity analyses (relative risk, 1.75 to 1.85;  $P \leq 0.001$  for all comparisons) (Table S2 in the Supplementary Appendix). Abstinence rates were higher in the e-cigarette group than in the nico-



**Table 1. Characteristics of the Participants at Baseline.\***

Characteristic	E-Cigarettes (N=438)	Nicotine Replacement (N=446)	Total (N=884)
Median age (IQR) — yr	41 (33–53)	41 (33–51)	41 (33–52)
Female sex — no. (%)	211 (48.2)	213 (47.8)	424 (48.0)
Employed — no. (%)	299 (68.3)	316 (70.9)	615 (69.6)
Entitled to free prescriptions — no. (%)	181 (41.3)	179 (40.1)	360 (40.7)
Median no. of cigarettes per day (IQR)	15 (10–20)	15 (10–20)	15 (10–20)
Median expired carbon monoxide level (IQR) — ppm	20 (13–27)	21 (13–28)	20 (13–28)
Score on the Fagerström Test for Cigarette Dependence†	4.5±2.5	4.6±2.4	4.6±2.4
Past use of nicotine replacement — no. (%)	328 (74.9)	334 (74.9)	662 (74.9)
Past use of e-cigarettes — no. (%)	186 (42.5)	181 (40.6)	367 (41.5)

\* Plus-minus values are means ±SD. There were no significant differences between the trial groups. IQR denotes interquartile range. Data on additional characteristics are provided in Table S1 in the Supplementary Appendix.

† Scores range from 1 to 10, with higher scores indicating greater dependence.

**Table 2. Abstinence Rates at Different Time Points and Smoking Reduction at 52 Weeks.\***

Outcome	E-Cigarettes (N=438)	Nicotine Replacement (N=446)	Primary Analysis: Relative Risk (95% CI)‡	Sensitivity Analysis: Adjusted Relative Risk (95% CI)
Primary outcome: abstinence at 52 wk — no. (%)	79 (18.0)	44 (9.9)	1.83 (1.30–2.58)	1.75 (1.24–2.46)‡
Secondary outcomes				
Abstinence between wk 26 and wk 52 — no. (%)	93 (21.2)	53 (11.9)	1.79 (1.32–2.44)	1.82 (1.34–2.47)§
Abstinence at 4 wk after target quit date — no. (%)	192 (43.8)	134 (30.0)	1.45 (1.22–1.74)	1.43 (1.20–1.71)¶
Abstinence at 26 wk after target quit date — no. (%)	155 (35.4)	112 (25.1)	1.40 (1.14–1.72)	1.36 (1.15–1.67)‡
Carbon monoxide-validated reduction in smoking of ≥50% in participants without abstinence between wk 26 and wk 52 — no./total no. (%)	44/345 (12.8)	29/393 (7.4)	1.75 (1.12–2.72)	1.73 (1.11–2.69)

\* Abstinence at 52 weeks was defined as a self-report of smoking no more than five cigarettes from 2 weeks after the target quit date, validated biochemically by an expired carbon monoxide level of less than 8 ppm at 52 weeks. Abstinence between week 26 and week 52 was defined as a self-report of smoking no more than five cigarettes between week 26 and week 52, plus an expired carbon monoxide level of less than 8 ppm at 52 weeks. Abstinence at 4 weeks was defined as a self-report of no smoking from 2 weeks after the target quit date, plus an expired carbon monoxide level of less than 8 ppm at 4 weeks. Abstinence at 26 weeks was defined as a self-report of smoking no more than five cigarettes from 2 weeks after the target quit date to 26 weeks; there was no validation by expired carbon monoxide level.

† The analysis was adjusted for trial center only.

‡ The analysis was adjusted for trial center, marital status, age at smoking initiation, and score on the Fagerström Test for Cigarette Dependence.

§ The analysis was adjusted for trial center, age, score on the Fagerström Test for Cigarette Dependence, and age at smoking initiation.

¶ The analysis was adjusted for trial center, education level, partner who smokes (yes or no), and score on the Fagerström Test for Cigarette Dependence.

|| The analysis was adjusted for trial center, sex, age, and partner who smokes (yes or no).

tine-replacement group at all time points (Table 2, and Table S3 in the Supplementary Appendix).

We conducted a post hoc analysis, in which participants with 1-year abstinence who used nonassigned products (see the Supplementary Appendix) were removed from the sample (3% [2 of 79] in the e-cigarette group were using

nicotine replacement and 20% [9 of 44] in the nicotine-replacement group were using e-cigarettes). This resulted in a 1-year abstinence rate of 17.7% in the e-cigarette group, as compared with 8.0% in the nicotine-replacement group (relative risk, 2.21; 95% CI, 1.52 to 3.22).

Among participants in whom full abstinence

**Table 3. Attendance and Treatment Adherence.**

Variable	E-Cigarettes (N=438)	Nicotine Replacement (N=446)
Median no. of contacts completed (IQR)*	5 (4–5)	5 (4–5)
Maximum no. of contacts completed — no. of participants (%)		
1	8 (1.8)	10 (2.2)
2	25 (5.7)	40 (9.0)
3	38 (8.7)	45 (10.1)
4	86 (19.6)	106 (23.8)
5	281 (64.2)	245 (54.9)
Use of assigned products during the initial 4 wk†		
Median no. of days on which product was used (IQR)	28 (25–28)	24 (19–27)
Daily use during the entire 4 wk — no. (%)	232 (53.0)	46 (10.3)
Median no. of days on which product was used in past wk (IQR)‡	7 (7–7)	6.5 (3.5–7)
Use of assigned products at 26 wk — no. (%)	180 (41.1)	33 (7.4)
Use of assigned products at 52 wk — no. (%)	173 (39.5)	19 (4.3)

\* The maximum number of contacts was five: at the target quit date, 1 week, 4 weeks, 26 weeks, and 52 months.

† For use of assigned products, missing information was imputed from the information from the next weekly behavioral-support consultation, if available (e.g., for missing information at consultation 3, information was taken from consultation 4).

‡ The results were similar for weeks 1 through 4.

was not achieved, more had a carbon monoxide-validated reduction of smoking by at least 50% in the e-cigarette group than in the nicotine-replacement group (Table 2). Time to relapse and relapse rates at 52 weeks among participants with sustained abstinence at 4 weeks did not differ substantially between the two trial groups (hazard ratio for time to relapse, 1.14; 95% CI, 0.96 to 1.34; relative risk of relapse at 52 weeks, 1.27; 95% CI, 0.93 to 1.73).

#### TREATMENT ADHERENCE AND RATINGS AND EFFECTS ON WITHDRAWAL SYMPTOMS

Overall adherence was similar in the two groups, but e-cigarettes were used more frequently and for longer than nicotine replacement (Table 3). In the nicotine-replacement group, 88.1% of participants used nicotine-replacement combinations. In the e-cigarette group, practically all participants used refillable e-cigarettes (Table S4 in the Supplementary Appendix).

Among participants with 1-year abstinence, 80% (63 of 79) were using e-cigarettes at 52 weeks in the e-cigarette group and 9% (4 of 44) were using nicotine replacement in the nicotine-

replacement group. Further details of product use (including the use of nonassigned products) are provided in the Supplementary Appendix, including Tables S4 and S5.

Both e-cigarettes and nicotine-replacement products were perceived to be less satisfying than cigarettes. However, e-cigarettes provided greater satisfaction and were rated as more helpful to refrain from smoking than nicotine-replacement products (Table S6 in the Supplementary Appendix).

Among participants with abstinence at 1 week after their quit date as well as participants with abstinence at 4 weeks, those in the e-cigarette group had less severe urges to smoke than did those in the nicotine-replacement group (Table 4). They also reported a smaller increase from baseline in irritability, restlessness, and inability to concentrate than those in the nicotine-replacement group during the first week of abstinence. Between-group differences in hunger and depression were in the same direction but less substantial. By week 4, participants in either group who were abstinent reported little withdrawal discomfort (Table S7 in the Supplementary Appendix).

**Table 4. Urges to Smoke in Participants with Abstinence at 1 Week or 4 Weeks after Quit Date.\***

Variable	1 Wk after Quit Date		Mean Difference (95% CI)	4 Wk after Quit Date		Mean Difference (95% CI)
	E-Cigarettes (N=158)	Nicotine Replacement (N=131)		E-Cigarettes (N=186)	Nicotine Replacement (N=132)	
Score for frequency of urge	2.5±1.1	2.8±0.9	-0.4 (-0.6 to -0.1)	1.9±0.9	2.2±0.8	-0.3 (-0.5 to -0.1)
Score for strength of urge	2.7±1.1	3.2±1.0	-0.5 (-0.7 to -0.2)	2.1±1.1	2.4±1.0	-0.3 (-0.6 to -0.1)
Composite urge score	2.6±1.0	3.0±0.9	-0.4 (-0.6 to -0.2)	2.0±1.0	2.3±0.9	-0.3 (-0.5 to -0.1)

\* Plus-minus values are means ±SD. Scores for frequency of urge ranged from 1 (not at all) to 6 (all the time). Scores for strength of urge ranged from 1 (no urges) to 6 (extremely strong). The composite score (range, 1 to 6, with higher scores indicating more severe urges) is an average of the frequency and strength scores.

**Table 5. Respiratory Symptoms at Baseline and at 52 Weeks.\***

Symptom	E-Cigarettes (N=315)		Nicotine Replacement (N=279)		Relative Risk (95% CI)†
	Baseline	52 Weeks	Baseline	52 Weeks	
	<i>number (percent)</i>				
Shortness of breath	120 (38.1)	66 (21.0)	92 (33.0)	64 (22.9)	0.9 (0.7–1.1)
Wheezing	102 (32.4)	74 (23.5)	86 (30.8)	59 (21.1)	1.1 (0.8–1.4)
Cough	173 (54.9)	97 (30.8)	144 (51.6)	111 (39.8)	0.8 (0.6–0.9)
Phlegm	137 (43.5)	79 (25.1)	121 (43.4)	103 (36.9)	0.7 (0.6–0.9)

\* Symptoms were assessed by asking whether participants had the symptom (yes or no).

† Relative risk was calculated by means of logistic regression. Symptoms at 52 weeks were regressed onto trial group, with adjustment for baseline symptoms and trial center.

### SAFETY EVALUATION

Two participants died during the trial. One died from ischemic heart disease in the e-cigarette group and one from traumatic spine injury in the nicotine-replacement group.

There were 27 serious adverse events in the e-cigarette group and 22 in the nicotine-replacement group (Table S8 in the Supplementary Appendix). No serious adverse event in either group was classified by the trial clinician as being related to product use, but we noted 1 respiratory event in the nicotine-replacement group and 5 in the e-cigarette group (2 in participants who were smoking and not vaping, 2 in participants who were smoking and vaping, and 1 in a participant whose status with respect to smoking and vaping was not known) (see the Supplementary Appendix).

Of the prespecified adverse reactions of interest, nausea was reported more frequently in the nicotine-replacement group (37.9%, vs. 31.3% in

the e-cigarette group) and throat or mouth irritation more frequently in the e-cigarette group (65.3%, vs. 51.2% in the nicotine-replacement group). There was little difference between the two groups in the percentage of participants reporting severe nausea (6.6% in the e-cigarette group and 6.5% in the nicotine-replacement group) or severe throat or mouth irritation (5.9% and 3.9%, respectively) (Tables S9 and S10 in the Supplementary Appendix).

Regarding the prespecified respiratory symptoms of interest, the incidence of cough and phlegm production declined in both trial groups from baseline to 52 weeks. However, among participants who reported cough or phlegm at baseline, significantly more were symptom-free at the 52-week follow-up in the e-cigarette group than in the nicotine-replacement group (Table 5). To determine whether this was due to the higher abstinence rate in the e-cigarette group, we ran an exploratory analysis that controlled for

abstinence status at 52 weeks. This did not change the results (relative risk for cough, 0.8; 95% CI, 0.6 to 0.9; relative risk for phlegm, 0.7; 95% CI, 0.6 to 0.9).

## DISCUSSION

E-cigarettes were more effective for smoking cessation than nicotine-replacement therapy in this randomized trial. This is particularly noteworthy given that nicotine replacement was used under expert guidance, with access to the full range of nicotine-replacement products and with 88.1% of participants using combination treatments.<sup>11</sup>

Our trial showed a stronger effect of e-cigarettes than previous trials.<sup>5,12,13</sup> This could be due to the inclusion of smokers seeking help in quitting, the provision of face-to-face support, and the use of refillable e-cigarettes with free choice of e-liquids. Previous trials provided limited or no face-to-face support and used first-generation cartridge products. Refillable devices are generally more efficient at nicotine delivery.<sup>14</sup>

The trial provides some indications of why e-cigarettes had better results than nicotine-replacement treatments. As in previous studies,<sup>5,15</sup> e-cigarettes were more effective in alleviating tobacco withdrawal symptoms and received better ratings than nicotine-replacement therapy. They may also have allowed better tailoring of nicotine dose to individual needs.

The rate of continuing e-cigarette use was fairly high. This can be seen as problematic if e-cigarette use for a year signals ongoing long-term use, which may pose as-yet-unknown health risks. On the positive side, ongoing e-cigarette use may ameliorate withdrawal symptoms, such as constipation,<sup>16</sup> mouth ulcers,<sup>17</sup> and weight gain,<sup>18</sup> and continue to provide some of the positive subjective effects previously derived from smoking.<sup>19</sup> Provided that ongoing e-cigarette use has similar effects to long-term nicotine-replacement use, for heavy smokers with a high risk of relapse, long-term e-cigarette use may also assist with preventing relapse.<sup>20</sup> Among participants in our trial in whom full abstinence was not achieved, those in the e-cigarette group were more likely to reduce their smoke intake than those in the nicotine-replacement group, but it is unclear whether this affects future abstinence.

E-cigarettes caused more throat or mouth irritation, and nicotine replacement caused more nausea; these effects were mostly mild. There were mixed signals regarding the effects of e-cigarettes on the respiratory system. More participants in the e-cigarette group than in the nicotine-replacement group reported respiratory serious adverse events, although the difference was not significant and some of the affected participants were not vaping. Meanwhile, we detected positive effects of e-cigarette use on some respiratory outcomes. Similar positive effects were reported previously. A switch to e-cigarettes was accompanied by a reduction in respiratory infections in an online survey,<sup>21</sup> and two case studies described nonsmokers with chronic throat and nose infections that resolved after they started to vape. Antibacterial effects of propylene glycol and glycerin were suggested as possible explanations.<sup>22,23</sup> (For more on e-cigarettes and the respiratory system, see the Supplementary Appendix.)

The trial had several limitations. Product assignments could not be blinded. Positive expectations have limited effects on long-term abstinence, but if nicotine replacement was seen as an inferior option, participants in the nicotine-replacement group could have put less effort into their quit attempt than those in the e-cigarette group. We tried to limit expectation effects by recruiting only participants with no strong product preference. Abstinence rates in the nicotine-replacement group were also at least as high as in usual practice<sup>24</sup> (see the Supplementary Appendix). Nevertheless, lack of blinding could affect the results. Carbon monoxide validation detects smoking only over the past 24 hours, so there may have been some false negative results. Several participants in the nicotine-replacement group used e-cigarettes during the trial, but this would dilute rather than amplify any effects of e-cigarettes. The 1-year follow-up rate of 79% was similar to the rates of 78%,<sup>19</sup> 79%,<sup>5</sup> and 75%<sup>20</sup> observed in other studies involving the same general population and setting. Achieving higher follow-up rates among smokers engaged in face-to-face treatment is difficult, because they tend to feel embarrassed if they do not quit, and some avoid further contact. Multiple imputation showed consistent results; nevertheless, incomplete follow-up represents another limitation of the trial.

The findings are likely to be valid for depen-

dent smokers who seek help but may not be generalizable to smokers who are less dependent or who try e-cigarettes for reasons other than quitting smoking. In addition, they may not be generalizable to less effective first-generation e-cigarettes. Moreover, not all service clients want e-cigarettes. In a previous study, 69% accepted the offer of an e-cigarette starter pack.<sup>25</sup> (For comparison, 57% of service clients opt for nicotine replacement and 25% for varenicline.<sup>26</sup>)

Further trials are needed to determine whether our results generalize outside the U.K. services. In addition, e-cigarette studies are needed that compare different levels of support. This is important for focusing public health messages on either encouraging smokers to switch to e-cigarette use within support services or recommending use with less intensive or no support.

In our trial, refillable e-cigarettes had greater efficacy than nicotine-replacement therapy, even though nicotine replacement was provided in combinations and under expert guidance.

A data sharing statement provided by the authors is available with the full text of this article at NEJM.org.

