



# GASP

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February 7, 2014

Dear Sonya,

Thank you for contacting Global Advisors on Smokefree Policy regarding Representative Phil Barnhart's bill to restrict the use of electronic smoking devices by minors, inside public places, workplaces, and vehicles transporting children.

The majority of the scientific and public health community encourage restricting their use in public places and workplaces, and increasing the age of sale to 21 for all tobacco products including e-cigarettes (see attached list of jurisdictions that ban the use, and list that bans the sale up to age 21).

Regarding the position of the author of the letter you received: Many of their arguments mirror a leading electronic cigarette advocacy organization, CASAA. CASAA's website outreaches to users and shop owners to contact state legislators that are considering electronic cigarette legislation.

Here is the CASAA link on their call to action for Oregon legislators:  
<http://blog.casaa.org/2014/02/call-to-action-oregon-e-cigarette-usage.html>.

In fact, the letter refers to the Drexel study, which was funded by CASAA; that study is supportive of e-cigarettes. To the contrary, numerous studies unaffiliated with the tobacco or e-cigarette industries show health concerns with e-cigarette usage and exposure to the vapor smoke.

Although e-cigarettes are relatively new compared to traditional tobacco products, preliminary studies show dangerous toxins in the vapor smoke that third parties are exposed to, which can negatively impact a person's health (see attached list of studies).

Back in 2009, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found that products they tested contained toxins and carcinogens, and expressed concern about their safety.

Newer studies suggest that e-cigarettes release emissions containing volatile organic compounds and fine particulate matter, which are associated, in large enough concentrations, with respiratory problems. Researchers at University of California Riverside

conducted tests on e-cigarettes bought from San Diego drugstores. When the electronic cigarette liquid was spun inside a centrifuge, researchers found that a small metal pellet was created. These researchers were concerned about the very small nanoparticles of tin in the sample. This study is referred to in the attachment.

The e-cigarette industry allegedly claims that their products are a tool to quit using traditional cigarettes. In 2010, the WHO organized a global panel of experts to review the evidence and there is no evidence to show that it can help you quit smoking, with e-cigarette users also smoking conventional cigarettes (see [http://www.njgasp.org/Phillippines\\_WHO\\_ecigs\\_warning\\_7-4-13.pdf](http://www.njgasp.org/Phillippines_WHO_ecigs_warning_7-4-13.pdf)).

Futhermore, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, a prestigious and respected global cancer research institute, published a study in the journal *Nicotine and Tobacco Research*, finding "significant amounts of nicotine" emitted in 2ndhand e-cigarette vapor smoke. This raises concerns about vapor smoke exposure, especially to vulnerable populations including children, pregnant women and people with cardiovascular conditions. The industry and users tends to taut that their products only contain nicotine and water. Studies show that consumption of and exposure to nicotine vapors can be hazardous not only to the user but to a third party. Details are in the attachment as well.

Thank you in advance and if you are in need of further technical assistance, please contact either me or our Executive Director, Karen Blumenfeld, Esq. If you can keep us apprised of the bill's progress (hearing dates, outcomes, etc.) We'd greatly appreciate it.

Lastly, we are available to speak with local or state media in Oregon. If you field any media, feel free to refer the reporter to us so we can provide expert information too.

Best regards,  
Cara Ann Murphy, Esq.  
Program and Policy Attorney