

Support Bill S2844

Good Evening,

My name is Donna Dionne and I am a vape shop owner in Warwick, RI. I have been in business for almost 12 years.

When this body moved to ban flavored e-liquids, it was with the intent to protect our youth. But today, we must look at the reality of the last year and ask ourselves: did we protect children, or did we simply punish responsible adults and destroy local businesses?"

"Since the ban took full effect, we have seen a catastrophic impact on our local economy. For dedicated vape shops, flavored products once accounted for over 70% of our sales. We are talking about hundreds of small business owners—our neighbors—who are now facing closure, job losses, and the potential loss of their homes. By keeping this ban, we aren't stopping the sale of these products; we are simply ensuring that Rhode Island dollars are spent in Connecticut or on the black market instead of in our own communities."

"Public health is not a one-size-fits-all solution. For thousands of Rhode Islanders, flavored vapes were the critical bridge away from combustible cigarettes. Research shows that adults who use flavors are more likely to successfully quit smoking than those limited to tobacco flavors. Since this ban, we've heard reports of former smokers returning to cigarettes—the very thing we should be fighting most aggressively. We are inadvertently fueling the use of the most dangerous tobacco products on the market."

"Prohibition often results in unintended consequences, such as the growth of unregulated markets and the loss of oversight. Instead of a total ban, a framework of strict regulation offers a more controlled environment. By allowing flavored products to be sold exclusively in age-restricted retail locations, the state can ensure that these items remain out of the hands of minors while remaining accessible to adults. Utilizing existing tax structures on electronic nicotine delivery systems can provide the necessary funding for rigorous enforcement and public education campaigns. This approach prioritizes safety through accountability rather than a complete market removal."

"The goal of any legislation should be to balance public health concerns with the rights of adult citizens and the stability of the local economy. It is possible to protect the youth of Rhode Island through high standards of retail compliance and age verification without eliminating a sector of the small business community. Replacing a total ban

with a sensible, regulated market allows the state to oversee product safety, retain tax revenue, and support harm-reduction efforts for adults. Members of the Senate are urged to consider a transition toward a regulated model for flavored e-liquids in licensed locations. Thank you for the time and consideration of this matter."

Donna Dionne

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Dionne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "D".

SENATOR JILL S2844

MY NAME IS MATTHEW DAMILO
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR 10+ YEARS
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,




EMAIL: MAXPKAZ.DAMILO@GMAIL.COM

SENATOR JILL S2844

MY NAME IS MOLLY BANDOLA
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR 10+ years
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID!
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID!
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,



EMAIL: Bandolam@icloud.com

DISBURSED BY STATE

MY NAME IS Cheryl Richard
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR 20 years
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,

Cheryl Richard

EMAIL:

Chercher383@gmail.com

DISBURSED BY STATE

MY NAME IS John Carnier
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR 7 years
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,

John M Carnier

EMAIL: *jmcarner@verizon.net*

SENATOR DAN IZARD

MY NAME IS *Kerri Charpentier*
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR *10 YRS*
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,

Kerri Charpentier

EMAIL: *Kerri121111 @hotmail.com*

SENATOR DAN IZARD

MY NAME IS *JOHN FRIEND*
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR *10 YRS*
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,

John Friend

EMAIL: *FRIENDJOHNV @GMAIL.COM*

EXHIBIT ONE

MY NAME IS Ana Marmolejos
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR 3 years
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,



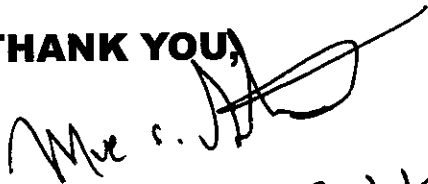
EMAIL: amadeje3577@gmail.com

EXHIBIT ONE

MY NAME IS Marc Goldstein
I HAVE BEEN VAPING FOR 10 + plus years
I QUIT SMOKING CIGARETTES USING FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I DO NOT WANT OR LIKE MENTHOL OR TOBACCO FLAVORED E-LIQUID.
I GO TO CONNECTICUT OR NEW HAMPSHIRE TO PRUCHASE MY FLAVORED E-LIQUID.

PLEASE APPROVE BILL S2844.

THANK YOU,



EMAIL: MRC. Goldstein@gmail.com