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Disclosure forms provided by the authors are available with the full text of this article at NEJM.org.

We thank all trial participants and the managers and clinicians of participating National Health Service stop-smoking services; the members of the trial steering committee and data monitoring and ethics committee (listed in Table S15 in the Supplementary Appendix); NIHR research project managers (Simon Bevan, Alexa Cross, Avril Lloyd, and Jennifer Cook) and other NIHR staff; and the staff of the Barts Clinical Trials Unit (in particular, Irene Kaimi, Benoit Aigret, Richard Ostler, Samanah Haidary, and Alberto Stella).

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**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:08:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:11:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bonnie Christensen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a mother of two teenagers, I strongly support this ban on flavored tobacco products. I'm especially concerned that teenagers are looking for a product like nicotine that will give them a "rush" and keep them awake. The bad taste of ordinary tobacco is probably enough to make cigarettes unappealing to most young people, but added flavors encourage them to start using a product that will lead to great physical harm. Tobacco is a dangerous product and we should not allow companies to make money from enhancing this poison to make it more appealing to anyone, especially teenagers.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:16:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Roselle Kamaile	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Aloha Hawaii State Capitol and People of Hawaii, My name is Roselle Kamaile and am writing this testimony to help support the flavor ban. I believe that with this bill we will be able to stop the big tobacco companies from targeting our youth. I have been in public schools to talk about the detrimental effects that happen when youth are exposed to addictive substances. I see the excitement these youth have when I bring up the subject of vaping, and how excited they are when they see the pictures of a vape and the flavored tobacco products. This makes my heart sink as I just told them about the chemicals that are found in these products. I have seen parents allow, watch and buy their children these products. I spoke up, and its not enough. We need to make sure this bill passes so that our future generation of youth are not able to have these products readily available for them to inhale. These products have been legal on the market for far too long and we still do not know all the long-term detrimental effects that happen when someone inhales these products. Mahalo for listening and hearing our testimonies one by one, and allowing us to try and make a change for our future generations. Aloha, Roselle Kamaile



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:20:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jeanne lindgren	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in favor of BANNING flavored tobacco products including vapes. There is currently a nation-wide vaping epidemic with more than 3 million high schoolers and middle schoolers using what is known as "vape" that essentially gets them addicted to nicotine and has been seen as a trendier alternative to smoking. However, there are already health reports coming out that have shown that high schoolers are likely to go from vaping to smoking and this year, the youth smoking rate has actually RISEN, when it was previously in decline. Additionally, it's been proven that high schoolers and the youth in general are far more likely to get addicted to these products than adults, disputing the claim that vaping can help end smoking.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:12:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr. David Peterson	Hana Lima Physical Therapy	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I am Dr. David Peterson, owner of Hana Lima Physical Therapy and a front-line medical professional on Maui. I am also the father of two young daughters. I strongly support SB1009 and the banning of flavored tobacco products. My understanding is that flavored cigarettes were banned in 2009 specifically because the flavors (strawberry, cotton candy, chocolate, etc.) specifically targeted kids, who are as psychologically vulnerable to marketing as they are physiologically vulnerable to tobacco products. It is an awful circumstance that other products have been developed that violate the spirit of the ban. Please vote in favor of SB1009, for the sake of our children's health.



Testimony in SUPPORT of SB1009 SD2 HD2

To: Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Rep. Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 1009 SD2 HD2: Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC) supports SB 1009 SD2 HD2 which bans the sale of flavored tobacco products.

My name is Lisa Dau, RN, Injury Prevention Coordinator, and I represent KIPC.

E-cigarettes, particularly JUUL products that come with appealing flavors are very popular with tweens and teens. Marketing and peer pressure have led to this popularity. Flavoring and the sweet odors of these products mask the dangers of using JUUL and other products that contain flavored tobacco.

Consuming these potent addicting products can lead to live-long illnesses. Vaping entrepreneurs have been using strategies from tobacco companies to market their products directly to children. Add-on products like flavored tobacco make the product very appealing to tweens and teenagers. Friends and younger siblings are eager to try a new cool activity, this increases peer pressure of being a part of the “in group” which might lead a teen’s decision to use tobacco products.

There is significant dangers associated with nicotine. According to JUUL (e-cigarette product), a single pod (flavored tobacco) contains the same amount of nicotine as a pack of cigarettes. The *American Journal of Medicine* linked teen e-cigarette use with future cigarette use. There is a perception that vaping is unoffending, and even a healthy way to wean off of cigarettes, however it has been reported that 63% of young adults who use JUUL products with flavored nicotine did not know the substance contains nicotine (Safe Kids Worldwide).

If this bill passes, Hawai’i will lead the nation in showing how we value our keiki health and safety by banning flavored tobacco products. Please pass this bill, SB 1009 SD2 HD2.

Mahalo,

Lisa Dau, RN  
Injury Prevention Coordinator  
Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition

## Alexander Academy of Performing Arts

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dance@alexanderacademy.info • www.alexanderacademy.info

April 3, 2019

My name is Danelle Watson, I am the director of Alexander Academy of Performing Arts. I am testifying on SB1009-flavored tobacco ban. I am testifying in strong support of a ban to prevent sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol. The use of candy flavors in tobacco products are advertising and marketing directly to our keiki. This is a huge concern as I directly understand the impacts of tobacco addiction as I once dealt with this personally. If we can keep our children away from these products at a young age, hopefully many addictions can be prevented. Let's show our keiki we care.

8 in 10 youth who use tobacco product started with a flavored product. 95% of smokers started before they were 21, most with flavored tobacco product. Youth who vape are 10 times more likely to start smoking. 25.5 % of Hawaii high schoolers vape, this is more than 2X national average. 15.7% of Hawaii middle schoolers vape, this is more than 3x national average.

Ending the sale of all flavored tobacco products including menthol will help protect our youth from a lifetime of tobacco addiction.

I am in strong favor of a ban on flavored tobacco products.

Danelle Watson

Director, Alexander Academy of Performing Arts





## Testimony in Support of RE: SB 1009 SD2, HD2 Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association

April 2, 2019

Dear Chair Luke and respected members of the Committee on Finance:

The Hawaii Dental Hygienists' Association (HDHA) strongly **supports Senate Bill 1009 SD2, HD2** which proposes to prohibit the sale or distribution of flavored tobacco products in the State of Hawaii effective January 1, 2020.

We congratulate the Legislature for introducing a measure that seeks to address the health dangers caused by flavored tobacco products in Hawaii. The marketing of flavored tobacco products, clearly targets sales to Hawaii's youth as an initiation into the use of other nicotine products. In contrast to the positive decline in combustible tobacco smoking, use of electronic smoking devices (ESDs), also known as vaping or e-cigarettes, has increased dramatically over the last decade, making ESDs and flavored tobacco products the most common tobacco product used among youth.

HDHA believes that the nicotine in tobacco is clearly addictive and has been proven to be especially harmful to the oral health of those using it. Current research shows a direct correlation between smoking and periodontal disease. It has been shown to significantly increase the risk of tooth loss over time and decrease the ability for oral soft tissue to heal.

As the largest association representing Hawaii's licensed dental hygienists', HDHA strongly **supports SB 1009 SD2, HD2** to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products in Hawaii. Dental hygienists strive daily to educate patients on ways to improve their oral health, which includes discussing the harmful effects of smoking and tobacco related products. We look forward to working with lawmakers toward our common goal of increased health and decreased dental disease in our great State.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:07:04 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
kacey sakamoto	baldwin high school	Support	No

Comments:

**Aloha Senator,**

**I'm continuing to ask for your support of our 2019 legislative effort to ban flavored tobacco and e-cigarette products in Hawaii.**

**Being part of the Peer Education Program (PEP) I have been made aware of the rise in the use of tobacco and vaping products. We are taking initiative because Maui is the second highest in the state for vaping. 90% of current smokers started smoking before the age of 18. It is obvious that younger children are becoming more prone to the exposure and eventual use of vaping and tobacco products.**

**Studies have shown that vaping can cause "popcorn" lung, which causes rupturing of the air sacs in your lung. This is completely irreversible. Not only can vaping cause Popcorn lung but many other unknown consequences that could potentially be life-threatening.**

**We don't need candy-flavored tobacco to be enticing youth into signing a death sentence from an addiction to nicotine. Please support us by adding your name to the list of elected officials at [flavorhookkidshi.org](http://flavorhookkidshi.org) !**

**Mahalo for your helping to keep Hawaii's Keiki safe.**

**Sincerely,**

**Kacey Sakamoto**

**Baldwin PEP**



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 8:19:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Anna Scott	Punahou School	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:42:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chad Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Chad Lindsey and I live in Pauoa Valley with a wife and two girls in elementary. I'm testifying in support for SB1009 out of concern for my girls who are at an age in which they can be easily influenced by what the crowd is doing and looking cool is acceptable. With flavored tobacco on the rise and companies making it more attractive to young children and young adults, I fear for my girls getting caught up in it. They've learned about the health effects of smoking and know that's not a good thing. Problem is, with all of the cool things people are doing on the internet with Vapes and the barrage of advertisements for the product, I can see how kids will fall to the temptation of this product and ruining their health. All because it looks cool. Especially with companies making these products that are easier to conceal from authorities like teachers, counselors, and most of all parents, it frightens me knowing that the battle of keeping my kids away from the darkside gets even tougher.

So please support this bill. Help keep our children and young adults from ruining their health with this product. We may have lost the battle with cigarettes, but we can still win this battle against vapes and ecigarettes by supporting this bill.

**Testimony of Janice Silva in support of  
SB1009, SD2, HD2  
Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

Hearing: Wednesday April 3, 2019  
Committee: Committee on Finance  
Room: Conference Room 308

My name is Janice Silva and I have been involved with Tobacco Free Kids of Hawaii for over 17 years. I am a former employee of Bob Toyofuku, BT Consulting, and have had the privilege of working with this issue for the entire time I was employed with BT Consulting.

I am in strong support of SB1009, SD2, HD2 for many reasons, but mainly to help block these “fake” enhancements to entice our younger generation.

I am now an employee of Punahou Schools and I am constantly surrounded by teenagers and have 2 children of my own. The overall idea to trick our younger generation in having them THINK that vaping is cool and to trap them with a FLAVOR of supposedly non-nicotine is beyond unacceptable.

I urge the Hawaii State Legislature to consider this bill and to help save our younger generation from further harm.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:59:27 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lorene Lindsey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hi,

My name is Lorene Lindsey and I live in Pauoa Valley with my husband and 2 girls that are in elementary school.

I was discussing this bill with my husband and I fully support this bill. I didn't realize the damage that this product can do. I just thought it was a "good" alternative to smoking. When I found out how this is not true, I had submit testimony so you can hear my voice. I'm also a teacher and I've heard about eCigarettes and seen people smoking them. I thought I could put up with the vapor smoke it produces thinking that it wasn't doing any harm, but now that I've done some research, I realize I'm wrong on this. According to the CDC, e-cigarettes can seriously affect brain development for our kids and young adults. The nicotine in these e-cigarettes are just as addictive as regular cigarettes and thats a scary thought knowing that companies also have targeted the younger generation in regards to flavors and cigarette cases. With my girls getting to that age where looking cool is in, it scares me to think how they can easily get influenced and go down this path of vaping because of its availability and attractiveness to kids.

I am also a teacher, and though I don't see it at my school, that doesn't mean kids are not doing it. With Juuls and vaporless smokes, I can see how it can get passed around without us teachers even knowing about it.

Please support this bill and prevent this product from becoming an issue in our state. The battle on tobacco and alcohol is already lost. Make this trend something you can say you were a part of in preventing by supporting SB1009.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:50:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ASHLEY MATTOS	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**Adults should have a right to what they want to smoke/vape. Why take the rights away from adults, we all are capable of making our own choices. This bill will affect smokers and businesses. I strongly oppose this bill!!!**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:29:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cindy Nettles	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose All of this bill.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:42:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Helene	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 10:31:48 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bonifacio	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I'm 42 years of age and I stopped smoking through flavored tobacco juices in which I use on a daily basis. Cigarettes contains just about 7000 plus chemicals in each stick vs only just a few in a bottle of e-liquid. Instead of banning flavored juices they should enforce stricter laws on teenage use. These products are meant for adults and who wants to stop smoking. It worked for me and many many others.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 10:33:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
April Matsuura	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Dear House Committee on Finance, Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair, and Rep Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair,

I am submitting my testimony regarding SB 1009 SD2 HD2 Hearing 4/3/19. I am opposed to SB 1009. I am a full grown adult in my 40s, born and raised in this state, middle class, a working citizen of Hawaii. I do not smoke anything, at all.

However, I am bothered by what we are spending time and resources on. Our state has some major problems to tackle, and some of them are so costly and embarrassing. Yet, we spend time and money on bills like these, that are not addressing our bigger problems, and restricting the rights of grown adults. I remember when I was growing up in the 70s, being sent to the store to buy cigarettes for my older relatives. I also remember there being some kind of candy that was in the shape of a cigarette. Yet, I have always made the personal decision not to smoke. I think this freedom to decide on "flavored" tobacco products for adults, should be left up to individuals, our families and loved ones, to best handle and help one another with. I don't think the taxpayers and government should be spending my tax money on this.

Thank you for your consideration, I really appreciate it.

Sincerely,

April Matsuura

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:24:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Alan Yim	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill. It is an intrusion on the freedom of people to choose things they like  
Are we to ban food tastes good as well? How far can such logic be taken as a means to  
remove all choice from the markets?

I am 30 years old, it is my choice to use flavored vape juice because I enjoy the taste  
and request from many companies both in an out of the state to provide these flavors.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 10:44:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
jason graham	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I am opposing this bill. The reason is simple the freedom to choose the flavor for myself assisted in the reason that I do not smoke cigarettes. I wish I had this option earlier in my life when I wanted to quit smoking years prior to actually going to vaping. I smoked since I was 18 when I first enlisted in the army and continued until my 3rd deployment. During this time I tried countless ways and options such as the patch as well as the gum, even as far as going to sessions to attempt to quit. Nothing was going to work I thought, that was until I tried vaping. I had the options to lower my nicotine intake and lower it at the pace that was correct for me with the added feature of not being limited to menthol or tobacco, but instead many flavors that I would enjoy on the path to not smoking again. I am currently going on 8 years of not smoking because of it. I am aware there are more features in this bill passing, but I assure you if you want a cigarette free state that this is the best option. Yes there may not be credited studies but the decline in cigarette consumption speaks for itself. Banning flavors has the potential to revert the progress and counter your claim to want to truly help the people of Hawaii. I urge you not to ban flavors and I urge you to look into the parents who allow minors to possess adult products instead of slaughtering the masses. I appreciate your time in reading this and mahalo

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:42:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cole Nakashima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello, I am Cole Nakashima. I am a student from Kailua, current away for college. I would like to submit my testimony in support of SB1009.

As a kid growing up in Hawaii it was not hard to see the impact of tobacco addiction, from the mass quantities of cigarette butts on the beach to smokers on street corners. Tobacco has also had a notable impact on my family. I am very fortunate to have parents that recognized the danger tobacco would pose to a young child and they both worked hard to quit when my mother was pregnant. However, they could not total shake their addiction, to this day my dad will occasionally smoke a cigar, especially on special occasions. I also have two cousins who have been addicted to smoking cigarettes for as long as I can remember.

With nicotine already being a widespread issue, we should be doing everything we can to keep it out of the hands of minors, to help prevent a possibly lifelong addiction. As a student, I have seen the rise in popularity of e-cigarettes among minors, for a multitude of reasons: the fact that they can be easily concealed and hidden from teachers and parents, but more importantly because they are flavored to attract youths. In fact, in 2017 42% of all high schoolers and 27% of middle schoolers reported ever having used an e-cig product.

It is important to continue taking steps to keep tobacco products out of the hands of Hawaii's youths. I am in support of this bill because I see it as a very important step, and hopefully, more will follow it. These flavored tobacco products act as the gateway for youths and open the door to a lifelong addiction.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:01:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carissa Holley	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill. Please help our youth!

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 11:41:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
DANIEL DRAPESA	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Daniel Drapesa. I am writing you today to express my opposition to Senate Bill 1009.

I am an employee of a brick and mortar Vape shop that produces our own brand of Eliquid . We proudly make our product right here in Hawaii Nei, following all FDA regulations and procedures. This being said, I fear the repercussions of this bill passing into law. My Livelihood and the means by which I support my family could be compromised and even taken away completely.

On a daily basis I meet of aged individuals who's lives have been changed for the better because of harm reduction/smoking cessation products such as "ENDS" (electronic nicotine delivery systems) and Eliquid .

