



## **Resolution of the Tooele County Board of Health Urging the State Legislature to Protect the Public Against the Dangers of Electronic Cigarettes in Utah**

**WHEREAS**, electronic cigarettes cause harm to personal health;

**WHEREAS**, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration recommends against all electronic cigarette use;

**WHEREAS**, Utah students are significantly more likely to use electronic cigarettes or vape products than any other tobacco product;

**WHEREAS**, the use of electronic cigarettes in Tooele County nearly doubled in students from 2017 to 2019. Students grades 6, 7, and 8 past 30-day vaping usage went from 4.8% in 2017 and increased to 7.4% in 2019; students grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 past 30-day vaping usage went from 11.6% in 2017 and increased to 19.7% in 2019;

**WHEREAS**, nicotine use during adolescence can disrupt brain development and affect attention, learning and susceptibility to addiction;

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, teen nicotine vaping more than triples the likelihood a teen will use marijuana;

**WHEREAS**, it is well known that open electronic cigarette systems are used to vape many legal and illegal substances, and potentially harmful substances;

**WHEREAS**, tobacco tax increases are one of the most effective ways to reduce smoking and other tobacco use, especially in youth. Nationally, every 10% increase in cigarette prices reduces youth smoking by about 7%;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Tooele County Board of Health urges the Utah State Legislature to take the following actions in an effort to protect the health of the youth in our communities and address the electronic cigarette problem:

1. Create an excise tax for electronic cigarette devices and products and use the tax revenue to fund prevention and enforcement efforts;
2. Require that all flavored electronic cigarette products be sold only in permitted tobacco specialty retail businesses, or in the alternative ban all flavored electronic cigarette products.
3. Increase the age to purchase electronic cigarette products to 21;
4. Clarify that a general tobacco retailer must not appear to be a tobacco specialty retail store on the exterior by the name and advertising present, or on the interior with the focus being

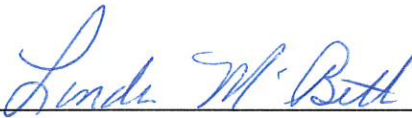
on tobacco products and a preponderance of tobacco paraphernalia and promotional materials;

5. Require that tobacco retailers provide the customer with an itemized receipt for each sale of a tobacco product, an electronic cigarette product, or a nicotine product and maintain an itemized transaction log that separately identifies, for each sale of a tobacco product, an electronic cigarette product, or a nicotine product;
6. Prohibit the sale of any electronic cigarette device or product for an amount less than the cost of the product to the manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer;
7. Prohibit the internet sale of electronic cigarette devices and products;
8. Give schools explicit authority to confiscate and destroy any electronic cigarette device and/or product found on school property regardless of who owns the device or product.

Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2020

**TOOELE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

By



Linda McBeth, Chair

Attest:

By



Jeff Coombs, Executive Director/Health Officer  
Tooele County Health Department