

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALTH
SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT

RESOLUTION #10-05

RE: Support and Encourage Restricting the Sale and Distribution of Electronic Cigarettes to Minors, Use of Electronic Cigarettes by Minors

This measure would request that jurisdictions in Spokane County adopt policies prohibiting the sale and distribution of electronic cigarettes and their component parts to minors.

WHEREAS, electronic cigarettes are rechargeable, battery-operated drug delivery devices that look similar to cigarettes and allow the user to inhale a smokeless vapor often containing nicotine; Electronic cigarettes are also known as e-cigarettes, e-cigs, vapors, electronic nicotine delivery systems and ENDS; and

WHEREAS, electronic cigarettes and their component liquids are not regulated by any government agency, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and therefore there is no assurance that the product or its components are safe.

WHEREAS, the chemical nicotine is classified as a drug due to its stimulative, sedative and addictive qualities; and

WHEREAS, extended exposure to nicotine results in tolerance, requiring escalating doses of the drug to receive the desired stimulation; and

WHEREAS, withdrawal symptoms from nicotine include cognitive and attention defects, cravings, inability to sleep, and sleep disturbance; and

WHEREAS, the known clinical trials and studies related to electronic cigarettes are limited and thus is additional cause for concern regarding safety; and

WHEREAS, minors who have never smoked, and other nicotine-naïve minors, may be drawn to the uniqueness of the electronic cigarette and its liquid “flavors,” and may become addicted to nicotine.

WHEREAS, electronic cigarette producers market their product to children by utilizing shopping mall kiosks and locations frequented by children; and

WHEREAS, these marketing efforts tout unsubstantiated claims, which is similar to previous attempts to entice children to use nicotine products.

WHEREAS, a study published in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute found that teens were more likely to be influenced to smoke by cigarette marketing than by peer pressure¹. Similarly, a study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that as much as one-third of underage experimentation with smoking was attributable to tobacco company marketing efforts²; and

WHEREAS, electronic cigarettes and related marketing efforts may increase the number of young smokers; and

WHEREAS, even though they have the authority, no jurisdiction in Spokane County currently restricts the sale of electronic cigarettes (or component parts) to minors.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Spokane County jurisdictions to protect children from these products.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health supports and encourages the jurisdictions in Spokane County to adopt ordinances that

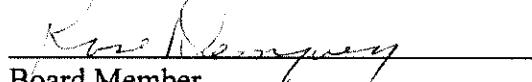
1. prohibit the
 - sale and distribution of electronic cigarettes and their component parts to minors,
 - marketing of electronic cigarettes and their component parts to minors,
 - use of electronic cigarettes and their component parts by minors,
 - unsubstantiated claims by retailers about electronic cigarettes and their component parts and
2. facilitate the effective enforcement of the aforementioned prohibitions regarding electronic cigarettes and their component parts.

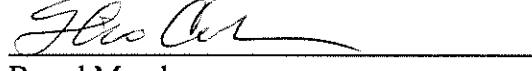
Further, the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health supports and encourages the jurisdictions in Spokane County to seek advice from the Spokane Regional Health District staff when scripting ordinances regarding electronic cigarettes and their component parts

Signed this 23rd day of September, 2010 in Spokane, Washington.

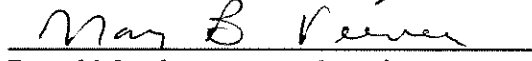
SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH



Board Member

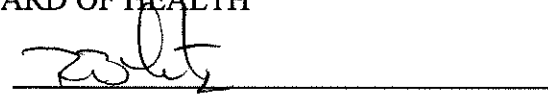

Board Member

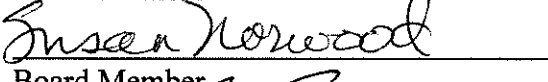

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¹ Evans N, et al., "Influence of Tobacco Marketing and Exposure to Smokers on Adolescent Susceptibility to Smoking," *Journal of the National Cancer Institute* 87(20):1538-1545, October 18, 1995.

² Pierce, JP, et al., "Tobacco Industry Promotion of Cigarettes and Adolescent Smoking," *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA)* 279(7):511-515, February 18, 1998.