You say smoking traditional combustable cigarettes is at an all time low for Hawaii's youth, well this is true for adults as well. Smoking, drinking, and drug use is declining at the exact and opposite rate to the rise in Vaping in america.

The fact that children are able to get a hold of these products is the main problem. As a Vaper who checks out many shops and ad a vape shop employee I can tell you the main reasons Youth have ENDS and Eliquid. Retailers such as gas stations, convenience stores, and even some vape shops neglect to idcustomers. The easy fix:

Increase penalties for said retailers and more enforcement. Family and friends also buy these items for youth. I've seen parents come in to shops and turn to their children and ask "what did you want to get again ?" Parents need to be accountable also. Make stricter punishments for the parents when youth are caught vaping or with devices\Eliquid. That way parents do what they are supposed to and teach their children to abide by the laws!

Mahalo for considering my testimony

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:55:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laksmi M Abraham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB1009, which will ban the sale of all flavored tobacco products, ultimately reducing the number of users and potential users.

Youth are highly attracted to the variety, 15,500 + and growing, flavors. These are marketed to appeal to young people. With names like Fruit Hoops, Cali Colada, Space Jam, TrollzE, and Blizzard Berry-BRRRST, clearly the industry is targeting children under 21. By attracting young people, the next generation of consumers is being cultivated.

It is targeted, and the messaging is working phenomenally well. Nationally, there was a 78% increase from 2017-2018 in current e-cigarette use among high school students and 48% increase among middle school students. Bringing the total number of middle and high school students currently using to 3.6 million, 1.5 million more than the previous year. Hawaii youth are part of this trend, 42% of HIDOE high school students and 27% of middle school students report having ever used an electronic vaping product.

In our Maui community, vaping has grown into a local epidemic. I wanted to share testimony from Josh Ooka, a Baldwin High School senior that testified in front of the Maui County Council. He shared about the growing challenges he's experienced first hand everyday in his school

Josh shares, "Every day when I use social media, I see at least one video or image of someone vaping. I see people posting videos of them using vapes at beaches, parks, and in their cars doing tricks and vaping with their friends. The use of social media to showcase vaping popularized it and made it widespread. At school vapes are small and can be easily hidden, so it's not a surprise to me when I'm walking to my next class, and I see someone vaping in the hall because it's become so ordinary and normal to see. When I go into the bathrooms, it is filled with sweet and fruity scents, and I get pressured to try vaping every time I go into the bathroom."

He goes on to explain, "Some may think that only students in regular classes or "the bad kids" vape, but I am involved in athletics, clubs, and take AP and Honors classes and vaping is so widespread it affects everyone at every level in every activity. Even in my top-level classes, there are kids hiding their vape in their hands occasionally taking

a “rip” because they can’t resist. I see my peers vaping in class when the teacher isn’t looking, and they have a trick to breathe it out clear and undetectable.”

Because of his experience, Josh took it upon himself to coordinate a Breathe Aloha Day, where he hosted vape prevention and awareness activities to help his fellow students fight this growing epidemic.

As a state, we do not have the time to take a “wait and see” approach. The crisis is now and quickly growing the number of teenagers that are becoming addicted to nicotine. For years, we have done our keiki a disservice by ignoring the numbers and trusting the industry that were acting ethically. We are allowing a generation to become addicted to nicotine through the hook of flavored e-liquids. This measure is the top priority of the youth council. Our children are asking the adults to address the issue of their health and well-being; we can’t fail them.

We are grateful to the Committee for hearing SB1009 and hope that you will pass this bill for the sake of our keiki. Flavors hook kids!!

Sincerely,

Laksmi Abraham - Concerned Parent/Community Advocate/Coach

Waikapu, Maui



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 10:38:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
TIMOTHY OISHI	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Aloha

The island of Oahu has many issues concerning its residents and visitors that should be addressed by the board to whom I am writing this to. One of the issues that you are discussing right now pertains to flavored tobacco products and the use of them by residents of the state especially underage users. I do agree that the use of flavored tobacco products by minors is a problem but bill SB1009 which is proposed is not the right way of dealing with the issue. I don't know a right way to address this problem, but I can point out ways that will prevent this bill from working and in return hurting Hawaii's residents and tax payers of this beautiful state.

I started using tobacco products at the age of sixteen and have been using them ever since then. I started smoking Marlboro Lights and later moved to stronger ones like Marlboro Reds. None of the tobacco products that I started with or kept using were flavored in anyway including using menthol. Flavor did not attract me to start using tobacco products, but the curiosity of a sixteen-year-old kid did. The age to use tobacco products at that time was 18 but that doesn't prevent a curious teenager from getting what they want, and if anything, it makes it more desirable if they do. Minors these days are not getting flavored tobacco products from retail stores and they never will till they are of age. The easiest way of getting them today would be to get them online or from someone they know of age and willing to buy it for them. Many online websites don't require much to obtain flavored tobacco products like e-liquid for vaporizers. At the most they require either a birthdate which you select the month, day and date of the year you were born or just clicking the yes button saying that you are over 21 years of age. Any minor that is old enough to order something online will be able to figure out the birthdate they need to put to make it seem like they are of legal age to the site. Once they gain access, the whole inventory of that site is available to them and all they need is a credit card or visa gift card to purchase it. I currently work at a vaporizer store in the city of Honolulu and our establishment is strict on ID checking and making sure that no minor enters/purchases anything from the establishment or that any of the products that we sell are to our knowledge, being bought for a minor. Everyday we have to turn away eighteen to twenty-year-old kids that try to sneak by and hope that we are lenient or can slip by without us knowing. We even must turn away parents and grandparents that come in with minors that try to buy it for them to be the "cool" one in the minor's eyes. We constantly get from guardians that come in with minor why is it that they can't buy

the products since the kid just was telling them what to buy but they are the ones buying it. Some will even say that they would rather have their child/grandchild vaping than smoking things like marijuana or methamphetamine.

The bill currently states that: "Characterizing flavor" means a distinguishable taste or aroma, or both, other than the taste or aroma of tobacco, imparted by a tobacco product or any byproduct produced by the tobacco product. Characterizing flavors include but are not limited to tastes or aromas relating to any candy, chocolate, vanilla, honey, fruit, cocoa, coffee, dessert, alcoholic beverage, mint, wintergreen, herb, or spice. A tobacco product shall not be determined to have a characterizing flavor solely because of the use of additives or flavorings or the provision of ingredient information in the absence of a distinguishable taste or aroma, or both. In this description it states that Mint and Wintergreen flavors are not permitted but what is the difference between those flavors and straight menthol? Even mentholated cigarettes have a mint or wintergreen flavor which naturally comes from the menthol. Straight menthol flavors also have a mint and wintergreen aroma when vaporized so I don't see how one can be allowed but not the other. Another question I feel should be addressed is who would be producing such a E-liquid for a consumer to use? In the bill its states that "Constituent" means any ingredient, substance, chemical, or compound, other than tobacco, water, or reconstituted tobacco sheet, that is added by the manufacturer to a tobacco product during the processing, manufacture, or packing of the tobacco product. E-liquid is currently made up of 4 different ingredients which is Vegetable Glycerin, Propylene Glycol, Nicotine and Flavoring. Out of these 4 ingredients the only one that is can naturally be extracted from tobacco would be nicotine and the rest would be considered chemicals. Even the flavoring will have chemicals inside of it no matter if its tobacco flavored or fruit. There is currently only one brand that I know of that extracts its flavor and nicotine from tobacco, but even that has Vegetable Glycerin added into the juice to make it vaporizable. This definition would make 99% of the E-liquids, no matter the flavor, unavailable to use. People that choose to vape as their method of getting off cigarettes will have less options than those choosing to use Nicorette which manufactures a fruit flavor.

Kids are always going to find a way to get what they want and what they are most curious about, and in return the adults that are trying to get off from tradition tobacco products are the ones that will be most affected by this bill. Many adults were successful in getting off tobacco products like cigars, cigarettes and chew by switching to vaping. Most cigar and cigarette users were able to make the switch using flavored e-liquid. The flavors helped by making it enjoyable to vape and if they would get the urge to smoke a cigar or cigarette, it would make them taste horrible as well as the smell. Many ex-smokers can't go back to cigarettes or cigars after vaping because of how horrible it tastes and the smell that lingers from the smoke. The flavors would help keep them from smoking and stay off the tobacco products that we for sure know kills. The whole reason that smokers switch to vaping is so that they can stay away from traditional tobacco. A flavor ban will take away a very big part of vaping that plays a positive role in helping people switch and not want to go back. Banning flavored e-juice will also force many ex-smokers to get their products online which will result in vaporizer stores

statewide to close their doors come January 1, 2020. There will be hundreds of residents that are part of the industry that will be without a job once that happens and all the money that would have been spent in the state would be going elsewhere. Money will be leaving our state economy, hundreds will be out of a job and no taxes can be collected from any of the businesses that were forced to close. We are already facing a problem with the increasing number of homeless in the state and this would only add to the existing problem.

This is the reason why I don't believe that bill **SB1009** will be effective in a positive way for the residents and tax payers of the state of Hawaii. I am writing this testimony because **I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB1009 AND FEEL THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE PASSED**. One group of the population should not have to be sacrificed for the other's sake. Just because some of the population is obese doesn't mean that we should ban everyone from eating rice and gravy. That's why we educate kids and adults about proper nutrition and a well-balanced diet. Everyone has the right to make choices including children and the only way we can help in making the best decisions for us would be through education. The vaping industry along with teachers, parents and government officials should work together to help solve this problem of underage vaping. Everyone in this state is part of one big Ohana and as an Ohana we should be coming together when trying to fix a problem involving all of us. Thank you for taking the time to listen to me.

Much Mahalo,

Timothy M. Oishi

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:39:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jonah K Manuel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

NO flavor ban is needed it helps people quit ciggerettes that havemful additives

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 5:44:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeff Stevens	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Respect my right to like the flavors I want to like.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 5:38:18 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
austin kelliinoi-westbrook	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose SB1009, the reason behind that is because I've known a lot of family and friends that uses flavored tobacco to substitute for cigarettes. Flavored tobacco has helped many of my family members quit smoking cigarettes, Nothing they tried before helped but after using flavored tobacco it really made an impact in their life. Following through with this bill will not only hurt me as a vaper, but it will also hurt a lot of people that relies on vaping as a alternative to smoking cigarettes. Think about how the people feel. We're important too. I STRONGLY OPPOSE SB1009!!!

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 7:51:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaulunae Hamakua	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha mai kakou,

My name is Kauluna'e Hamakua and I am a resident of Kaunakakai, Moloka'i. I am submitting this testimony as a constituent.

I am testifying in strong support of bill SB1009.

Flavored tobacco products are deceiving our future generations into believing they are less harmful than traditional cigarettes. Flavored tobacco products, like vapes & ejuices to name a few, are introducing smoking to people who would have never smoked in their life. This is starting to become an epidemic.

I urge you to please support this bill and protect our youth.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:43:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kaimana Brummel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 10:58:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joyce Miyamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Joyce Miyamoto and I support the ban on flavored tobacco products as it is targeting a demographic in our community who are uninformed and highly susceptible to the social pressures of trends and fads. I am a practicing pharmacist of 35 years and I have watched the effects of drug addiction ravage our community and create a continuing cycle of addiction by misleading and false statements by the drug companies and it's representatives. The flavor ban is one step toward lessening the attractiveness of tobacco in a segment of our population that has yet to learn the necessary critical thinking skills to discern the harmful effects of tobacco addiction.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:32:08 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brittney L Pasion Almeida	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear SB 1009 Chair and Committee,

I, Brittney Pasion Almeida, testify in strong support of SB 1009. I am in strong support as a school teacher and active community member with the belief that we can't leave inappropriate health choices up to children now that we have strong scientific evidence of the harm of this product.

Please make the right decision to move this bill forward as, like smoking tobacco, many were harmed for generations until the law required that the health risks were on packaging and tobacco companies were required to inform the public of these products specific harm.

Please do not let the vaping industries prolong the passing of this measure into law just to keep your present positions in the Senate. I've seen so much corruption in the House and Senate that I will be personally organizing campaigns to bring students and volunteer members to your hearings to prevent any such violations of moral justice.

Sincerely,

Brittney Pasion Almeida

Radford High School Science Teacher

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:16:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Robert Bland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge you to strongly support this bill for the welfare of our keiki. Flavors hook kids.

Robert Bland of Maui, HI

## **In Strong Support for SB 1009**

Aloha, my name is Alexis Cortes and I am currently a senior at Hawai`i Pacific University studying Public Health and a member of the Hawai`i Public Health Institute's Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai`i's Youth Council. I am testifying in support of Senate Bill 1009 to end the sale of flavored tobacco products in Hawai`i.

Our Youth Counsel's top priority this year is to end the sale and distribution of flavored tobacco, including menthol, in Hawai`i. Vaping is currently a common trend that I am witnessing in my community. In the US, 81% of youth have used some form of tobacco product and these flavors contribute to this rate. Flavors like cotton candy, iced gummy bear, Hawai`i sweet roll, and even POG are attracting our youth to try tobacco products. There are currently around 15,500 different flavors available for purchase. In addition, the packaging of flavored tobacco products is often mistaken as actual candy products. Tobacco industries are aware of how to market towards our youth with colorful and "cool" packaging and they are their current targets. When doing presentations with the Youth Council, our props are primarily donations of confiscated vaping products from schools. Our vaping rates are three times the national average for middle school students and twice the national average for high school students in Hawai`i.

As a public health major, I know that Hawai`i has made great efforts on tobacco preventative measures like increasing the age of purchasing tobacco products to 21 years old. However, the tobacco industry is using the flavored tobacco as a tactic to hook a new generation that lead to a lifetime nicotine addiction. Within the Hawai`i Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 25% of high school students choose to vape is because of the availability of the flavors. Although combustible cigarettes are at an all time low, e-cigarettes use has skyrocketed by 78% from 2017 to 2018. Flavored tobacco is clearly responsible for the high spike of e-cigarette use.

By ending the sale of flavored tobacco, we are considering the quality of life for our keiki here in Hawai`i. I strongly urge lawmakers to keep our generation tobacco-free by ending the sale of flavored tobacco.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:34:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chai Reddy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

While it is great that cigarette smoking is decreasing in youth, the increase of vaping and e-cigs is alarming. The fact that companies provide different flavors and are advertising this to children should resemble the way cigarettes were marketed in past decades. I hope that Hawaii sees how the companies do not care about the health of children and are willing to create many more problems for the future of children's health in Hawaii.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:57:59 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann Collins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of this measure to ban flavored tobacco products. This would be a tremendous win for the health and wellness of all of our children and young people in Hawaii, who are the targets of these products. Please take the courage to stand up in favor of this bill and to support this bill. Let's make Hawaii the example of what it means to protect our children from the dangers of corporate interests. I implore you to pass this measure.

Mahalo for your time and attention.

Ann Collins, Kula, HI

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:05:18 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kathleen Hagan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

For the protection of our children and to stem the growing tide of youth vaping in our state, I am testifying in strong support of SB1009 to ban flavored tobacco products.

Research demonstrates that flavored tobacco products appeal to youth and young adults. Data from the 2013-2014 Population Assessment of Tobacco and Health (PATH) study found that 80.8 percent of 12-17 year olds who had ever used a tobacco product initiated tobacco use with a flavored product. Currently in Hawaii only 4.7% of adults vape yet 25.5% of our high school students do. On my island of Maui the situation is even worse with 1 in 3 (32.3%) of high schoolers vaping. Education has not been enough to stem the tide, we need public policy in place to protect this generation of keiki from nicotine addiction.

Youth are largely unaware of the possible health hazards of tobacco use, especially electronic cigarettes, and flavored products are drawing them in to try them because they are "fun" and "taste good" and seem harmless. This is very concerning to me as the mother of a pre-teen child. Furthermore, as a nurse who does smoking cessation counseling, I am all too aware of how hard it is for people to quit once addicted to nicotine products, and our best hope is to prevent future generations from starting down the tobacco use path.

We have an opportunity to demonstrate that Hawaii is committed to keeping its youth tobacco-free, and the next step is passing SB1009.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:18:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Megan Tabata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



April 2, 2019

**Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

**I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.**

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. **I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.**

Sincerely,  
*Jessica Cambra ~mother of 3 Maui boys*  
*101 Kealohilani Street*  
*Kahului HI 96732*  
*808-280-0055*

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 8:37:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products.

Please pass this critically important bill out of committee to protect our youth from these dangerous and addictive products.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:50:44 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Richard Collins	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

Thank you for allowing me to submit testimony. I am in **STRONG SUPPORT** of this measure to ban flavored tobacco products. This would be a tremendous win for the health and wellness of all of our children and young people in Hawaii, who are the targets of these products. Please take the courage to stand up in favor of this bill and to support this bill. Let's make Hawaii the example of what it means to protect our children from the dangers of corporate interests. I implore you to pass this measure.

