

Good evening,

My name is Michelle Edelen I was born in Southeast Alaska and currently I live in Wasilla, Alaska. I am writing to give my experience with e-cigarettes.

First off I agree with not selling tobacco to minors.

It is known that, “there are 600 ingredients in a cigarette and when burned there is more than 4,000 chemicals.” (<http://www.lung.org/stop-smoking/about-smoking/facts-figures/whats-in-a-cigarette.html>)

“An e-cigarette has various components. The mouthpiece, the atomizer, and the battery. The mouthpiece can be or is connected to a container which holds the e-liquid or e-juice. The ingredients are flavor (which is food grade), nicotine dissolved in propylene glycol and/or vegetable glycerin”, (<http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/216550.php>)

Propylene glycol can be found in MiO water enhancers, fog machines, and in Asthma inhalers.

Nicotine can be found in tomatoes, potatoes, and cauliflower

Vegetable glycerin is sugar alcohol used in pharmaceutical formulations and a thickener in culinary fields.

Many people confuse vaping with smoking. When a person smokes a cigarette the smoke raises and is warm and there are thousands of chemicals that can be passed to others that are close. When a person vapes it is cool and drops and the vapor contains some nicotine (which is found in foods) but no other chemicals that are typically found in cigarette smoke.

Before vaping, I smoked for 20 to 25 years. I have tried Nicorette, the patches, and Chantix with no success. I have been vaping for a month now and have not picked up a cigarette. I feel better, and I have actually stopped smoking.

After reading the Senate Bill NO.209, I believe that e-cigarettes should not be classified with smoking a tobacco cigarette and should not be included in this bill. I believe if including e-cigarettes to this bill will prevent a healthy alternative to smoking a tobacco product which is known to cause harm not only to the smoker but to any by-standers.

Thank you for your time,

Michelle Edelen