



**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Resolution # 15-01

A RESOLUTION calling on Washington State to adopt legislation that restricts youth possession and public use of electronic vapor devices.

WHEREAS, electronic vapor devices, commonly referred to as electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes, are battery operated devices, some of which closely resemble cigarettes and can be used as a delivery device for nicotine or other drugs; and

WHEREAS, nicotine is a highly addictive, fast acting, and potentially harmful drug known to negatively affect the arteries, heart, and brain; and

WHEREAS, electronic vapor devices and their component liquids (often known as e-liquid or e-juice) are not regulated by any government agency, including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and therefore lack assurance that the products, components, and second hand vapors are safe; and

WHEREAS, electronic vapor devices have a strong appeal to youth due to their high technology design and availability in child-friendly flavors; and

WHEREAS, Electronic Vapor Device use is increasing:

- In 2014, a national study found the number of never-smoking youth who used e-cigarettes increased from 79,000 in 2011 to more than 263,000 in 2013.
- In 2012 in Washington State, 6.7% of seniors reported using electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days.
- In 2012 in ESD 123, 5.8% of 1,164 high school seniors survey reported using electronic cigarettes in the past 30 days (<http://www.askhys.net/Reports>).

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Washington State to protect children and bystanders from these products.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Benton-Franklin Board of Health supports and encourages Washington State to adopt legislation that:

- Prohibits possession of electronic vapor devices and e-liquids by minors; and
- Prohibits the use of electronic vapor devices in any place where smoking is prohibited per RCW 70.160 (Smoking in Public Places).

Dated 18th day of February, 2015


Chairman of the Board


Public Health District Administrator