Mahalo for your time and attention.

Richard Collins, Kula, HI

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/2/2019 9:02:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keikilani Uehara	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 3:10:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sara Kay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Sara Kay and I strongly support this bill because it will not only protect my friends, but countless other keiki from getting addicted to vaping and nicotine around Hawaii.

As a recent high school graduate in Hawaii, I have witnessed firsthand the horrific vaping epidemic that has spread in Hawaii. I'm testifying because I need YOUR help to help me make change in Hawaii. For the past year, the Coalition for Tobacco-Free Kids have worked tirelessly to pass a bill that would BAN flavored tobacco products including vapes. More than 3 million high schoolers and middle schoolers use what is known as "vape" that essentially gets them addicted to nicotine and has been seen as a trendier alternative to smoking. However, there are already health reports coming out that have shown that high schoolers are likely to go from vaping to smoking and this year, the youth smoking rate has actually RISEN, when it was previously in decline. Additionally, it's been proven that high schoolers and the youth in general are far more likely to get addicted to these products.

While supporters say that flavored vape has helped them quit smoking, it is nowhere near the astronomical amount of youth who are peer pressured into trying vaping who would not have otherwise picked up the habit. Please please do your part and help us protect Hawaii's youth.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Sara Kay

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 5:28:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jessica Cambra	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:32:38 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

# End the Sale of Candy Flavored Tobacco

Youth and young adults are using candy-flavored tobacco at alarming levels. Why we need a candy-flavored tobacco ban:

- ❖ 42% of high school students in Hawai'i reported ever vaping
- ❖ There are over 15,000 flavors on the market, including cotton candy and gummy bear
- ❖ 80% of youth that currently vape are using flavored liquids
- ❖ 90% of current smokers started prior to the age of 18



## I strongly support ending the sale of flavored tobacco

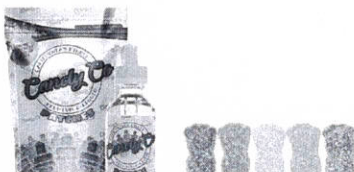
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

It impairs so much middle and high school students on vaping which leads them to bad lungs and hard time breathing. Without any oxygen we are unable to think and process school work. Without school work we become uneducated without an education we have no future and job to make money which leads us to be maybe homeless. Being homeless we can't have a chance to be great and show our true abilities of our Hawaiian blood line. So stop vaping!!

Name (first & last): Savanna Colliado Town/zipcode: Painoena, HI 9720

School: Mamae Loh Christian Age: 13



By submitting this form, I consent to have this petition shared with lawmakers on bills that affect ending the sale of flavored tobacco in Hawai'i



# End the Sale of Candy Flavored Tobacco

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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because I know multiple people that have active tobacco use and they should know how it really affects them and I want them to be less poor and in all have a better life

Name (first & last): Justice Brown Town/zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Mayna Ioa school (MLS) Age: 11

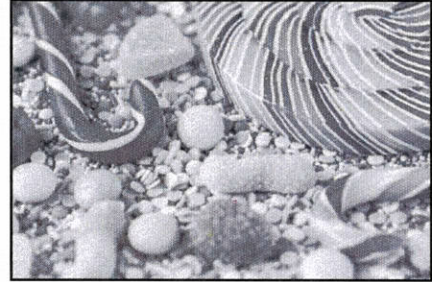


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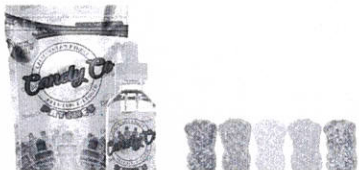
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I know someone who vapes. I don't want him to get popcorn lung. I want him to be healthy and not want to use his vape.

Name (first & last): Abigail Lipps Town/zipcode: 96720  
School: Māuna Loa School Age: 14

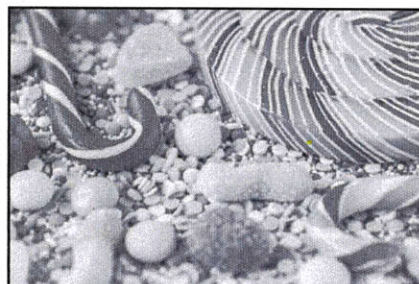


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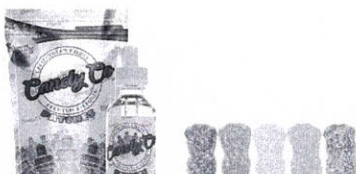
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I don't want little children and grown adults getting sick and die. Also I want to NOT be the top state for kids smoking in the U.S.A.

Name (first & last): Geori Carho Town/zipcode: 96720

School: Mauna Loa School Age: 10



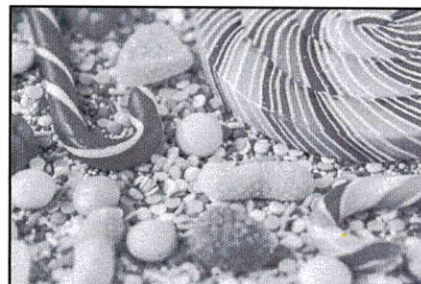
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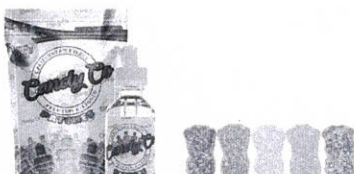
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

It's not good for you. You can get many sicknesses like pneumonia, heart disease, and a stroke. The people don't care. That doesn't mean that we shouldn't! We have to fight for the right! Not the wrong (vape). If money wasn't made... who knows what would happen? God doesn't want us to vape so why should we? Thank you

Name (first & last): Kayla Freitas Town/zipcode: 96720

School: Maua Loa school Age: 10



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## I strongly support ending the sale of flavored tobacco

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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

The ingredients in it is very unhealthy for U.S.  
All ESDs shouldn't even be out on the market.  
I'm pretty sure that every schools has a problem  
with vaping and all. Thank

Name (first & last):

AJ Albert

Town/zipcode:

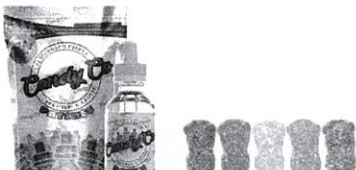
Hilo/96720

School:

Mama Iona School

Age:

14



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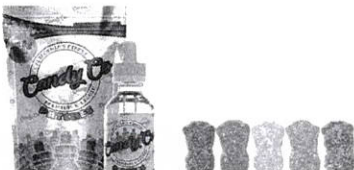
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

It causes popcorn lungs and many more things Plus we don't really know that much about vaping, it could cause much more bad stuff to your body, it even could be worse than smoking tobacco.

Name (first & last): Dominic Linnu Town/zipcode: 96720

School: Maukaoloa school Age: 14



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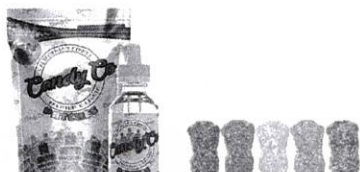
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I think that people in common should live a happy/healthy life and vaping is totally the opposite it's just bad to vape/smoke I hope that in the near future it will be banned please it's killing people I beg of you stop it NOW  
Please ... - Daniel, 7th grade

Name (first & last): Daniel Hovanski Town/zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Manna Ioa School Age: 13



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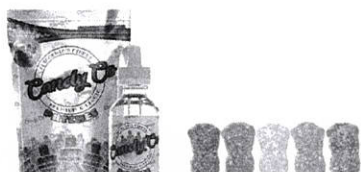
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

Vaping is bad. I hope people will stop doing it. It is not good for people. This is why vaping is bad. It is not good for lungs. It can cause all sorts of problems like cancer, heart attacks, stroke, asthma, and many more. Vaping kills people too sometimes. E-cigs can explode and cause damage and even kill people. Thank you!

Name (first & last): Enoch Kumpel Town/zipcode: Hilo 96720  
School: Mauka Loa School Age: 13



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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

There is to many kids and adults Vaping everyday. I know ALOT of them and see most people vape everywhere. These cause deaths exspeally to infants and and young kids. Bad influence.

Name (first & last): Kanoelani Kualii Town/zipcode: 96720

School: Mavna Loa School Age: 13



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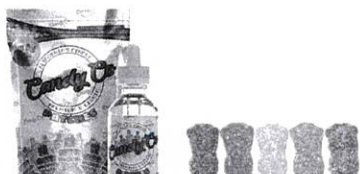
**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

It is not safe and it is killing my friends and fam's

Name (first & last): Timmy Hovaniski Town/zipcode: 96720

School: ~~mauna~~ Age: 15

mauna loa school



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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

The scent is very harmful and contains chemicals that can kill you. They're also used just to cover up the real scent of E-cigarettes. (It smells like Clorox).

Name (first & last): Jordan Brown Town/zipcode: Hilo HI 96720

School: Mauna Kea School Age: 13



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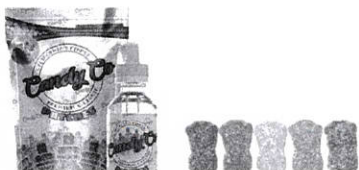
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I don't want popcorn lung. Certain colors and flavors appeal like candy or sweet gum. What kind of adult would want/need a bright yellow, pink, red or orange bottle labeled Gummy worms or cotton candy. Don't take my/others life for Money!

Name (first & last): Kalia Richter Town/zipcode: Hilo 96720

School: Mauna Loa School Age: 11



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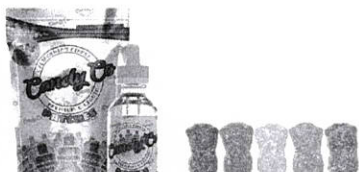
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

IT is bad for you and you can get popcorn lung. Also when you vape you breath in chemicals from everyday things

Name (first & last): Aijahlon Spuell Town/zipcode: Hilo 96720  
School: Mauna Iea School Age: 12



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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

right now we are the leaders in the whole United States and that is not a good reputation for Hawaii. We want to be a good influence on other states and countries. These advertisers are targeting little kids and once they are hooked they are hooked for life.

808 NO VAPE ★

Name (first & last): Elena Freitas Town/zipcode: Hilo 96720

School: Mauna Loa School Age: 12



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- ❖ There are over 15,000 flavors on the market, including cotton candy and gummy bear
- ❖ 80% of youth that currently vape are using flavored liquids
- ❖ 90% of current smokers started prior to the age of 18



## I strongly support ending the sale of flavored tobacco

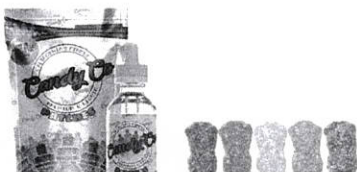
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I think that flavored tobacco should not be sold because the companies are targetting kids so they have a life long customer to buy their products because they are addicted to the nicotine and I don't want to smell vape smoke or tobacco smoke,

Name (first & last): Hope Matsura Town/zipcode: 96720

School: Mauna Loa School Age: 11



By submitting this form, I consent to have this petition shared with lawmakers on bills that affect ending the sale of flavored tobacco in Hawai'i

# End the Sale of Candy Flavored Tobacco

Youth and young adults are using candy-flavored tobacco at alarming levels. Why we need a candy-flavored tobacco ban:

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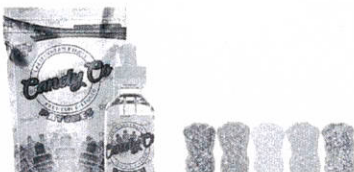
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I don't want to be the first ranking state that has the most people who vape. I also believe no one should go through these horrible symptoms in life. I also know a couple of people who already have asma. Another thing is that all of the most highly used products in there I thought were really disgusting and most of the product I never would've thought that gas or hair spray which I use daily are in there.

Name (first & last): Albe Ganai-Keopuhira Town/zipcode: Keauu 96720

School: Mauna Loa school Age: 12



By submitting this form, I consent to have this petition shared with lawmakers on bills that affect ending the sale of flavored tobacco in Hawai'i



Tosh

# End the Sale of Candy Flavored Tobacco

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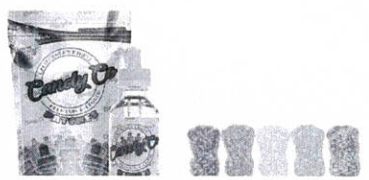
I strongly support ending the sale of flavored tobacco

Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:

I believe that flavored tobacco should be banned in the entire state of Hawaii, they are targeting kids, the ingredients are harmful, and can cause various diseases, candy and tobacco don't mix well. children vapers are horrible and should be banned.

Name (first & last): Tosh Thompson Town/zipcode: Pahoa, Hawaiian Beaches  
 School: Mauna Loa School Age: 72



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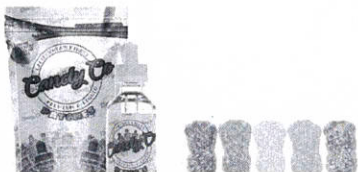
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

I feel bad for those kids or Adults who past away. It also affects our lungs and should have fresh lungs. It causes alot of damage for People's.

Name (first & last): Vivin Mvety Town/zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Mauna Loa School Age: 11

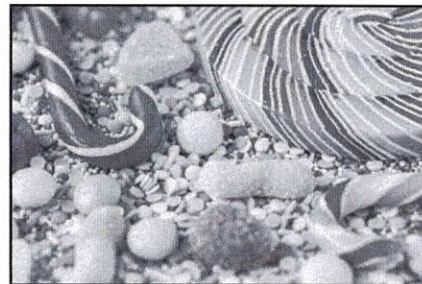


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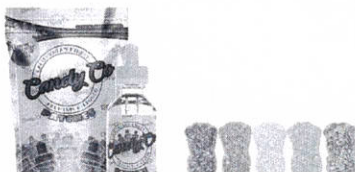
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

*It can make people go crazy and it damages are lungs. It can really hurt you.*

Name (first & last): Arianna Aukai Town/zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Mound Loa School Age: 10



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## I strongly support ending the sale of flavored tobacco

Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

We don't stay the leaders in the youngest age group that vapes in the United States. I don't want my cousin to get popcorn lung.

Name (first & last): Giordynne Carriaga Town/zipcode: 96783  
School: Mauna Loa School Age: 12

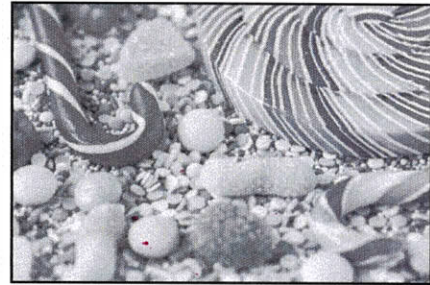


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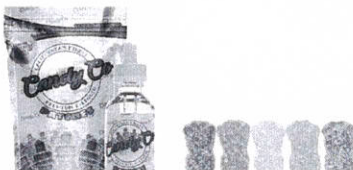
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

It damagees our lungs. We don't want people to suffer it. It harms you and everyone you love. So I want people to stop taking Esds. You can get Bronchitis, asthma, Pneumonia, Ear, nose and throat irritation, and cardiovascular, popcorn lungs, Vomiting Fast heartbeat jittery and unsteady appearance, Difficulty breathing. So please stop or tell people to stop.

Name (first & last): Zaide Perez Town/zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

School: Mauna Loa Christian School Age: 10



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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

*The youth are important. Is the big industry and money more important than the future of Hawaii? We need to get rid of the flavored tobacco because it appeals to the youth! Stop the sale of flavored tobacco in Hawaii if we want a cleaner, safer, and healthier environment in Hawaii.*

Name (first & last): Sherly Acob Town/zipcode: 96727

School: Honoka'a High School Age: 17



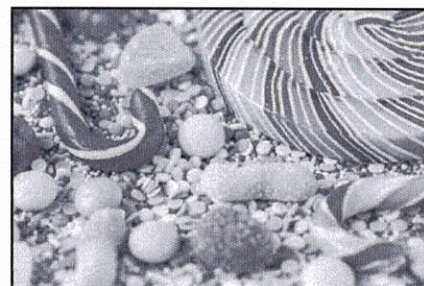
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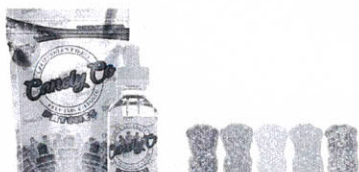
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

it could affect the children health in our island. Also  
it can cause them their lives and their futures.

