

Hi my name is Alison Halpin, I was a smoker for 15 years, i've been cigarette free for 3 years and I owe that health achievement to vaping.

The proposed 100% wholesale tax will start a domino effect which will end America's newest cottage industry being available in Alaska. The first domino to fall will be the proposed "sin" tax pushing the products to a price point that will make local purchase unreasonable. consumers will be forced to shop online, or go back to smoking.

Once the Majority of Alaskan vapers switch back to cigarettes, or start shopping online, the 20 vape shops in Alaska will have to cut back hours for employees, most if not all will eventually close their doors, that's 20 independant alaskan businesses closed with multiple employees unemployed, This doesn't even factor in the 8 Alaskan E-liquid companies and their employees.

the state of Alaska is shooting itself in the foot with this bill, the State spends so much money on programs and campaigns trying to discourage people from smoking, not to mention the burden of smokers on the Alaska health care system. when a legitimate and practical solution has come along, which has been proven to be 95% safer by Public Health England. And works as a viable tobacco alternative, just listen to all the testimonies you get today and on any day where a vaping bill is being heard as well as studies that date back as far as 2011. Instead of embracing it, bills are being proposed that will prohibit vaping, or tax it into oblivion.

Finally, the irony of proposing a sin tax on what is a healthier alternative is aggravating, what is next? 100% tax on condoms and birth control?? 100% tax on water purifiers and air filters?

Thank you for your time.