

My name is Kieron Haney and I live in Irrigon, OR. I smoked for 38 years and would have continued to do so until it killed me. I had no intention of quitting and thought I was a hopeless case until I tried my first electronic cigarette. I am now within days of being three years tobacco free. I didn't seem to suffer many ill effects from smoking but believe my day of reckoning was coming. I do however remember getting terrible colds a couple of times every winter that would last for weeks. Since making the switch to e-cigs I have only had one very mild case of the sniffles for a couple days that first year.

I admit I never tried nicotine replacement therapy. I felt that no approved form of NRT would have helped me because the hand to mouth motion which is also part of the addiction would not have been addressed. Another reason was that to my knowledge NRT's have an abysmal success rate. From my own experience I believe that if e-cigs are used as NRT success is much more likely. I'm sorry to say the FDA, tobacco and pharmaceutical companies all have a vested interest in keeping people addicted to tobacco. All indications at this early stage of investigation are that vapor from e-cigs is at the very least orders of magnitude less harmful than smoking. If you truly want to help people end their addiction to tobacco I urge you to educate yourself by visiting the CASAA Research Library (<http://casaa.org/Documents.html>) and other unbiased sources of information.

In the meantime I ask that you stand in opposition to HB 4115. Legislation that interferes with adult access to and/or use of electronic cigarettes robs Oregonians of a much safer alternative to tobacco.

Thank you,
Kieron Haney
1295 NE Main
Irrigon, OR 97844