Name (first & last): Zariah Rivera Town/zipcode: 96727

School: Honokaa High Age: 16



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## I strongly support ending the sale of flavored tobacco

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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

*It promotes younger people to start vaping and to try it. It only takes one time to start vaping and it is highly addictive and has many health problems that are caused because of it.*

Name (first & last): Lily Mood Town/zipcode: Kamuela, HI/96743  
School: Honokaa High Age: 14



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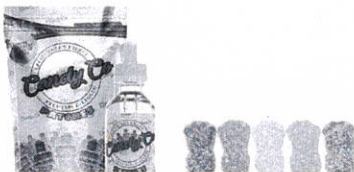
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**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

The flavors on the market are making kids younger than the age of 16 addicted to vaping. The advertisements towards young adult for the flavors are working. The flavors that are being advertise like candy make little kids wanna try. So if they get addicted at a young age they will be addicted to it as adults. So if we ban the flavors of tobacco young kids wont get addicted.

Name (first & last): Skye Watson Town/zipcode: 96727 honokaa

School: Honokaa high school Age: 15



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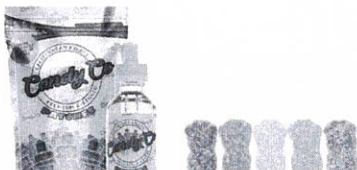
Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

It is addictive and dangerous. It is also targeted towards the youth and most harmful to them.

Name (first & last): Kaitlin Villafuerte Town/zipcode: Honolulu 196727

School: Honolulu High & Inter Age: 18



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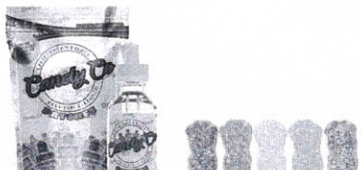
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Electronic smoking devices are devices that heat a liquid containing nicotine into an aerosol that the user inhales. Toxic ingredients hide behind fun and innocent sounding flavors like gummy bear and cotton candy and introduce youth to a lifetime of addiction.

**I believe that flavored tobacco should not be sold in Hawai'i because:**

*The candy flavors are targeting kids younger than 18. Nicotine is highly addictive and very hard to get away from.*

Name (first & last): Kalia Morton Town/zipcode: Waimea 96793  
School: Honokua High Age: 16



By submitting this form, I consent to have this petition shared with lawmakers on bills that affect ending the sale of flavored tobacco in Hawai'i

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:41:23 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cate Cullison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As a parent of a 15 year old, I'm doing everything my husband and I are doing everything we can to educate our child of the hazards of vape products and the fact that they lead to cigarette use. Our family needs help from society to make vaping less attractive to our child and so many other youth who are using.

Please pass SB1009. Nicotine should taste like cancer, not cotton candy.

Cate Cullison

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 8:43:30 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Samuel L Vierra	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I was first introduced to nicotine at the age of 15. Some friends had acquired cherry flavored 'bidi' cigarettes and we tried them because we heard they were safer and tasted better than regular cigarettes. Twenty five years later I chew nicorette gum to manage my nicotine cravings. From that first experience I moved on to Camel cigarettes, then chewing tobacco, back to cigarettes and then finally gum. Nicotine has far too many harmful effects on the youth. Targetting teenagers to be consumers of nicotine products is wrong and immoral. If I could go back in time and not have that first flavored cigarette I would do so in a heartbeat. SB1009 is Hawaii's chance to change some kid's future for the better.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:22:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Elizabeth Tam	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Please help us protect our keiki by voting in support of SB1009, to limit/block the sale and use of flavored tobacco and nicotine products. We need your help in fighting Big Tobacco's powerful marketing and addictive practices. Many of our youth and the public don't realize that Big Tobacco controls virtually 100% of electronic nicotine-delivery systems. Big Tobacco is in the business to addict. It certainly wants our young people, and knows that flavorings effectively entice them.

The vaping epidemic among our youth will have consequences: high concentrations of nicotine (and other toxins that are not in Hawaii's clean air) are reaching our children's brains and lungs during prime adolescent growth and maturation phases of those vital organs. In the brains, we know that nicotine primes the brains for addiction to many drugs and behaviors. Nicotine regulates growth of lungs and airways; we will soon learn of the physiologic and public health effects of such unprecedented exposure during the pre-teen and teen years! High concentrations of nicotine influence every organ of our keiki; the effects on their brains and lungs may just be the first to manifest.

Please bring SB1009 into law. It will help us slow the vaping epidemic, which has much more far-reaching effects than Zika, Dengue, or Rat Lungworm. Big Tobacco is a dangerous vector that is much harder to curb than mosquitoes, rats, and slugs. Help!

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 8:08:44 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Molliane Gotter	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 7:57:46 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marci Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB1009 because we need to protect Hawaii's youth from getting addicted to any type of nicotine and drugs by allowing use at such a young age. We should be protecting our children from any type of harmful addictions and this is one way to prevent that from happening.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:08:30 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Asher Tamashiro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**Greetings,**

**I am writing today to request your utmost priority to ban flavored tobacco including flavored E-cig juices. We selected this as our policy priority because we believe something must be done to stop the epidemic of vaping among our peers and even relatives. Hawaii has some of the highest rates of vaping in the country, with 25% of high school students and 15% of middle school students reporting they vaped within the past 30 days.**

**The statistics are a horrifying reality. History has repeated itself with the Vaping Industry with the producers indirectly lying and for marketing to teens. Tobacco products and tobacco related products have swarmed the modern teen environment with most students who has vaped, start using combustible tobacco afterwards or has used the flavors from E-cig juices to lure and even carry on teen smokers/vapers. We don't need flavored tobacco and nicotine to entice youth into a potential life-long addiction to nicotine. Will you please help us to keep the children of our land safe? Even children in Elementary schools have found with vape products, we must stop this to ensure our children have a brighter and smoke free future.**

**Thank you for helping to keep Hawaii's future bright.**

**Sincerely,**

**Asher Tamashiro, Peer Education Advocate.**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:21:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Teshima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:18:42 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelsie Cajka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill banning candy flavor nicotine. These candy flavors are created and marketed to kids to hook young people in nicotine early in life. The earlier the addiction starts, the harder it is to stop smoking into adulthood. With over 15,000 flavors it is easy for kids to associate these with candy and not think about the long-term health effects. Thank you for your support in this bill.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:23:54 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chloe Shimomaye	Student	Support	No

Comments:

Hello Legislators,

My name is Chloe Shimomaye, a student from Roosevelt High School. I am testifying in favor and support of bill SB1009 because I believe that this could make a dent in the process of vaping.

I understand that the bill is too ban sugary flavored juices for e-cigarettes. I believe that this bill could help so many student and adults get off addiction. I personally know so many people that vape and use it to try and get off of cigarettes, but it is not helping them in any shape or form. Walking through our school campus, going into the bathroom, even in the classroom vaping is in issue. Students miss out on so much classtime because they are going into places where they believe they will not get caught. It really is a struggle because they see so many other people vaping, which just leads them to their addiction.

I really want people to quit their addiction and I understand that one of the push backs is that it is not only students, but there is also adults. I realize that I know so many adults that will be affected by this, but I really believe that this bill will help them with their addiction rather than going from smoking to vaping. To conclude, I am Chloe Shimomaye, a student from Roosevelt High School, and I am in favor and support of bill SB1009.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:41:39 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Randi Derego	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:30:50 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lydi Morgan Bernal	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a mother, I strongly support this bill to protect all children and youth from predatory advertising of dangerous products.

Thank you very much for hearing this bill. Please pass this bill for Hawaii's keiki!

Aloha

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:44:00 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann Hayashi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:51:14 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Craig Petty	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Large tobacco money is targeting these flavored products to kids. Kids get hooked because they want the flavors. What isn't marketed to users is the amount of nicotine that is in these products and is what kids and others actually get addicted to.

Not passing this bill for the sake of money, either tax revenue or money in individuals pockets should not take precedence over taking measures to keep our kids safe. We each have a responsibility to keep our kids safe and that should be the priority. Passing of this bill is the first step towards accomplishing this.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 9:49:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
virginie Solace-Michaud	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We all know how detrimental tobacco is for our health. The use of flavored tobacco is not less harmful and is just another way for tobacco companies to get more people addicted to their products. High Schoolers are especially at high risk of getting addicted to drugs and flavored tobacco is one of them. We need to stop the epidemic of vaping in order to prevent future addiction and health damage such as popcorn cancer and other cancers relating to smoking and vaping.

**LATE**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:03:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keolamalie McComber	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:04:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lisa Delfin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:08:49 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert H. Pantell, MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and Mmbers Committee on Finance

I have been a pediatrician for nearly 50 years and actively in practice on Oahu, Along with the numerous Hawaii agencies and organizations that have provided testimony, I also support this bill. Further, I am listing below the recommendations issued in February 2019 by the American Academy of Pediatrics, a national organizatio representing 67,000 pediatricians;

## **Public Policy Recommendations**

1. Reduce youth access to e-cigarettes.
  - o a. The FDA should act immediately to regulate e-cigarettes similar to how traditional cigarettes are regulated to protect public health.
  - o b. Ban the sale of e-cigarettes to children and youth younger than 21 years.
  - o c. Ban Internet sales of e-cigarettes and e-cigarette solution.
2. Reduce youth demand for e-cigarettes.
  - o a. Ban all characterizing flavors, including menthol, in e-cigarettes.
  - o b. Ban all e-cigarette product advertising and promotion in forms that are accessible to children and youth.
  - o c. Tax e-cigarettes at comparable rates to those of conventional cigarettes.
3. Incorporate e-cigarettes into current tobacco-free laws and ordinances where children and adolescents live, learn, play, work, and visit.

Thank you,

Robert H. Pantell, MD

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:11:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Andrea Fitzgerald	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear SB 1009 Chair and Committee,

I, Andrea Fitzgerald, testify in strong support of SB 1009. I am in strong support as a school teacher and active community member with the belief that we can't leave inappropriate health choices up to children now that we have strong scientific evidence of the harm of this product.

The harm of vaping has been proven to be more impactful than cigarettes, and as an industry, is not receiving the same strict regulations for safety and advertising.

Today, a student is able to vape the equivalent of a pack of cigarettes in just an hour, and hide smoky exhalation given the low smoke ingredient ratio in some available devices.

Please make the right decision to move this bill forward as, like smoking tobacco, many were harmed for generations until the law required that the health risks were on packaging and tobacco companies were required to inform the public of these products specific harm.

Please do not let the vaping industries prolong the passing of this measure into law just to keep your present positions in the Senate. I've seen so much corruption in the House and Senate that I will be personally organizing campaigns to bring students and volunteer members to your hearings to prevent any such violations of moral justice.

Sincerely,

Andrea Fitzgerald

Radford High School Social Studies Teacher

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:11:28 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michael Lippert	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill as it applies to flavored tobacco products.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:14:43 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
ellen benton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

To whom this may concern,

I strongly oppose this bill on flavored tobacco products. Being over the age of 21, I have the right to choose what flavors I vape. I believe it is unjust to attempt to control adult citizens in such a manner. Please oppose this bill!

Mahalo,

Ellen Benton

**LATE**

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:36:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kelsie Inaba	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am an educator at Kamehameha Schools and resident of Hawaii. With over 15,000 flavors on the market, restricting the sale of kid friendly flavors that appeal to youth is necessary to protect them from al ifetime of nicotine addiction and drug use, overall! Many of Hawaii's crime is related to drugs, so regulating that industry is integral to our future!



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:41:54 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lauryn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I know that vaping has been going on for a very long time, and it is mostly upon minors. Especially since flavored vaping products have a certain taste to them to make it more addicting. Knowing that younger people like sweet things such as candy, flavored vapes start to get more complicated to avoid and more dangerous.

This starts to become a problem for younger people especially, since they are starting at a young age and continue to do it in the life ahead of them. By the time they reach their adulthood, they have high chance of getting lung cancer or a different type of lung infection. Older people don't have a chance of getting the flavored vapes as much as the minors do, but it is a problem.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 10:54:33 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
thomas wills	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

Testimony:

Date: April 2, 2019

To: Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Ty J. K. Cullen, Vice Chair

Members of the House Committee on Finance

Re: Support of SB1009-SD2-HD2 (HSCR1668), Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Conference Room 308

I strongly support SB 1009-SD2-HD2, which would ban the sale of flavored tobacco products.

I support this bill because previous research has shown that flavorings make tobacco products, particularly e-cigarettes, attractive to adolescents. Recent data from Hawaii and other states have shown that e-cigarette use is quite prevalent among school students, even among middle school students who are 12-14 years of age. This is resulting in a high rate of addiction to nicotine, which was previously not known in Hawaii because rates of cigarette smoking were relatively low and the high taxes on cigarettes in Hawaii result in less frequent smoking among students who do smoke. It looks like e-cigarettes are changing this situation and that a number of students may graduate from school being addicted to nicotine.

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. Using e-cigarettes is related to initiation of cigarette smoking among previous nonsmokers, hence is contributing to nicotine addiction through another mechanism. It is also related to asthma and bronchitis.

Recent authoritative articles by physicians and pharmacologists in the New England Journal of Medicine have emphasized that nicotine is as addictive as heroin, that

flavored tobacco products increase the likelihood of adolescents becoming addicted, and that there is increasing evidence of harmful respiratory effects from e-cigarette vapor. (See, for example, "The Dangerous Flavors of E-Cigarettes," New England Journal, January 30, 2019.) Many public health experts have noted that the current epidemic of e-cigarette use among adolescents is creating risk for public health and that steps should be taken to reduce use among teenagers. All the research I have seen indicates that eliminating flavorings would be a large and effective step toward this goal.

I have heard some people argue that the FDA is going to take action against flavorings soon.

I don't believe it. I have heard similar arguments for years about tobacco policy. The tobacco companies agreed in 2006 to run ads about the risks of cigarette smoking and nicotine addiction, but IT TOOK 12 YEARS before they finally agreed to do this. (You are just seeing the se ads in the newspapers now.) The FDA tried to use its legal authority to put graphic warning labels on cigarette packages beginning in 2010, but THIS NEVER HAPPENED because the tobacco companies kept filing lawsuits against it. The writing on the wall is that if FDA tries to take action against flavored tobacco products, the tobacco companies will just do the same thing all over again and delay action for 10 or 20 years. Meanwhile a new generation of teenagers will become addicted to nicotine.

For the reasons given above, I strongly support SB 1009-SD2-HD2 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

FIN-Jo

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From: kaylakawamura2@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kayla Kawamura  
<kaylakawamura2@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:07 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

The use of E-cigs effect the development of the brain and also contain cancer causing chemicals. These flavored e- liquids make the young children of Hawai'i vulnerable to the toxicity in these items. We must do all we can to protect the keiki of our beautiful state, as they are the next generation. The passing of this bill could prevent young children to continue using electronic cigarettes.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Kayla Kanoe Kawamura

Sincerely,  
Kayla Kawamura  
Anahola, HI 96703

FIN-Jo

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From: lilpepper2004@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Pepper Page <lilpepper2004@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:04 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Candy flavored tobacco products TARGET TEENS. these teen's brains are still developing and becoming addicted at this age can do serious damage and harm, not only to their brain but the rest of the body. All teenagers that vape have 3x the chance of smoking when they are older. Teens of all ages have been known to overdose on these products and stopping the sale of candy flavored products will make it more likely to avoid/quit vaping.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Pepper Page  
Hanapepe, HI 96716

FIN-Jo

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From: mekaylanoelani.04@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mekayla Finch  
<mekaylanoelani.04@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:00 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Mekayla Finch and I am a 9th grader at Kauai High School. I also paddle got Kauai High and Niumalu Canoe Club.

We should ban flavored tobacco products because most high school students start smoking with flavored tobacco products. High School students are more likely to use flavored tobacco products if there are candy flavors. Speaking from experience, I have friends that use these products just because they like the flavors.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Mekayla Finch  
Koloa, HI 96756

FIN-Jo

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From: amberreece333@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amber Baxter <amberreece333@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 5:51 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Amber Baxter and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also am a part of the Keala Foundation.

I have seen how tobacco has ruined peoples lives, KIDS are getting addicted to nicotine. Please help me change Hawaii.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Amber Baxter  
Kalaheo, HI 96741

FIN-Jo

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From: gcarlo18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gian-Carlo Panoy <gcarlo18@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 5:49 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Gian and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I am also a member of the Kauai High School Key Club.

