

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT'S SEPTEMBER DECISION TO REMOVE FLAVORED E-CIGARETTES FROM THE MARKET

Now is the time to act and protect the health of our children

November 18, 2019 – We write to express our strong, unified support for President Trump's proposal, made on September 11, 2019, to swiftly remove all non-tobacco-flavored e-cigarettes, including mint and menthol flavors, from the marketplace both in retail stores and online. We urge the Administration to act without delay to finalize and implement its plan.

The support for this proposal is broad, intense and deeply held. In a joint letter issued on September 24, 2019, 56 health, medical and education community groups supported President Trump and his Administration's September 11 announcement to remove all flavored e-cigarettes from the market.

Support for the policy has only grown since that date. On October 10, 2019, <u>a letter</u> was sent by more than a dozen major conservative organizations in support of the President's plan to remove all flavored e-cigarettes from the market. On November 4, 2019, <u>a letter</u> was delivered to the White House with over 110,000 signatures from concerned citizens from all 50 states expressing support for the plan. Nearly 40,000 mothers have signed <u>a letter</u> expressing their support and urging prompt action.

The issue takes on increased urgency because there have been numerous reports about the White House's deliberations on this issue that indicate that the White House may not go forward with the original decision. We want to reiterate our full support for the President's September 11 plan.

There is no time to waste in confronting this worsening epidemic of youth nicotine addiction. More than 5 million children now use e-cigarettes, including over 1 in 4 high school students. The evidence is clear that flavors play a critical role in youth use of e-cigarettes. Research has found that nearly all (97%) current youth e-cigarette users use flavored e-cigarettes and 70% cite flavors as a key reason for their use. The 2019 National Youth Tobacco Survey found that 57.3% of high school e-cigarette users use mint- or menthol-flavored products, an increase from 38.1% in 2018 and 21.0% in 2017.

Youth e-cigarette use and nicotine addiction leads to increased risk of cigarette use. Tobacco remains accessible to minors, and more needs to be done to prevent young people from using these addictive products. We must do everything we can to prevent e-cigarettes from becoming an on-ramp to nicotine addiction for a generation of youth. Now is the time to act and protect the health of our children.

Consensus Statement: We strongly support President Trump's proposal, made on September 11, 2019, to swiftly remove all non-tobacco-flavored e-cigarettes, including mint and menthol flavors, from the marketplace both in retail stores and online. We urge the Administration to act without delay to finalize and implement its plan. If this plan is swiftly and fully implemented, it will play a critical role in reversing the youth e-cigarette epidemic and preserve the health and well-being of our nation's children.

Media Contacts: Ron DePinho, M.D. Chairman, Unite to Prevent Cancer rdepinho@utpc.org

Dave Lemmon Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids 202-296-5469

On Behalf of:

Action on Smoking & Health African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council American Academy of Family Physicians American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology American Academy of Pediatrics American Association for Cancer Research American Association for Dental Research American Association for Respiratory Care American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network American College Health Association American College of Cardiology American College of Chest Physicians American College of Physicians American College of Preventive Medicine American Dental Education Association American Federation of School Administrators American Heart Association American Lung Association

American Medical Association

American Medical Student Association

American Psychiatric Association

American Public Health Association

American Society of Clinical Oncology

American Thoracic Society

Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses

Big Cities Health Coalition

Black Ladies in Public Health

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Cancer Prevention and Treatment Fund

Children's Wisconsin

ClearWay Minnesota

Common Sense Media

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America

COPD Foundation

Counter Tools

Eta Sigma Gamma – National Health Education Honorary

First Focus Campaign for Children

GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer

LUNGevity Foundation

Lymphoma Research Foundation

Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation

Naacp

National Alliance for Hispanic Health

National Association of County and City Health Officials

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

National Association of Secondary School Principals

National Education Association

National Hispanic Medical Association

National Network for Public Health Institutes

North American Quitline Consortium

Oncology Nursing Society

Parents Against Vaping E-Cigarettes (PAVe)

Prevent Cancer Foundation

Public Health Solutions

Respiratory Health Association

Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions

Society for Public Health Education

Students Against Destructive Decisions

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

Trinity Health

Truth Initiative

U.S. PIRG

Unite to Prevent Cancer