E-CIGARETTE REGULATION AND COMPLIANCE IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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I am concerned with how easy it currently is to purchase an e cig with nicotine in it. Particularly for people under 18. the devices are cheap, brightly colloured and come in many flavours to appeal to young people. The industry is unregulated and is based on deception. for example the product might be incorrectly labelled no nicotine but testing of vapes shows that most have nicotine in them. schools are finding it difficult to police the use of vapes while students are supposed to be in a learning environment.

we know enough about them to recognize they are another form of harm to the lungs, brain, throat and heart. the flavorings they use in the vapes are not approved or safe to be inhaled into the lungs. Selling this type of product to young people is against the law and an unethical business model. the people who sell vapes need to be deterred We also know that pharmaceutical products can help young people to get off the vapes (NRT) however this medication is only approved for use in getting off the smokes. so its use in quitting vapes is classified as off label and therefore a young person would need to pay the full price which most cannot afford. We need to get NSW police to assist with busting vape sellers. Vape sellers can be found on FB market place, petrol stations, cheap convenience stores, on line and inside the school playground. We need to build the skill of the NSW health workforce to combat this issue. and we need strong policy and programs to stamp out the vapes. regulation could be to increase the fines. Current fine is 1600 which is small in comparison to the profit made.