In flavoring, there is a two chemical diacetyl and pentanedone which are proven by science that can deteriorate lung tissue. in cigarettes there are 7,000 chemicals, 69 of those can cause cancer.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Gian-Carlo Panoy  
Lihue, HI 96766



FIN-Jo

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From: judith.beaver@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Judith Beaver  
<judith.beaver@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 5:09 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Judith Beaver  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

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From: mkyono@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mae Kyono  
<mkyono@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 1:47 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

As a pediatrician, I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Mae Kyono  
Honolulu, HI 96826

From: weinerkauai@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Linda Weiner  
<weinerkauai@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 12:30 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Our state has one of the highest per capita uses of flavored tobacco products among middle school and high school students in the US. After the tremendous success of the Tobacco Free Coalition, the legislature, and many others in drastically reducing teen tobacco use in Hawaii, tobacco use among teens has made a drastic U-turn with the introduction and promotion by tobacco companies of flavored, "cool," e-cigarettes. These products have deliberately targeted children by adding many, many flavors with candy names like "Fruit Hoops", using colorful candy-like packaging directed toward children, and advertising that stresses good taste and smell of these products. In fact, the taste and packaging of flavored tobacco products are so enticing that young children have ingested the flavored juice with tragic results.

These electronic products were originally marketed as a safe way to wean off cigarettes. This assertion has no scientific evidence to back it up and misleads our keiki who feel that using ESP's is not only cool, but also safe. Ironically, tobacco companies have cynically taken advantage of gullible consumers by significantly increasing the nicotine concentration in the flavored "juices" so that new users are instantly hooked on nicotine, which is one of the most addicting substances known to man. This means that our keiki are rapidly becoming addicted to nicotine, instantly creating a life-long market for tobacco companies.

Unfortunately, the FDA has been slow to recognize the harmful potential of vaping despite frantic warnings from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Finally the head of the FDA has suggested some control of flavored ESP's in gas stations and convenience stores, which doesn't at all cover on line or tobacco store purchases, and there is no review of sales to minors until 2022. Also, flavored smokeless tobacco and hookah are not addressed. This is reminiscent of the long and difficult push to control tobacco sales, which was violently opposed by tobacco companies and their lobbyists. I am sure we all remember the insistence by Big Tobacco that there was no health risk from tobacco products.

It's also critical to include menthol cigarettes in the flavored tobacco ban. Menthol cigarettes are a popular starter product, as it has cooling properties that mask the harshness of tobacco smoke and nicotine. The tobacco industry has a long history of marketing menthol cigarettes to youth and vulnerable groups, such as the Native Hawaiian community, and has led to health disparities.

We must end the sale of candy-flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. I strongly support HB276 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Linda Weiner, MD  
Pediatrics  
Kauai

Sincerely,  
Linda Weiner  
Kalaheo, HI 96741

FIN-Jo

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From: dream@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of martha yamada  
<dream@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 11:51 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
martha yamada  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

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From: tameliza@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Elizabeth Tam  
<tameliza@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 11:22 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

Please support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Our children and grandchildren need your help! Many people don't realize that almost all aspects of electronic nicotine delivery systems (e-cigs) are controlled by TOBACCO companies. As we've learned the hard way, tobacco companies are extremely effective in addicting people, particularly our vulnerable teens. Don't be distracted by Big Tobacco's claims that e-cigs reduce harm or enhance tobacco cessation for those adults who are already smoking. Big Tobacco knows that most of these "quitters" will instead use their electronic versions.

But the real targets are the youngsters who don't smoke. Big Tobacco needs these new recruits to grow their market base, and Big Tobacco has been highly effecting Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Elizabeth Tam  
Honolulu, HI 96816

FIN-Jo

---

From: uglowgurl@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shelly Ogata  
<uglowgurl@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 11:11 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Shelly Ogata  
Kurtistown, HI 96760

FIN-Jo

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From: izzysobizzy808@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Isabelle Collier <izzysobizzy808@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 10:43 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

In Baldwin High School I have experienced numerous accounts of underage vaping. It is clear for anyone to see that the flavored e-liquid juice is to blame. The first thing kids ask is: What flavor is it? I have even heard students refuse to vape because the flavor of liquid did not appeal to them. Therefore, if all liquid were to taste foul kids would not vape. The taste is what matters to kids. The taste is what hooks kids.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Isabelle Collier  
Wailuku, HI 96793



FIN-Jo

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From: jill.stensrud@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jill Stensrud  
<jill.stensrud@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:38 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Jill Stensrud  
Kapolei, HI 96707

FIN-Jo

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From: davidcao@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of David Cao  
<davidcao@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:27 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

My name is David Cao and I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

Flavored tobacco products and e-cigarettes only serve as gateway products into using other tobacco products such as cigarettes and chew tobacco. The habits that our youth form from using these products will only allow them to transition easily to using other dangerous tobacco products.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
David Cao  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: dh1lighthouse@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Amy Rice  
<dh1lighthouse@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 9:24 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

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Sincerely,  
Amy Rice  
Honolulu, HI 96816

FIN-Jo

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From: jdra6@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Justin Allagonez <jdra6@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:58 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Justin Allagonez  
Keaau, HI 96749

FIN-Jo

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From: mcidera@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Marie Cidera  
<mcidera@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:58 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Marie Cidera  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

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From: colettenurse@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Colette Oshiro  
<colettenurse@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:52 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Colette Oshiro  
Kailua, HI 96734

FIN-Jo

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From: rcmcmill@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Ryan McMillan  
<rcmcmill@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:49 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

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Sincerely,  
Ryan McMillan  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: nlovesy@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Noelle Lovesy  
<nlovesy@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:47 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Noelle Lovesy  
Hilo, HI 96720



FIN-Jo

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From: colettenurse@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Colette Oshiro  
<colettenurse@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:45 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Colette Oshiro  
Kailua, HI 96734

FIN-Jo

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From: bmih@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Bryan Mih  
<bmih@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:27 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

As a pediatrician and medical director of the Kapi'olani Smokefree Families Program, I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which prohibits the sale or distribution of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids and menthol cigarettes.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has strongly supported elimination of flavored tobacco products, including menthol. These products have been shown to be disproportionately used by young people, especially teenagers, as the menthol and other flavors make it easier to start using tobacco and nicotine.

These products are targeted towards our keiki with flavors such as cherry, raspberry, citrus, vanilla, chocolate, mint, and pineapple. The tobacco corporations have intentionally included menthol, which provides a soothing, cooling effect and is often seen in cough drops. Low doses of menthol in tobacco can reduce the painful and irritating effects on the lining of the nose, mouth, and airways, which allows smokers to inhale more easily. This makes it much easier for young people to initiate tobacco use.

Once young people are addicted to nicotine, it is extremely difficult to quit. By eliminating these products from Hawaii, we have the chance to improve the health of many, especially of our keiki.

On behalf of the keiki and young people of Hawaii, I urge you to pass SB1009 SD2 HD2.

Mahalo for your consideration and support of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Bryan Mih, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Pediatrician

Sincerely,  
Bryan Mih  
Honolulu, HI 96822

FIN-Jo

---

From: msistoza@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Maysyvelle Sistoza  
<msistoza@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:17 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Maysyvelle Sistoza  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: atrinh3@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Alan Trinh <atrinh3@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 8:09 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Alan Trinh  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: niloofar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Niloofar soltanipour  
<niloofar@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 7:43 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Niloofar soltanipour  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: ksalvill@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Keisha Salvilla  
<ksalvill@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 7:32 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Keisha Salvilla  
Hilo, HI 96720

FIN-Jo

---

From: kainoankiana@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cherie Andrade  
<kainoankiana@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 7:29 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Cherie Andrade  
Kailua, HI 96734

FIN-Jo

---

From: dchingd@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Derek Ching  
<dchingd@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 7:23 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Derek Ching  
Honolulu, HI 96821



FIN-Jo

---

From: cricketlachica@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Christopher La Chica  
<cricketlachica@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 7:22 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Christopher La Chica  
Mililani, HI 96789

FIN-Jo

---

From: kellar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michael Kellar  
<kellar@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 6:52 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Michael Kellar  
Honolulu, HI 96821

FIN-Jo

---

From: mendezj@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Javier Mendez  
<mendezj@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 6:47 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Javier Mendez  
Honolulu, HI 96817

FIN-Jo

---

From: john.a.h.tomoso@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of John A.Hau'oli Tomoso  
<john.a.h.tomoso@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:25 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta? This legislation will remove the thousands of fruit and candy-flavored tobacco products and vaping e-liquids that are, tragically and somewhat immorally, addicting our keiki, including flavored smokeless tobacco and flavored cigars.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
John A. H. Tomoso+  
Retired Social Worker and Episcopal Priest  
51 Ku'ula Street  
Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-2906  
john.a.h.tomoso@gmail.com  
808-280-1749

Sincerely,  
John A. Hau'oli Tomoso  
Kahului, HI 96732

FIN-Jo

---

From: pauwalukai@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of KaiPu Seales  
<pauwalukai@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:20 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
KaiPu Seales  
Honolulu, HI 96817

FIN-Jo

---

From: gail.kim84@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Gail Kim <gail.kim84@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:17 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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As a citizen and registered nurse, I am concerned about the addictive properties of nicotine that leads to other mental or behavioral issues. The chemicals and level of nicotine in these products are dangerous to youth and their brain development. That is why the lure and addictive properties of nicotine being more desirable by flavoring is so dangerous as seen from the nationwide epidemic rise in use by youth even to elementary age is so alarming.

Sincerely,  
Gail Kim

Sincerely,  
Gail Kim  
Mililani, HI 96789

FIN-Jo

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From: marie\_ilustrado@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of marie ilustrado  
<marie\_ilustrado@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:42 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

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Sincerely,  
marie ilustrado  
Lanai City, HI 96763

FIN-Jo

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From: ebchump@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Beth Humphrey  
<ebchump@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:34 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

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The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Beth Humphrey  
Lanai City, HI 96763



FIN-Jo

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From: sfey@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Shelley Fey  
<sfey@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:32 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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It is crazy to think that kids are being enticed into thinking it's cool to smoke. Please do not allow the sale of flavored tobacco products, including the liquids.

Sincerely,  
Shelley Fey  
Honolulu, HI 96821

FIN-Jo

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From: tsymons.uluwini@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Toni HAPI  
<tsymons.uluwini@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:30 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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I have seen far too many of the youth I work with start vaping and they have no idea how harmful it is. I have seen it a lot in our Marshallese community especially!

Sincerely,  
Toni HAPI  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

FIN-Jo

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From: michael\_illustrado@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of michael ilustrado  
<michael\_illustrado@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:43 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
michael ilustrado  
Lanai City, HI 96763

From: sbrandli@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stephanie Brandli  
<sbrandli@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 9:47 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
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Sincerely,  
Stephanie Brandli  
Honolulu, HI 96822



**SB1009 SD2 HD2**  
**RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS**  
House Committee on Finance

April 3, 2019

2:30 p.m.

Room 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB1009 SD2 HD2, which seeks to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products. This bill would help protect Native Hawaiian adults and youth—who already exhibit high rates of tobacco use and chronic diseases, including those associated with or exacerbated by tobacco use—from the cumulative and harmful health consequences of e-cigarettes and other tobacco products.

OHA has long advocated for meaningful policies which reduce health inequities faced by Native Hawaiians. Most recently, OHA spearheaded the State effort to codify “social determinants of health” through Act 155 (Reg. Sess. 2014) and require state agencies to take a holistic and systemic approach to addressing health disparities seen in Native Hawaiian and other communities. In furtherance of our strategic plan and advocacy efforts, we now seek to improve the conditions of Native Hawaiians by reducing substance abuse, including tobacco and nicotine products.

Smoking and tobacco use have had severe consequences for Native Hawaiians. For example, Native Hawaiian women have the highest rates of asthma in the State,<sup>1</sup> and exposure to tobacco smoke exacerbates such respiratory issues. Moreover, health data reveals that lung and bronchus cancers associated with tobacco use kill more kāne (31.3%) than any other form of cancer; this trend has remained steady since 1975.<sup>2</sup> Alarming, nearly one in five Native Hawaiians is a current smoker;<sup>3</sup> and Native Hawaiian youth are more likely than any other ethnic youth group in Hawai‘i to use electronic vaping products, with adolescent Native Hawaiian females comprising one in three vaping product users.<sup>4</sup>

E-cigarette use in particular has become “a major health concern” among youth nationwide, according to the United States Surgeon General. To address the skyrocketing rates of vaping in high schools and middle schools, the FDA has recently moved toward a ban on flavored e-cigarettes, menthol cigarettes, and flavored cigars. National advocacy

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<sup>1</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, HAUMEA—TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN WOMEN AND EMPOWERING WĀHINE WELL-BEING (2018).

<sup>2</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, KĀNEHŌ‘ĀLANI – TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN MEN (2017).

<sup>3</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, HAUMEA—TRANSFORMING THE HEALTH OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN WOMEN AND EMPOWERING WĀHINE WELL-BEING (2018).

<sup>4</sup> OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS, NATIVE HAWAIIAN DATA BOOK (2019).

is also prompting efforts to ban flavored tobacco products that are clearly marketed toward and popular among youths. By prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products, including e-cigarette "juice," **SB1009 SD2 HD2 will place Hawai'i at the lead of such efforts to protect children and adults alike, while promoting the well-being of the Native Hawaiian community and a healthier Hawai'i overall.**

Accordingly, OHA urges the Committee to **PASS** SB1009 SD2 HD2. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

From: mrahmer@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mealani Rahmer  
<mrahmer@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 9:14 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Mealani Rahmer  
Pahoa, HI 96778

From: tianaed@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Tiana Enos-Dano  
<tianaed@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:54 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Tiana Enos-Dano  
Hilo, HI 96720



From: cdeconto@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Courtney DeConto  
<cdeconto@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:52 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Courtney DeConto  
Waianae, HI 96792

From: richnehring@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rich Nehring  
<richnehring@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:49 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
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Sincerely,  
Rich Nehring  
Waikoloa, HI 96738

From: hmarkowitz4@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Howard Markowitz <hmarkowitz4@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:47 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Sincerely,  
Howard Markowitz  
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: brian.wu@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Brian Wu  
<brian.wu@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:42 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Brian Wu  
Honolulu, HI 96819

From: myhamooney@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Myah Mooney  
<myhamooney@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:28 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Myah Mooney  
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: melakapa1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Melalyn Kapali <melakapa1@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:23 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Recently, I found out that my son has been experimenting with vaping, and actually had to destroy his vaping tool. The idea that it has become more attractive for our youth to partake in an activity that can potentially kill them is dumbfounding. Flavored tobacco products only encourages younger children to try a highly addictive drug. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – it is clear who the target audience is for this supposedly "adult" product.

All sales of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Mela Kapali

Sincerely,  
Melalyn Kapali  
Kapaa, HI 96746

From: mmanera@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of maria lourdes manera  
<mmanera@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:21 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
maria lourdes manera  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

From: cherisse.fernandez@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cherisse Fernandez  
<cherisse.fernandez@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:21 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Cherisse Fernandez  
Kahului, HI 96733



From: rbejasa21@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Rizza Aurica Bejasa <rbejasa21@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:14 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Sincerely,  
Rizza Aurica Bejasa  
Honolulu, HI 96817

From: brookelz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Brooke Zarriello  
<brookelz@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:02 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Brooke Zarriello  
Hilo, HI 96720

From: mariahtranilla2016@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Mariah-Mae Tranilla  
<mariahtranilla2016@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:00 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

I am testifying in strong support of SB 1009 SD2 because recently one of my boy best friend started vaping by being influenced with the people he hang with. These days he has been becoming addicted to vaping, not only he is getting addicted to the nicotine but also to the flavors he has been smoking; such as strawberry, lemon, and icy pineapple. Students like him aren't aware of what these flavors do to their brain because it is still developing.

Tobacco product has been a huge cause of teens vaping in Hawaii. If we don't do nothing about it, many more teens will start smoking day by day by being influenced. By banning tobacco product, it will reduce the amount of teens vaping.

I urge the committee to pass SB 1009 SD2.

Sincerely,  
Mariah-Mae Tranilla

Sincerely,  
Mariah-Mae Tranilla  
Kapaa, HI 96746

From: cekmyim@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Christopher Yim  
<cekmyim@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 8:07 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Christopher Yim  
Honolulu, HI 96822

From: ps2128@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Patricia Stevens <ps2128@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:51 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Patricia Stevens  
Hilo, HI 96720

From: dneubert18@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Diane Neubert <dneubert18@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:47 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

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Sincerely,  
Diane Neubert  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

From: sissie.pittullo@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Sissie Pittullo  
<sissie.pittullo@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:24 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Sissie Pittullo  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

From: Isantos@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lorrie Santos  
<Isantos@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:13 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

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Sincerely,  
Lorrie Santos  
Kaneohe, HI 96744



From: jeanmorris808@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jean Morris <jeanmorris808@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:05 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Jean Morris  
Lihue, HI 96766

From: lisa.kakiuchi-gima@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Kakiuchi-Gima  
<lisa.kakiuchi-gima@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 7:00 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Lisa Kakiuchi-Gima  
Kahului, HI 96732

From: lenore\_garcia@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lenore Garcia  
<lenore\_garcia@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:48 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Lenore Garcia  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

From: isabella\_parsons@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Isabella Parsons  
<isabella\_parsons@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:38 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Isabella and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also am the president of the 9th grade.

