

Dear Committee Members,

I'm am writing you to urge you to please vote NO on HB 4115 to ban the use of electronic cigarettes in places where smoking is prohibited.

While this bill does aim at protecting public health and safety concerns, smoking bans are enacted to protect the public from the harm of secondhand smoke. E-cigarettes have not been shown to cause harm to bystanders. In fact, all evidence to date shows that the low health risks associated with e-cigarettes are comparable to other smokeless nicotine products. Most importantly, e-cigarettes should not be lumped in with smoking, because it *is not smoking*.

I quit smoking nearly a year ago by utilizing an e-cigarette device, and I have personally met hundreds of people who have experienced the same success. Banning the use of electronic cigarettes in non-smoking areas can cause smokers and non-smokers alike to believe that the harm in using e-cigarettes is similar to smoking tobacco cigarettes. This may discourage smokers from making a change to far less harmful nicotine delivery device.

Vapor is easy to distinguishable from smoke in regard to both appearance and odor. Cigarette smoke lingers, stinks, and causes second-hand harm, whereas vapor can often be practically odorless and often times pleasant smelling, and it does not linger in the air or saturate walls, furniture and clothing like smoke does. It is also important to ensure that business owners' freedom of choice is protected and they are allowed to make their own decisions whether to allow electronic cigarette use in their establishment at their discretion.

Again, I ask you to please vote NO on HB 4115 so that unnecessary restrictions are not placed on electronic cigarettes. I invite you to please visit the website [CASAA.org](http://CASAA.org) for additional studies and information about the positive influence these devises are making toward public health and helping people quit smoking tobacco cigarettes.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tessa Lepley  
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