**OHIO STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION HOUSE OF DELEGATES**

**Resolution No. 13 – 2020**

**Introduced by:** OSMA Medical Student Section

**Subject:** Combating the Vaping Epidemic and Vaping-Associated Lung Injuries

**Referred to:** Resolutions Committee No. 1

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**WHEREAS**, As of January 14, 2020, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has reported 2,668 instances of e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury (EVALI) from all 50 states, with 60 deaths in 27 states and the District of Columbia1; and

**WHEREAS**, The CDC determined that the additive vitamin E acetate was present in all submitted bronchoalveolar lavage samples in 29 patients hospitalized for EVALI, and counterfeit or black-market THC cartridges were involved in up to 82% of injuries1,2; and

**WHEREAS**, There have been 95 cases of e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury in Ohio, with a median age of 25 years and a lower age limit of 15 years3; and

**WHEREAS**, Vaping incidents in Ohio schools have increased by approximately 700% since 20164; and

**WHEREAS**, Citing flavoring as a reason for E-cigarette use is more prevalent among the 18-24 years age demographic than among older adults5; and

**WHEREAS**, Flavored E-cigarette use more strongly predicts cigarette smoking susceptibility than plain E-cigarette use among youth non-cigarette smoking users6; and

**WHEREAS**, State spending on tobacco prevention and cessation programs in Ohio was 11.2% of the CDC-recommended level as of FY20197; and

**WHEREAS**, The OSMA supports restrictions on the purchase and use of E-cigarettes by minors and promotes research into health risks of these devices; and

**WHEREAS**, The OSMA currently supports American Medical Association (AMA) policy H-495.973 regarding E-cigarette advertising targeting minors and expansion of FDA authority over E-cigarettes and associated products; and

**WHEREAS**, Recent AMA policies H-495.972 and H-495.986 support further clinical and epidemiological research on E-cigarettes and education of the public on health effects, and supports coordination with the Surgeon General and FDA to stop E-cigarettes from reaching youth; **therefore be it**

**RESOLVED**, That the OSMA supports AMA policies H-495.972 and H-495.986; and, **be it further**

**RESOLVED**, That the OSMA advocates for stricter regulation of substances linked to vaping-associated lung injury; and, **be it further**

**RESOLVED**, That the OSMA advocates for a restriction of sale of E-cigarette flavors that appeal particularly to minors; and, **be it further**

**RESOLVED**, That the OSMA supports expanding the warning label on e-cigarettes to include health safety information regarding non-commercial cartridges and association of non-nicotine containing e-cigarette use with if the literature indicates the compounds in the product are associated with lung injury.

**Fiscal Note:** $ 50,000+ (Sponsor)

$ 50,000 (Staff)

1. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Outbreak of Lung Injury Associated with the Use of E-Cigarette, or Vaping, Products. Available at https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic\_information/e-cigarettes/severe-lung-disease.html. 2020, Accessed January 18, 2020.
2. Blount BC, Karwowski MP, Morel-Espinosa M, et al. Evaluation of Bronchoalveolar Lavage Fluid from Patients in an Outbreak of E-cigarette, or Vaping, Product Use–Associated Lung Injury — 10 States, August–October 2019. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*;68. Epub ahead of print 2019. DOI: 10.15585/mmwr.mm6845e2.
3. Ohio Department of Health. Severe Pulmonary Illness Linked to Vaping. *Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation*. Available at https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/know-our-programs/tobacco-use-prevention-and-cessation/news-and-events/. Accessed January 18, 2020.
4. Haeberle B. Vaping has increased 700% in Ohio schools since 2016. *WBNS-10TV*. Available at https://www.10tv.com/article/vaping-has-increased-700-ohio-schools-2016-2019-nov. 2019, Accessed January 18, 2020.
5. Patel D, Davis KC, Cox S, et al. Reasons for current E-cigarette use among U.S. adults. *Prev Med* 2016;93:14–20.
6. Chen JC, Das B, Mead EL, et al. Flavored E-cigarette Use and Cigarette Smoking Susceptibility among Youth. *Tob Regul Sci* 2017;3:68–80.
7. American Lung Association. *State of Tobacco Control 2019*. Available at https://www.lung.org/our-initiatives/tobacco/reports-resources/sotc/state-grades/. Accessed January 18, 2020.

**Relevant OSMA Policy**

**Policy 02 – 2015 – Standardizing Physicians’ Stance toward Electronic Cigarettes**

1. The OSMA supports both a ban on sales of e-cigarettes to minors and a prohibition on the consumption of e-cigarettes by minors.

2. The OSMA supports AMA Policy H-495.973.

3. The OSMA encourages more research into the potential health risks associated with e-cigarettes.