I learned that over 90% of illegal e-juice purchases are successful. Minors are able to buy electronic smoking products (online) without any consequences.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Isabella Parsons  
Kapaa, HI 96746

From: leila\_ventar@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Leila Ventar  
<leila\_ventar@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:36 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

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We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Leila Ventar  
Lihue, HI 96766

April 2, 2019

**Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

**I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.**

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. **I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.**

Sincerely,  
*Jessica Cambra ~mother of 3 Maui boys*  
*101 Kealohilani Street*  
*Kahului HI 96732*  
*808-280-0055*

From: czeanagcaolli@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Czean Agcaolli  
<czeanagcaolli@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:18 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Czean Agcaolli and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also volunteer for Leo Club at Kauai High School.

I think it is important because I have a family member who got addicted to vaping due to the flavored juices. he had gotten caught and now that's on his record. I believe we should ban the sale of these cancer juices.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Czean Agcaolli  
Lihue, HI 96766

From: honmas@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Cynthia Honma  
<honmas@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:13 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

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Sincerely,  
Cynthia Honma  
Keaau, HI 96749



From: Zoe\_Carvalho@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Zoe Carvalho  
<Zoe\_Carvalho@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:11 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Zoe Carvalho and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also play volleyball and track on Kauai High School, I support March of Dimes every year.

If there was no flavored vape it would stop younger kids from vaping. Thinking it is just candy but they don't know there are serious consequences. Kids don't know the difference and might think the flavors are healthier than regular tobacco products.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Zoe Carvalho  
Lihue, HI 96766

From: calvin\_corpuz@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Calvin Corpuz  
<calvin\_corpuz@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 6:07 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha my name is Calvin and I am a 9th grader at Kauai High School. I also am a football player for Kauai High School.

I feel like if there wasnt flavored tobacco products that less people will vape and it will be safer. If there wasnt flavored tobacco products is the reason why kids vape.

The main reason people vape is because of the flavoring.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Calvin Corpuz  
Lihue, HI 96766

FIN-Jo

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From: skoanui@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Stacie Koanui Nefalar  
<skoanui@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 10:57 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Stacie Koanui Nefalar  
Lanai City, HI 96763

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Czean Agcaolli and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also volunteer for Leo Club at Kauai High School.

I think it is important because I have a family member who got addicted to vaping due to the flavored juices. He had gotten caught and now that's on his record. I believe we should ban the sale of these cancer juices.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Czean Agcaolli  
Lihue, HI 96766

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Amber Baxter and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also am a part of the Keala Foundation.

I have seen how tobacco has ruined peoples lives, KIDS are getting addicted to nicotine. Please help me change Hawaii.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Amber Baxter  
Kalaheo, HI 96741

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

The explosion of e-cigarette use among teenagers in our schools – not just high school students but also increasingly middle school students – is a true epidemic that is slowly addicting thousands of students to nicotine. Our state does not need a candy-flavored drug targeted precisely at creating new nicotine addicts for life.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Philip Bossert  
Honolulu, HI 96817

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

My name is David Cao and I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

Flavored tobacco products and e-cigarettes only serve as gateway products into using other tobacco products such as cigarettes and chew tobacco. The habits that our youth form from using these products will only allow them to transition easily to using other dangerous tobacco products.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
David Cao  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Members of the House Committee on Finance

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If there was no flavored vape it would stop younger kids from vaping. Thinking it is just candy but they don't know there are serious consequences. Kids don't know the difference and might think the flavors are healthier than regular tobacco products.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Zoe Carvalho  
Lihue, HI 96766



4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

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In Baldwin High School I have experienced numerous accounts of underage vaping. It is clear for anyone to see that the flavored e-liquid juice is to blame. The first thing kids ask is: What flavor is it? I have even heard students refuse to vape because the flavor of liquid did not appeal to them. Therefore, if all liquid were to taste foul kids would not vape. The taste is what matters to kids. The taste is what hooks kids.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Isabelle Collier  
Wailuku, HI 96793

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Mahalo,  
Calvin Corpuz  
Lihue, HI 96766

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

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Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Mekayla Finch and I am a 9th grader at Kauai High School. I also paddle got Kauai High and Niumalu Canoe Club.

We should ban flavored tobacco products because most high school students start smoking with flavored tobacco products. High School students are more likely to use flavored tobacco products if there are candy flavors. Speaking from experience, I have friends that use these products just because they like the flavors.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Mekayla Finch  
Koloa, HI 96756

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Patricia Fleck  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

Aloha,

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Maile Goo  
699-3772  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

My name is Kodie Kaina, im 13 years old in 8th grade at Kapaa Middle school. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

I am in strong support of the SB1009 because if it werent for the flavoring of the tobacco, i dont think i would have picked up a vape in the first place. You see, the flavoring is what drew me in and the nicotine is what kept me hooked. Luckily i was caught and had to go through the consequences which eventually got me to stop vaping all together. But now i see the lives of my friends and the little kids, who looked up to me, in the hands of flavored vape juice. All because of their favorite candy flavored E-juice is specifically advertised towards them. I dont want to see the life span of the children in Hawaii being shortened because of something that can be prevented. Do you?

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Kodie Kaina  
Lihue, HI 96766

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Recently, I found out that my son has been experimenting with vaping, and actually had to destroy his vaping tool. The idea that it has become more attractive for our youth to partake in an activity that can potentially kill them is dumbfounding. Flavored tobacco products only encourages younger children to try a highly addictive drug. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – it is clear who the target audience is for this supposedly "adult" product.

All sales of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Mela Kapali  
Kapaa, HI 96746

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

The use of E-cigs effect the development of the brain and also contain cancer causing chemicals. These flavored e-liquids make the young children of Hawai'i vulnerable to the toxicity in these items. We must do all we can to protect the keiki of our beautiful state, as they are the next generation. The passing of this bill could prevent young children to continue using electronic cigarettes.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Kayla Kanoë Kawamura  
Anahola, HI 96703



4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

As a pediatrician, I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Mae Kyono  
Honolulu, HI 96826

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

As a pediatrician and medical director of the Kapi'olani Smokefree Families Program, I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which prohibits the sale or distribution of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids and menthol cigarettes.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has strongly supported elimination of flavored tobacco products, including menthol. These products have been shown to be disproportionately used by young people, especially teenagers, as the menthol and other flavors make it easier to start using tobacco and nicotine.

These products are targeted towards our keiki with flavors such as cherry, raspberry, citrus, vanilla, chocolate, mint, and pineapple. The tobacco corporations have intentionally included menthol, which provides a soothing, cooling effect and is often seen in cough drops. Low doses of menthol in tobacco can reduce the painful and irritating effects on the lining of the nose, mouth, and airways, which allows smokers to inhale more easily. This makes it much easier for young people to initiate tobacco use.

Once young people are addicted to nicotine, it is extremely difficult to quit. By eliminating these products from Hawaii, we have the chance to improve the health of many, especially of our keiki.

On behalf of the keiki and young people of Hawaii, I urge you to pass SB1009 SD2 HD2.

Mahalo for your consideration and support of this important measure.

Sincerely,  
Bryan Mih, MD, MPH, FAAP  
Pediatrician  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Candy flavored tobacco products TARGET TEENS. these teen's brains are still developing and becoming addicted at this age can do serious damage and harm, not only to their brain but the rest of the body. All teenagers that vape have 3x the chance of smoking when they are older. Teens of all ages have been known to overdose on these products and stopping the sale of candy flavored products will make it more likely to avoid/quit vaping.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Pepper Page  
Hanapepe, HI 96716

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Gian and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I am also a member of the Kauai High School Key Club.

In flavoring, there is a two chemical diacetyl and pentanedone which are proven by science that can deteriorate lung tissue. in cigarettes there are 7,000 chemicals, 69 of those can cause cancer.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Gian-Carlo Panoy  
Lihue, HI 96766

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Aloha, my name is Isabella and I am in the 9th grade at Kauai High School. I also am the president of the 9th grade.

I learned that over 90% of illegal e-juice purchases are successful. Minors are able to buy electronic smoking products (online) without any consequences.

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Isabella Parsons  
Kapaa, HI 96746

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Maysyvelle Sistoza  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

Please support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Our children and grandchildren need your help! Many people don't realize that almost all aspects of electronic nicotine delivery systems (e-cigs) are controlled by TOBACCO companies. As we've learned the hard way, tobacco companies are extremely effective in addicting people, particularly our vulnerable teens. Don't be distracted by Big Tobacco's claims that e-cigs reduce harm or enhance tobacco cessation for those adults who are already smoking. Big Tobacco knows that most of these "quitters" will instead use their electronic versions.

But the real targets are the youngsters who don't smoke. Big Tobacco needs these new recruits to grow their market base, and Big Tobacco has been highly effecting Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Mahalo,  
Elizabeth Tam  
Honolulu, HI 96816

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

I am testifying in strong support of SB 1009 SD2 because recently one of my boy best friend started vaping by being influenced with the people he hang with. These days he has been becoming addicted to vaping, not only he is getting addicted to the nicotine but also to the flavors he has been smoking; such as strawberry, lemon, and icy pineapple. Students like him aren't aware of what these flavors do to their brain because it is still developing.

Tobacco product has been a huge cause of teens vaping in Hawaii. If we don't do nothing about it, many more teens will start smoking day by day by being influenced. By banning tobacco product, it will reduce the amount of teens vaping.

I urge the committee to pass SB 1009 SD2.

Sincerely,  
Mariah-Mae Tranilla  
Kapaa, HI 96746



4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Our state has one of the highest per capita uses of flavored tobacco products among middle school and high school students in the US. After the tremendous success of the Tobacco Free Coalition, the legislature, and many others in drastically reducing teen tobacco use in Hawaii, tobacco use among teens has made a drastic U-turn with the introduction and promotion by tobacco companies of flavored, "cool," e-cigarettes. These products have deliberately targeted children by adding many, many flavors with candy names like "Fruit Hoops", using colorful candy-like packaging directed toward children, and advertising that stresses good taste and smell of these products. In fact, the taste and packaging of flavored tobacco products are so enticing that young children have ingested the flavored juice with tragic results.

These electronic products were originally marketed as a safe way to wean off cigarettes. This assertion has no scientific evidence to back it up and misleads our keiki who feel that using ESP's is not only cool, but also safe. Ironically, tobacco companies have cynically taken advantage of gullible consumers by significantly increasing the nicotine concentration in the flavored "juices" so that new users are instantly hooked on nicotine, which is one of the most addicting substances known to man. This means that our keiki are rapidly becoming addicted to nicotine, instantly creating a life-long market for tobacco companies.

Unfortunately, the FDA has been slow to recognize the harmful potential of vaping despite frantic warnings from the American Academy of Pediatrics. Finally the head of the FDA has suggested some control of flavored ESP's in gas stations and convenience stores, which doesn't at all cover on line or tobacco store purchases, and there is no review of sales to minors until 2022. Also, flavored smokeless tobacco and hookah are not addressed. This is reminiscent of the long and difficult push to control tobacco sales, which was violently opposed by tobacco companies and their lobbyists. I am sure we all remember the insistence by Big Tobacco that there was no health risk from tobacco products.

It's also critical to include menthol cigarettes in the flavored tobacco ban. Menthol cigarettes are a popular starter product, as it has cooling properties that mask the harshness of tobacco smoke and nicotine. The tobacco industry has a long history of marketing menthol cigarettes to youth and vulnerable groups, such as the Native Hawaiian community, and has led to health disparities.

We must end the sale of candy-flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. I strongly support HB276 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Linda Weiner, MD  
Pediatrics  
Kauai

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
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Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Please protect Hawaii's youth from tobacco products.

Mahalo,  
James Yee  
Honolulu, HI 96821

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

It is crazy to think that kids are being enticed into thinking it's cool to smoke. Please do not allow the sale of flavored tobacco products, including the liquids.

Mahalo,  
Shelley Fey  
Honolulu, HI 96821

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

I have seen far too many of the youth I work with start vaping and they have no idea how harmful it is. I have seen it a lot in our Marshallese community especially!

Mahalo,  
Toni HAPI  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

As a citizen and registered nurse, I am concerned about the addictive properties of nicotine that leads to other mental or behavioral issues. The chemicals and level of nicotine in these products are dangerous to youth and their brain development. That is why the lure and addictive properties of nicotine being more desirable by flavoring is so dangerous as seen from the nationwide epidemic rise in use by youth even to elementary age is so alarming.

Sincerely,  
Gail Kim  
Mililani, HI 96789

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta? This legislation will remove the thousands of fruit and candy-flavored tobacco products and vaping e-liquids that are, tragically and somewhat immorally, addicting our keiki, including flavored smokeless tobacco and flavored cigars.

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
John A. H. Tomoso+  
Retired Social Worker and Episcopal Priest  
51 Ku'ula Street  
Kahului, Maui, HI 96732-2906  
john.a.h.tomoso@gmail.com  
808-280-1749

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Mahalo,  
Justin Allagonez  
Keaau, HI 96749

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Mahalo,  
Cherie Andrade  
Kailua, HI 96734



4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
Dennis Barger  
Kihei, HI 96753

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
Helen Barrow  
Wailuku, HI 96793

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
Judith Beaver  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Rizza Aurica Bejasa  
Honolulu, HI 96817

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Patricia Blair  
Kailua, HI 96734

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Mahalo,  
Stephanie Brandli  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Kevin Cassel  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Shay Chan Hodges  
Haiku, HI 96708



4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Derek Ching  
Honolulu, HI 96821

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Marie Cidera  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Alysha Cosier  
Pahoa, HI 96778

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Wilson Datario  
Pepeekeo, HI 96783

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Courtney DeConto  
Waianae, HI 96792

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Bob Dircks  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Tiana Enos-Dano  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Cherisse Fernandez  
Kahului, HI 96733



4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Lenore Garcia  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Robyn Hart  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Paul Ho  
Honolulu, HI 96814

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Cynthia Honma  
Keaau, HI 96749

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Tenaya Jackman  
Honolulu, HI 96815

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Mahalo,  
Lisa Kakiuchi-Gima  
Kahului, HI 96732

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Pualei Kaohelaulii  
Kekaha, HI 96752

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Michael Kellar  
Honolulu, HI 96821



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Mahalo,  
Christopher La Chica  
Mililani, HI 96789

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Mahalo,  
Jane Lakritz  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Mark Levin  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

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Mahalo,  
Noelle Lovesy  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
maria lourdes manera  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Howard Markowitz  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Tiffany Marquez  
Waianae, HI 96792

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Ryan McMillan  
Hilo, HI 96720



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Mahalo,  
Javier Mendez  
Honolulu, HI 96817

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Myah Mooney  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Jean Morris  
Lihue, HI 96766

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Hojung Nam  
Kihei, HI 96753

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Rich Nehring  
Waikoloa, HI 96738

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Diane Neubert  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Shelly Ogata  
Kurtistown, HI 96760

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Mahalo,  
Colette Oshiro  
Kailua, HI 96734



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Mahalo,  
Shilpa Patel  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Tyler Peterson  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Sissie Pittullo  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

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Mahalo,  
Mealani Rahmer  
Pahoa, HI 96778

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Mahalo,  
Amy Rice  
Honolulu, HI 96816

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Keisha Salvilla  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Lorrie Santos  
Kaneohe, HI 96744

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Anne Scharnhorst  
Wailuku, HI 96732



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Mahalo,  
Allison Seales  
Honolulu, HI 96817

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Mahalo,  
Diana M Shaw  
Lanai City, HI 96763

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Mahalo,  
Niloofar soltanipour  
Hilo, HI 96720

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Mahalo,  
Jill Stensrud  
Kapolei, HI 96707

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

To the House Committee on Finance

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Mahalo,  
Patricia Stevens  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Alan Trinh  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Leila Ventar  
Lihue, HI 96766

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
Jenny Welham  
Honolulu, HI 96816



4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
Brian Wu  
Honolulu, HI 96819

4/3/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
martha yamada  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/2/2019

RE: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Mahalo,  
Vince Yamashiroya  
Honolulu, HI 96814

4/2/2019

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Mahalo,  
Cassiopia Yamashita  
Wailuku, HI 96793

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Christopher Yim  
Honolulu, HI 96822

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Brooke Zarriello  
Hilo, HI 96720

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Beth Humphrey  
Lanai City, HI 96763

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
marie ilustrado  
Lanai City, HI 96763



4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
michael ilustrado  
Lanai City, HI 96763

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Stacie Koanui Nefalar  
Lanai City, HI 96763

4/3/2019

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Mahalo,  
Kaipu Seales  
Honolulu, HI 96817

FIN-Jo

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From: papanikolaoupeds@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Irene Papaconstadopoulos  
<papanikolaoupeds@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 11:56 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I am a Board Certified Pediatrician practicing in Maui, HI and I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

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Sincerely,  
Irene Papaconstadopoulos  
Kahului, HI 96732

FIN-Jo

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From: lisa.on.lanai@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lisa Galloway  
<lisa.on.lanai@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 11:48 AM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Lisa Galloway  
Lanai City, HI 96763

FIN-Jo

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From: kerriglickstein@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Kerri Glickstein  
<kerriglickstein@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 12:06 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
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Sincerely,  
Kerri Glickstein  
Lanai City, HI 96763

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 12:05:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dan Miyahira	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I oppose this bill because it does not differentiate vaping products from traditional cigar and pipe products. These are very different products. If the intent of this bill is to keep flavored vaping products out of the possession of children, it should not be worded so broadly as to include cigars and pipe tobacco, which are primarily used by adults. In addition, laws are already in place restricting the sales of any tobacco product to minors. Please enforce the laws already in place before passing a "feel good" law that infringes upon the right of a mature minded consumer to make decisions for themselves.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 12:07:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Uilani Kaina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

With the increase in popularity of electronic vaping devices, children are now, more susceptible to the experience of vaping. However, with the production of flavored tobacco and other new vaping products— “vaping” becomes even more popular. Thus, children as well as adults, see these flavored tobacco products as an in-trend kind of thing. With that said, in my opinion, flavored tobacco should be banned and illegal to use—as it makes children more vulnerable to tobacco and possibly even drugs. Therefore, I am in support of this bill.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 12:29:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Audrey Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to support SB1009. I don't think the young people realize the ramifications of e cigarettes. It was first introduced as a better alternative to real cigarettes, thinking that it would help them quit. Now that they are addicted to e cigarettes they cannot stop.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 12:46:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kanani Wond	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB1009 SD2 HD2 to ban the sale of flavored tobacco/nicotine products in the state of Hawaii.

