

SUBJECT: Electronic Nicotine Delivery Device (E-cigarette) Use in Youth
SUBMITTED BY: Michigan Association of Osteopathic Family Physicians
REFERRED TO: 2017 ACOFP Congress of Delegates

RESOLUTION NO. 21

1 WHEREAS, evidence of the growing popularity of e- cigarettes among youth is supported by findings from the
2 National Youth Tobacco Survey, conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC),
3 which show that the percentage of e-cigarette use among middle and high school students doubled
4 from 2011 to 2012, and that 1.8 million middle and high school students said they had tried e-
5 cigarettes in 2012; and
6
7 WHEREAS, in 2015, as evidenced in a Surgeon General report, more than 3 million youth in middle and high
8 school including, about 1 of every 6 high school students used e-cigarettes in the past month and more
9 than a quarter of youth in middle and high school have tried e-cigarettes; and
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11 WHEREAS, the nicotine in e-cigarettes, as in all tobacco products, is highly addictive, can be toxic in high
12 doses, and has immediate bio-chemical effects on the brain and body; and
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14 WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General has cautioned that nicotine may negatively impact adolescent
15 brain development; and
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17 WHEREAS, potentially harmful constituents have been documented in some e-cigarette cartridges, including
18 diethylene glycol, genotoxins, animal carcinogens, and diacetyl, a butter flavoring known to cause
19 serious lung damage to factory workers who manufacture microwave popcorn; and
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21 WHEREAS, e-cigarette companies target market youth with over 7,000 flavors, including kid- friendly fruit
22 and candy flavors such as bubblegum, gummi bear, and watermelon, and false perceptions of no
23 harmful health effects; and
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25 WHEREAS, according to the United States Surgeon General’s 2016 E-Cigarette Use Among Youth and Young
26 Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General—Executive Summary E-cigarette use among youth and young
27 adults is associated with the use of other tobacco products, including conventional cigarettes. Because
28 most tobacco use is established during adolescence, actions to prevent our nation’s young people from
29 the potential of a lifetime of nicotine addiction are critical; and
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31 RESOLVED, that the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians (ACOFP) support efforts to prevent
32 youth and young adult access to electronic nicotine delivery devices (e-cigarettes) through enhanced
33 regulation of marketing and manufacturing of these devices, and be it further
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35 RESOLVED, that the ACOFP encourage prevention efforts by advocating for the development and deployment
36 of information and programs to educate youth, young adults, and their parents or guardians
37 concerning the harmful effects of e-cigarettes, and be it further
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39 RESOLVED, that the ACOFP encourage research efforts to further quantify the health risks of compounds in e-
40 cigarettes, and be it further
41
42 RESOLVED, that the ACOFP encourage that states develop laws prohibiting use of any nicotine devices to
43 persons under the age of 18.