

ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES AND UTAH'S YOUTH
Position Statement
(Adopted: January 22, 2015)

- WHEREAS, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) – also known as Electronic Cigarettes (E-Cigarettes), vapes, or vape pens – may contain nicotine, a highly addictive substance;^{1,2} and,
- WHEREAS, Nicotine has immediate bio-chemical effects on the brain and body, is toxic in concentrated doses, and has been known to affect the youth brain disproportionately;^{3,4} and,
- WHEREAS, The FDA has found that the inhaled and second-hand vapor created by ENDS contain a number of chemical compounds which are suspected of being harmful to humans while the health effects of the long term routine inhalation of the vapor is unknown;^{5,6} and,
- WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) National Youth Surveys indicate that youth usage of ENDS have doubled from 2011 to 2012;⁷ and,
- WHEREAS, Between 2011 and 2013, the percentage of 8th, 10th and 12th graders in Utah using ENDS has tripled; with 6% of survey students reporting being regular users of these products, while only 3.8% smoke cigarettes;^{8,9,10} and,
- WHEREAS, Utah youth use data shows that 31.7% of students that report ever using an ENDS say that they have never tried a conventional cigarette, thus raising concern that these devices could serve as a entry to nicotine addiction;¹¹ and,
- WHEREAS, ENDS liquid come in more than 7700 flavors, many of which are fruit and candy flavors (such as cherry, chocolate, cheesecake, bubble gum, gummy bear or mocha) and are advertised with celebrities and music that are appealing to youth;^{12,13,14} and,
- WHEREAS, There are currently no federal restrictions that would prevent the sale or advertising of e-cigarettes to minors;^{15,16} and,
- WHEREAS, The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has banned such marketing techniques and advertising of traditional tobacco products, yet there is no such ban on advertising of ENDS;¹⁷ and,
- WHEREAS, There are currently no state restrictions that require licensure to sell ENDS;¹⁸ and,
- WHEREAS, There is no regulatory oversight of the chemical or electronic manufacturing processes of these devices which could lead to contaminations, poisonings or explosions;^{19,20} and,
- WHEREAS, The CDC reports phone calls to poison control centers related to toxic levels of nicotine exposure has increased from 1 per month in September of 2010 to more than 200 per month in February of 2014;²¹ and,

WHEREAS, Between 2011 and 2014, the Utah Poison Control Center reported a 350% increase in children being poisoned by electronic cigarette products –increasing from 6 in 2011 and rising to 72 in 2013;^{22,23} now, therefore be it

Resolved, That Utah PTA support effective FDA efforts to regulate ENDS as tobacco products; and, be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA seek and support legislation that would include ENDS in the Utah Code Annotated definition of tobacco products and treat them as such – including the need for licensing, sales restrictions, tax parity, and marketing; and, be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA support state and local ordinances that appropriately address regulations of ENDS products; and, be it further

Resolved, That Utah PTA support the position that any revenue generated through taxation of ENDS should support tobacco cessation and prevention programs; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Utah PTA work in collaboration with state and local health departments, school boards, school districts, and other agencies to educate youth, parents, communities, and local elected officials on the dangers of ENDS products; and, be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to National PTA for consideration at their convention.

Documentation:

^{1,4,5,7,8,13}“Notes from the Field: Electronic Cigarette Use Among Middle and High School Students – United States, 2011-2012.” Center for Disease Control and Prevention. <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6235a6.htm>. 6 Sep 2013. Web. 6 Jan 2015.

^{2,11,12,15,18}“Tobacco Prevention and Control in Utah, Fourteenth Annual Report.” Utah Department of Health. <http://www.tobaccofreeutah.org/pdfs/tpcpfy14report2.pdf>. (August 2014). Web. 6 Jan 2015.

³“Smoking and Youth.” Center for Disease Control and Prevention. http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/sgt/50th-anniversary/pdfs/fs_smoking_youth_508.pdf. (2014). Web. 6 Jan 2015.

^{6,14,19}“American Lung Association Statement on E-Cigarettes.” American Lung Association. <http://www.lung.org/stop-smoking/tobacco-control-advocacy/federal/e-cigarettes.html>. 25 Aug 2014. Web. 7 Jan 2015.

⁹“Utah e-cigarette retailers set new standards as use triples among youth.” Bramwell, Adam. Salt Lake Tribune. <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/56940723-78/utah-cigarettes-cigarette-frazier.html.csp>. 1 Oct 2013. Web. 6 Jan 2015.

¹⁰“Utah Health Status Update: Electronic Cigarette Use Among Utah Students (Grades 8, 10, and 12) and Adults.” Utah Department of Health. http://health.utah.gov/opha/publications/hsu/1312_ECig.pdf. December 2013. Web. 9 Jan 2015.

^{16,17,20}“Electronic Cigarettes.” U.S. Food and Drug Administration. <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/PublicHealthFocus/ucm172906.htm>. 11 Aug 2014. Web. 7 Jan 2015.

²¹“Notes from the Field: Calls to Poison Control Centers for Exposure to Electronic Cigarettes – United States, Sep 2010-Feb 2014.” Center for Disease Control and Prevention. http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6313a4.htm?s_cid=mm6313a4_w. 4 Apr 2014. Web. 6 Jan 2015.

²²“E-cigarettes...Poison Exposure on the Rise.” Utah Poison Control Center. <http://poisoncontrol.utah.edu/publiced/pdfs/spring14.pdf>. Spring/Summer 2014. Web. 7 Jan 2015.

²³Utah Poison Control Center. 350% increase in children being poisoned by e-cigs.” Good4Utah.com. <http://www.good4utah.com/story/d/story/utah-poison-control-center-350-increase-in-children/42155/B2z17bEhF0y66jdreW6a4g>. 12 Aug 2014. Web. 7 Jan 2015.