



**WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1573, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, RELATING TO HEALTH.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON JUDICIARY AND ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

TIME: 10:15 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 211

TESTIFIER(S): **WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY.**

(For more information, contact Chelsea N. Okamoto,
Deputy Attorney General, at 808-586-1242)

Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) strongly supports this bill.

This bill will require manufacturers of electronic smoking devices and e-liquids to certify annually to the Department that the manufacturer received a Marketing Granted Order (MGO) from the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and that the manufacturer complies with federal and state laws. This bill requires the Department to establish a publicly accessible directory of certified manufacturers and their products. This bill establishes civil penalties for manufacturers that fail to comply with certification requirements and establishes civil penalties for parties that sell products that are not listed in the directory. This bill also establishes inspection authority for the Department to enforce the directory.

The Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (TCA), 21 U.S.C. §387a, grants the FDA the power to regulate tobacco products, including e-cigarettes.¹ Under the TCA, manufacturers of new e-cigarette products must submit a Premarket Tobacco Product Application and receive a MGO before the product may be legally marketed in the United States. See 21 U.S.C. §387j(a)(2). If they do not receive a

¹ In August 2016, the FDA finalized a rule deeming e-cigarettes as a tobacco product that is subject to the FDA's regulation. See 21 C.F.R. pts 1100, 1140, and 1143 (2016).

MGO from the FDA, the products are considered "adulterated" under 21 U.S.C. §387b(6)(A).

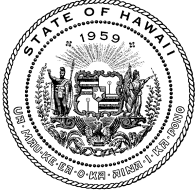
As of March 13, 2026, the FDA has only authorized forty-one tobacco and menthol flavored e-cigarette products, and the FDA has clearly stated those are the only products that may be lawfully sold in the United States.² Over the last year, the Department has made an active effort to educate tobacco retailers and distributors about the list of authorized FDA products.³ Nonetheless, many e-cigarette products that lack a MGO from the FDA are still sold in Hawaii.

This bill would create a state-managed directory, parallel to and in alignment with federal FDA regulations. This directory would provide much-needed clarity to retailers and distributors about which e-cigarette products are compliant with both state and federal regulations and are allowed for sale in the State. This bill would also empower the Department with enforcement of the directory, helping to eliminate illegal products from Hawaii's market.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

² E-Cigarettes, "Vapes" and Other Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) Authorized by the FDA (Mar. 13, 2026), <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/e-cigarettes-vapes-and-other-electronic-nicotine-delivery-systems-ends-authorized-fda> (last visited Mar. 16, 2026).

³ Attorney General Letters to Retailers and Distributors re Unauthorized Tobacco Products (Jan, 16, 2025), <https://ag.hawaii.gov/cjd/tobacco-enforcement-unit/letters-re-unauthorized-tobacco-products/>.



**STATE HEALTH PLANNING
AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY**
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH - KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO

JOSH GREEN, MD
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'AINA O KA MOKU'AINA 'O HAWAII

KENNETH S. FINK, MD, MGA, MPH
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
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JOHN C. (JACK) LEWIN, MD
ADMINISTRATOR

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April 6, 2026

TO: SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Honorable Members

FROM: John C. (Jack) Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPDA, and Sr. Advisor to
Governor Josh Green, MD on Healthcare Innovation

RE: HB 1573-HD3-SD1 -- RELATING TO HEALTH

HEARING: Wednesday, April 8, 2026 @ 10:15 am; Conference Room 211

POSITION: SUPPORT with COMMENTS

Testimony:

SHPDA strongly supports HB 1573-HD3-SD1, with comments.

This bill moves Hawai'i toward a more enforceable, "legal products only" marketplace for electronic smoking devices (ESD) and e-liquids. The current environment makes it too easy for non-authorized products, often keiki-appealing and quickly iterating, to reach consumers faster than our local enforcement can respond. A public, up-to-date directory tied to manufacturer accountability is a practical mechanism to tighten compliance across the supply chain and reduce youth access and exposure.

This bill also strengthens the State's enforcement mechanisms by pairing a clear compliance standard with meaningful consequences for repeated violations, and by directing collected fees and penalties into the Tobacco Enforcement Special Fund for administration and enforcement. If implemented well, it can improve transparency for retailers and distributors, reduce ambiguity about what is allowed to be sold, and give agencies better tools to act quickly when products are clearly outside the permitted market.

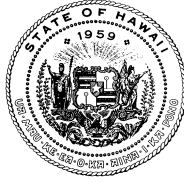
HB 1573-HD3-SD1: testimony of SHPDA (2026), continued

On fiscal and operational specifics, we defer to the Department of the Attorney General. We would also defer to the Department of Health for public-health impact framing and youth-use considerations.

Thank you for hearing HB 1573-HD3-SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

■ -- Jack Lewin, MD, Administrator, SHPDA



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P.O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

LATE

Testimony in SUPPORT of H.B. 1573, H.D. 3, S.D. 1
RELATING TO HEALTH

SENATOR KARL RHOADS, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

SENATOR DONAVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Hearing Date: April 8, 2026
10:15 AM

Room Number: Conference Room 211
and Videoconference

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** The Department of Health (DOH) defers to the Department of the Attorney
- 2 General (AG) regarding any fiscal implications of maintaining a manufacturer and product
- 3 directory for electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids.

- 4 **Department Position:** The DOH supports House Bill 1573, House Draft 3, Senate Draft 1
- 5 (H.B. 1573, H.D. 3, S.D. 1) and the AG taking the lead on the administrative and enforcement
- 6 requirements of this measure. H.B. 1573, H.D. 3, S.D. 1 requires manufacturers of ESDs and
- 7 e-liquid products to submit proof to the AG that they received a marketing granted order
- 8 (MGO) from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and comply with state and federal
- 9 laws in order to sell their products for retail sale or to consumers in Hawaii.

