We support:

- **House Bill 003/Senate Bill 233**: Business Regulation – Flavored Tobacco Products – Prohibition
- **Senate Bill 054**: Electronic Smoking Devices – Added Flavoring – Prohibition on Shipping, Import, or Sale
- **Senate Bill 410**: Electronic Smoking Devices – Flavor Prohibition

The MDAAP strongly supports HB003/SB233, SB054, and SB410 which prohibit the manufacturing, shipping, importation or sale of tobacco products with taste or smell of fruit, mint, candy, or other non-tobacco flavors.

**Electronic cigarette (e-cigarette) use is high and increasing in children and adolescents**

- Since 2014, e-cigarettes are the most commonly used tobacco products among children and adolescents.¹
- US Data: Among US high school students, current e-cigarette use (defined as greater than 0 uses in past 30 days) increased from 1.5% (220,000 students) in 2011 to 20.8% (3.05 million students) in 2018.²
- Maryland Data: According to the 2018 Maryland Youth Risk Tobacco Survey, 23% of youth under 18 years stated they had used an electronic vapor product in the past 30 days.³

**Flavorings contribute to increase use of e-cigarettes in children and adolescents**

- Flavors, including menthol, mint and fruit flavors, conceal the taste of harmful nicotine.
- Adolescents perceive that e-cigarettes with flavors are less harmful than those with tobacco flavors.⁴

**E-Cigarette solution and vaping aerosol contain many ingredients particularly harmful to youth**

- **Nicotine**
  - Major psychoactive component of e-cigarette solution that is highly addictive and can have lasting damaging effects on adolescent brain development.⁵
  - Addiction may be stronger and more difficult to quit the earlier in childhood a person uses nicotine-containing products.⁵
- **Flavorings**: Flavoring agents such as diacetyl are linked to airway damage.⁶
- **Other toxicants found in vaping aerosols**: volatile organic compounds, fine and ultrafine particles, and heavy metals.⁷

**E-cigarettes put youth at risk for use of harmful traditional cigarettes**

- E-cigarette use has been shown to be associated with greater risk for subsequent cigarette smoking initiation and past 30-day cigarette smoking.⁸
E-cigarettes are associated with dangerous lung injury: E-cigarette or vaping products use-associated lung injury (EVALI)

- **Significance in youth population:** Among the 2,668 hospitalized EVALI cases or deaths reported to CDC (as of January 14, 2020), 15% of patients were under 18 years old.\(^9\)
- **Occurs in e-cigarette users with exclusive use of nicotine-containing products:** Among the 2,022 hospitalized patients who had data on substance use (as of January 14, 2020), 14% reported exclusive use of nicotine-containing products.\(^9\)

**Bottom line:** E-cigarettes are a major public threat and flavorings in e-cigarettes contribute to their appeal, use, and harm. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends in its Policy Statement on “E-Cigarettes and Similar Devices” that all flavors, including menthol, be banned in e-cigarettes.\(^5\)

References:

\(^1\)https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/adolescent-development/substance-use/drugs/tobacco/trends/index.html
\(^3\)https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/ccdpc/Reports/Documents/2018%20YRBS%20YTS%20Reports/Maryland/2018MDH%20Detail%20Tables.pdf
\(^7\)https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/Quick-Facts-on-the-Risks-of-E-cigarettes-for-Kids-Teens-and-Young-Adults.html
\(^8\)Soneji et al. Association between initial use of e-cigarettes and subsequent cigarette smoking among adolescents and young adults: A systematic review and meta-analysis.
\(^9\)https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/severe-lung-disease.html#latest-information

Prepared by the Maryland Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics – www.mdaap.org
1211 Cathedral Street, 3rd Floor, Baltimore, MD, 21201
Office: 410-878-9702 – Fax: 410-649-4131
Loretta I. Hoepfner, MSOD – Executive Director – loretta@mdaap.org
Like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/Maryland-Chapter-American-Academy-of-Pediatrics-122534764459078/
Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/MarylandAAP
MDAAP’s Mission: “To support and encourage pediatricians in the promotion of optimal health for all of Maryland’s children and adolescents.”
70 Years of Caring for Children – 1950-2020