

RESOLUTION
OF THE
TENNESSEE PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
REGARDING
E-CIGARETTES

WHEREAS, The **Centers** for Disease Control and Prevention reported in 2011 that about 21 percent of adults who smoke traditional cigarettes had used electronic cigarettes, also known as e-cigarettes, up from about 10 percent in 2010; and,

WHEREAS, The percentage of U.S. middle and high school students who use electronic cigarettes, or e-cigarettes, more than doubled from 2011 to 2012; and,

WHEREAS, The CDC Director, Dr. Tom Frieden has called the increase in use of e-cigarettes by teens “deeply troubling” and nicotine “a highly addictive drug”. And further suggests “many teens who start with e-cigarettes may be condemned to struggling with a lifelong addiction to nicotine and conventional cigarettes;” and,

WHEREAS, Some e-cigarettes have been marketed as smoking cessation aids, there is no conclusive scientific evidence that e-cigarettes promote successful long-term quitting; and,

WHEREAS, The FDA has not approved e-cigarettes as a safe or effective method to help smokers quit; and,

WHEREAS, E-cigarettes are offered in a variety of flavors that young children and teens could find especially appealing, like cherry, grape and strawberry; and,

WHEREAS, “New and very troubling data from the National Poison Data System show that reports of poisonings caused by accidental ingestion of e-liquids, tripled from 2012 to 2013;” and,

WHEREAS, The research into the effects of e-cigarettes lags well behind their popularity, and medical associations and regulatory bodies are concerned that e-cigarettes are nothing more than a gateway to nicotine addiction;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Tennessee Public Health Association expresses deep concern over the rapid increase in the use of e-cigarettes by both adults and especially teens and the inconclusive health effects for both groups.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be furnished to the Governor and to members of the Tennessee General Assembly and that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Association.

Paula Masters
President

Doris Spain
Executive Director

Glenn Czarnecki
Chair, Resolutions Committee