

## Chris O'Brien

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**From:** Alan Poisson <blondfish1@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 4, 2024 5:23 PM  
**To:** House Finance Committee  
**Subject:** Bill HB 7225 Sections 3, 6, 16-20

Bill HB 7225  
Sections 3, 6, 16-20--Electronic Nicotine-Delivery System Products  
Sections 14 and 15--Cigarette Tax

Alan Poisson  
Personal, no organization  
Member of CASAA  
AGAINST the legislation

An 80% tax is outrageous. Nothing should be taxed at 80%. It is the equivalent to gang members extorting protection money from a store in a big city. I think RI is out of control and is overstepping on a peoples personal freedoms.

I am 64 years old and use vape products because I enjoy it. I'm on a fixed income and can't afford this outrageous additional tax when I already struggle to get by. Why must I be punished for quitting cigarette smoking and switching to something 95% safer?

The flavor ban should be reversed as well. I think it is stupid that the government says vaping is dangerous and it can make you sick. Then the government says you can make yourself sick on tobacco flavor but not strawberry banana flavor. Please stop making my life harder than it already is.

This outrageous tax and flavor ban should be eliminated because it is infringing on my personal choice and freedom to decide what I do in life. I also go to a cigar bar once a month with a friend and we enjoy a flavored cigar and a beer together. Smoking and nicotine has been around for centuries, why the need to destroy it now?

Vote NO on this tax and reverse any flavor ban.  
Remove these provisions from the bill.  
Do not take away or destroy two of my simple pleasures in life.

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