More than ever before, thousands of teens and pre-teens are getting their hands on vaping devices and becoming first time smokers. You probably know a teen or two or three who owns a mod or vape pen. Really you just need to look outside to see a mod in hand and a big white cloud of smoke coming from the mouth of a babe. Whether teens think its cool or tasty, the truth is its also easy to obtain. Not only is it easy to obtain but its just as easy to hide. Much like a cell phone, Mods and pens fit perfectly in your hand, jacket pocket and school backpack. We all know how attached teens are to their phones?! Mods?! Vape pen?!

On top that, the Vape and Juul industry has managed to glamourize the activity of vaping through social media using propaganda targeting teen use by providing awesome flavors choices and innovative technology in their products. The latest of electronic products on the market today are digital and can give you the time,date, light up and make sounds, making this product extremely appealing to kids.

While the vape industry may have provided products with "less tobacco & nicotine " than traditional cigarettes, which is very appealing to adults, vaping and nicotine use among teens is on the raise. And theres nothing cool or tasty about that.

Mahalo,

Kanani Wond \* 808-392-8407 \* [usfiveguys@gmail.com](mailto:usfiveguys@gmail.com)

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 12:48:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
rysa lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I truly and whole heartedly support this because many teens and vaping at my high school called Waiakea High. They vape during class and recess and it really distracts their learning as well as mine because many people are sensitive to these chemicals and gives us headaches which takes away from my learning. I hope that this goes through because seeing teens being hooked on these flavors hurts them and everyone in the community.

## finance1 - Sean

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**From:** jamie\_hale@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Jamie Hale  
<jamie\_hale@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 3, 2019 12:49 PM  
**To:** FINtestimony  
**Subject:** Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Sincerely,  
Jamie Hale

Sincerely,  
Jamie Hale  
Lanai City, HI 96763

## finance1 - Sean

---

**From:** romeo\_eleno@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Romeo Eleno  
<romeo\_eleno@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 3, 2019 1:06 PM  
**To:** FINtestimony  
**Subject:** Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Romeo Eleno  
Lanai City, HI 96763

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:19:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dawn O'Brien	H.O.P.E. HI Foundation	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly, severely & sincerely SUPPORT BANNING the flavored tobacco products as weapons of mass destruction -- destroying Hawaii's youth & our future. Two in five High School students are using vape/JUUL & 1-in-4 Intermediate ... most do not have jobs which means they are stealing the money or selling it to other young kids to get the money. Furthermore, it causes addiction for more than just nicotine but higher levels of drugs/doses including THC (marijuana) & ice/heroine/crack/ecstasy you name it, it's there. Our keiki are on an accelerated path to destruction. And we already cannot afford the prison system now, how are you & I going to handle the tsunami of prisoners & rehabilitation programs supported by an un-functional society rendered so by starting at the early ages on addiction? Nine out of 10 Addicts confess to starting as a teenager, before the age of 18. Vaping causes popcorn lung & asthma that is irreversible. This further taxes the medical community & taxes that will be needed to pay for these things, human services & counseling that are already tapped out financially & staff-wise-- WHERE ARE WE GOING TO PAY FOR THIS? If we do not stop it now, while our kids are already overdosing & riding ambulances to the hospitals due to vaping, how are we going to pay for it in 5 years, 10 years or 20 years? PLEASE HELP US NOW & STOP THE SALE OF ILLEGALLY TARGETED NICOTINE PRODUCTS TO CHILDREN. They cannot decide for themselves as brain development, especially the pre-frontal cortex portion of the brain that makes logical decisions) is not fully developed until the age of 25. Let us raise up our children in the way that they should go and they will be able to help us when we are in our golden years TOGETHER. TY & ALOHA!

## finance1 - Sean

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**From:** ericalu2002@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Erica Lujan <ericalu2002@everyactioncustom.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 3, 2019 1:19 PM  
**To:** FINtestimony  
**Subject:** Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Erica Lujan  
Lanai City, HI 96763

FIN-Jo

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From: pracs@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Charles Racsa  
<pracs@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 12:25 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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Please read the following descriptions for locally-marketed nicotine liquids and salts:

UNKO's LYCHEE TREE ICE: "No more waiting for Lychee season. We stopped by Unko's house, climbed to the highest branch to pick the sweetest and ripest lychees, and bottled it up just for you!"

POG - "Indulge yourselves with a taste of paradise consisting of freshly blended exotic fruits such as passion fruit, oranges, and guava. The islands most popular drink has transformed into your next all day vape."

SWEET TARO CRUNCH CAKE - "The power of purple blended into an exquisite vaping experience. Our taro is combined with a rich, creamy vanilla custard to create a decadent and flavorful crunch cake!"

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular foods or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Charles Racsa  
Honolulu, HI 96819



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:32:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ashley Takitani Leahey	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

From: Idlindborg@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Loren Lindborg  
<Idlindborg@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 1:41 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

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We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Loren Lindborg  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:39:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jacob Robinson	Irie Hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:40:17 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
charmaine peralta	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I do not support the choice to remove flavored tobacco and the fight against liquid flavors. There is not going to be a win if you take it away, people will find other ways to obtain such flavored liquid or make their own and it would be a much riskier process.



Wellness & Lifestyle Medicine

Wellness & Lifestyle Medicine Center  
642 'Ulukahiki Street, Suite 105  
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734-4498  
Tel: 808.263.5050  
Fax: 808.263.5054

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019

The honorable representative, Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The honorable representative, Ty J.K. Cullen, Vice Chair  
And members of the finance committee

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1009, SD2, HD1 (HSCR 1373), relating to Flavored Tobacco Products**

I am a Tobacco Treatment Specialist with Adventist Health Castle. As I mentioned in the last hearing for this bill - I was 17 when I first tried vaping and 18 when I bought my first-generation e-cigarette online with no verification of my age or identity. Menthol, candy, and fruit flavors drew me to make my decision (as well as many of my friend's) to initiate vaping. The first bottle of e-juice I bought was menthol-melon and had **no nicotine at all**, meaning I tried it purely for flavor. This was the stepping stone for me to begin buying flavored e-juice with higher levels of nicotine than I ever intended, with no knowledge of the potential consequences. Everyone said it was harmless vapor. Marketed as more fun than cigarettes with none of the harm - I, like many 18-year-olds, wasn't informed or mature enough to question it.

I now realize the full extent of what nicotine addiction can do by perpetuating addictive behaviors, financial hardship, and chronic health consequences. Just this morning, we received news that the FDA is investigating 35 reports of seizures among teenagers using e-cigarettes, which is a known symptom of nicotine overdose. New generation e-cigarettes like Juul are far more powerful in administering nicotine than anything we have seen before. There is new evidence on vaping that points to increases in coughing, wheezing, and exacerbation of COPD in adolescents, as well as the presence of known cancer-causing chemicals. This is not what I intended to sign up for when I was 18 and deciding between watermelon and root beer e-juice.

If I hadn't gotten my education in chemical addiction, I would have remained hooked. Surveys show adolescents and young adults cite flavors as the main reason they vape. I know not all teens will choose to follow the same path as I did. I feel it is my duty to pass on my experience and keep Hawaii youth informed, protected, and on track for their bright futures.

Thank you for allowing me to testify. I strongly support this bill.

Gina Kaufman, BS  
Tobacco Treatment Specialist

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gina Kaufman", is written over the typed name and title.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:46:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Keanu Esser	Irie hawaii	Oppose	No

Comments:

i oppose this bill because adults should be able to chose to smoke whatever flavor they want.

**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:48:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mark Nakatsukasa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

SB1009, the proposed bill to ban flavored tobacco products to include electronic cigarettes, is gravely misguided. Any language concerning e-liquids or e-cigarettes should be removed from this legislation. E-cigarette flavors play an integral role in encouraging cigarette smokers to switch to and continue vaping. The big picture is **e-cigarettes provide a once in a lifetime opportunity to improve public health and save many lives**. In the rush to address the issue of youth access to e-cigarettes, you're forgetting about the welfare of the broader adult population in Hawaii. Surely that can't be your intent.

Like any age-restricted product, efforts to prevent youth access to e-cigarettes should focus on education, enforcement and laws to discourage the purchase, possession and use of these products by minors. For example, additional measures could include stepped-up retailer ID check audits, limits on bulk purchases and stronger consequences for those participating in "social access", where most youth obtain age-restricted products like e-cigarettes or alcohol from adults age 21 and over.

While e-cigarettes should not be used by anyone under 21, the assertion that nicotine harms the adolescent brain has not been proven by scientific evidence. This speculation was raised in the Surgeon General's 2016 report only after other failed efforts to demonize e-cigarettes. Nicotine is not very different from caffeine, and is being studied for its positive effects. Note that nicotine is also found in foods such as potatoes, eggplant and tomatoes.

The claim that youth vaping of e-cigarettes is a gateway to cigarette smoking is another myth, again with no evidence to support the assertion. In fact, the opposite is clearly true: the all-time lows in smoking coincide with and are directly attributable to the rise in vaping. Moreover, I personally know countless individuals who have switched from smoking to vaping, but I do not know anyone who has gone from vaping to smoking. Smokers attempt to quit over 30 times before succeeding; e-cigarettes are the most

effective smoking cessation products today. Note that in the United Kingdom, the government has actually endorsed e-cigarettes as a smoking cessation tool.

Unless the legislature is prepared to ban combustible cigarettes altogether, you should not ban flavored e-cigarettes because **e-cigarettes provide the best chance to avoid preventable death and disease from smoking**. People conflate them, but vaping electronic cigarettes could not be more different than smoking traditional cigarettes. Traditional cigarettes involve combustion; burning tobacco leaves creates tar and many carcinogens. It has been said that people “smoke for the nicotine, but die from the tar”. E-cigarettes, on the other hand, do not involve combustion. Many studies have demonstrated that vaping is a much safer alternative to smoking. The only thing cigarettes have in common with e-cigarettes is that both contain nicotine, which happens to be derived from the tobacco plant.

Vaping flavored e-cigarettes does not equate to smoking flavored cigarettes. Adult vaping of e-cigarettes is good; smoking traditional cigarettes is bad. Surely you understand the distinction between the fake and real cigarettes. Please take a step back and block out the misinformed panic and hysteria. Oppose SB1009 because the bill is in direct conflict with what’s best for Hawaii’s citizens.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.



**SB-1009-HD-2**

Submitted on: 4/3/2019 1:51:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/3/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Claudia Hartz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good Afternoon, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. I strongly support SB1009. I have children of my own. My youngest will be entering Kealakehe High School next year and I would like to see the ban of flavored tobacco in Hawaii. Children do not understand the consequences of the use of the flavored tobacco and the liquid that goes into the electronic smoking devices. Please ban flavored tobacco in Hawaii.

Claudia Hartz

From: rrosenbalmfabrao@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Robin Rosenbalm  
<rrosenbalmfabrao@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 2:00 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids.

Hawai'i is already experiencing a youth vaping epidemic. Studies have shown that 8 in 10 kids start with a flavored tobacco product. It's no coincidence that the rise in youth vaping has coincided with an explosion of sweet e-liquid flavors used to hook kids. With more than 15,500 flavors, these products are being irresponsibly marketed – who is the industry really targeting with flavors like Fruit Hoops, Sour Straws, or Cookie Monsta?

We must end the sale of flavored tobacco to protect our youth from a lifetime of addiction. The industry is promoting flavors that mimic popular food or candy to hide the fact that they contain nicotine and with more kids who were never smokers using these products, we have an urgent need to act. I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2 and ask you to pass this out of committee.

Sincerely,  
Robin Rosenbalm  
Lanai City, HI 96763

From: ikzablan16@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Lolani Zablan <ikzablan16@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 2:33 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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Sincerely,  
Lolani Zablan  
Lanai City, HI 96763

From: joslyn.sato@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Joslyn Sato  
<joslyn.sato@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 3:11 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Joslyn Sato  
Wahiawa, HI 96786

From: mkim22@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Minkyung Kim <mkim22@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 3:48 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Minkyung Kim  
Hilo, HI 96720

From: a.fukushima@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Andrea Maniago  
<a.fukushima@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 3:57 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

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The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

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Sincerely,  
Andrea Maniago  
Wailuku, HI 96793

finance1 - Sean

---

From: michele@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of Michele Weinhouse  
<michele@everyactioncustom.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 4:03 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: Strong Support of SB1009 SD2 HD2, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Dear House Committee on Finance,

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
The Honorable Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Finance

Hrg: April 3, 2019 at 2:30 PM at Capitol Room 308

I strongly support SB1009 SD2 HD2, which would end the sale of flavored tobacco products, including flavored e-liquids. I'm pleading with you as a former cancer researcher, mother of two and 6th grade math and science teacher. Please stop the sale of these flavored tobacco products. I'm so afraid to let me students go to the bathroom because I'm afraid they are vaping. I shouldn't be worried about this. Our students need our help. Let's not let them down, they are our future.

Sincerely,  
Michele Weinhouse  
Lanai City, HI 96763

finance1 - Sean

---

From: Freedom 2 Smoke <freedom\_2\_smoke@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, April 3, 2019 4:34 PM  
To: FINtestimony  
Subject: STRONG OPPOSITION TO SB 1405 and SB 1009

Cancer is not exclusive to smokers.



VOTE NO!





Keep It Flowing LLC  
3347 Kalua Road  
Honolulu, HI 96816

To whom it may concern,

Youth vaping is an epidemic in the state of Hawai'i. I am a artist and CEO of a company who paints murals in public schools. I have spoken to many educators and administrative staff regarding the flagrant usage of electronic smoking devices (ESD) during school as well as the countless stories of confiscation and arrest due to vaping usage and paraphernalia per school. I've also heard numerous students speaking on how good certain flavors are and how they encourage their peers to partake at every school we paint. I can't imagine how wide spread the usage of ESD are outside of school hours.

Within the past 7 months I have visited 6 public schools to paint murals in awareness and prevention of vaping in collaboration with our partner Hawai'i Public Health Institute. Our vaping prevention initiative has been acknowledged by all counties through proclamations we have received.

The Senate Bill 1009 prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products in the state of Hawai'i is urgently needed for our state.

Mahalo,

CEO, Founder  
Ken Nishimura  
(808)206-0345

Keep It Flowing, LLC.

[www.keepitflowingmedia.com](http://www.keepitflowingmedia.com)

[info@keepitflowingmedia.com](mailto:info@keepitflowingmedia.com)