- 10 **Department Testimony:** Since the U.S. Surgeon General declared vaping a youth epidemic in
- 11 2018,¹ the state and federal government have not put adequate protections in place to prevent
- 12 the marketing of ESDs to youth. The result is that between 2019 and 2023, U.S. ESD sales

¹ DHHS. (2018, December 17). *Surgeon General releases advisory on E-cigarette epidemic among youth* [Text]. HHS.Gov.
<https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2018/12/18/surgeon-general-releases-advisory-e-cigarette-epidemic-among-youth.html>

1 increased by 47% from 210.5 million to 309.4 million units.² Of the ESD products sold in the
2 U.S., as much as 54% are illegal.³ Many of these products contain toxic chemicals such as
3 formaldehyde, lead, and acrolein, and are designed with built-in video games and Bluetooth
4 speakers and come in candy or fruity flavors to attract youth.⁴ Additionally, permissive federal
5 enforcement leaves many ESD products with submitted but pending premarket tobacco
6 product applications (PMTAs) on the market.⁵ States cannot enforce federal laws, and without
7 additional state-level legislation, illegal ESD products remain on store shelves and available
8 online.

9 In Hawaii, data shows that delayed public health and enforcement action, and the need
10 for stronger state authority has allowed the vaping epidemic to grow. Young adults ages 18 to 24,
11 and 25 to 34 years old, use ESDs at the highest rates among adults, at 23% and 25%,
12 respectively.⁶ High school and middle school students ESD use rates are 13% and 10%, and ever
13 tried ESD rates are 28% and 17%, respectively.^{7,8,9,10} The middle school currently use and ever
14 tried ESD rates increased significantly from 2021 to 2023.

² *Monitoring E-Cigarette Trends in the United States*. (2024). Truth Initiative; CDC Foundation. <https://tobacconitoring.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/2024MonitoringE-CigaretteTrendsUS-1.pdf>

³ Commissioner, O. of the. (2025, September 30). *A Statement From FDA Commissioner Marty Makary, M.D., M.P.H.: Encouraging Retailers to Stop Selling Illegal Vapes*. FDA. FDA. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/statement-fda-commissioner-marty-makary-md-mp-h-encouraging-retailers-stop-selling-illegal-vapes>

⁴ Commissioner, O. of the. (2025, September 30). *A Statement From FDA Commissioner Marty Makary, M.D., M.P.H.: Encouraging Retailers to Stop Selling Illegal Vapes*. FDA. FDA. <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/statement-fda-commissioner-marty-makary-md-mp-h-encouraging-retailers-stop-selling-illegal-vapes>

⁵ Public Health Law Center. (2022, May 16). *5/16/22—A Quick Recap: What's Going on with the Premarket Review Process? | Public Health Law Center*. <https://www.publichealthlawcenter.org/commentary/220118/quick-recap-whats-going-premarket-review-process>

⁶ *Hawaii IBIS - Query Result- Hawaii Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS) Data-Electronic vapor product-Current use*. Retrieved February 2, 2026, from <https://hhdw.org/report/query/result/brfss/SmokeECigsCurr/SmokeECigsCurrCrude11.html>

⁷ *Hawaii IBIS - Query Result—Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Data—Electronic vapor product—Current use, Middle Schools, County-level*. (n.d.). Retrieved February 2, 2026, from https://hhdw.org/report/query/result/yrbs/VaporCurr/VaporCurr_MS_CNTY.html

⁸ *Hawaii IBIS - Query Result—Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Data—Electronic vapor product—Ever use, Middle Schools, County-level*. (n.d.). Retrieved February 2, 2026, from https://hhdw.org/report/query/result/yrbs/VaporEver/VaporEver_MS_CNTY.html

⁹ *Hawaii IBIS - Query Result—Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Data—Electronic vapor product—Current use, High Schools*, . Retrieved February 2, 2026, from https://hhdw.org/report/query/result/yrbs/VaporCurr/VaporCurr_HS_ST.html

¹⁰ *Hawaii IBIS - Query Result—Hawaii Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) Data—Electronic vapor product—Ever use, High Schools*. Retrieved February 2, 2026, from https://hhdw.org/report/query/result/yrbs/VaporEver/VaporEver_HS_ST.html

1 The DOH receives requests for ESD resources from elementary school teachers and
2 administrators because their students are bringing and using ESDs on campus.¹¹ Taxes have
3 reduced use for some price sensitive users, and the DOH is expanding prevention education and
4 quit resources for youth and youth adults, along with resources for educators and parents. Still,
5 stronger state authority is needed to remove illegal products, those without the FDA MGOs.

6 Currently, the FDA has authorized 41 ESD products for sale in the United States,¹² but as
7 of September 2025, there are over 6,800 ESD products available for sale.¹³ H.B. 1573, H.D. 3,
8 S.D. 1 would give the AG the power to enforce the FDA list by requiring that every
9 manufacturer of an ESD or e-liquid sold in Hawaii must certify that an MGO was received and
10 that they are compliant with both state and federal laws.

11 The vaping epidemic is shifting to younger ages and is rising among young adults.
12 Without stronger action, this public health crisis will continue to harm future generations. ESDs
13 are known to adversely impact the health of youth. Youth who use ESDs reported higher
14 diagnosis of bronchitis, pneumonia, or chronic cough¹⁴ and early exposure to nicotine is linked
15 to dependence and can harm adolescent brain development.¹⁵ In their March 30, 2026
16 research article, Stewart and other scientists concluded that ESD use is likely to increase the risk
17 for oral and lung cancers.¹⁶ This is in addition to the growing evidence that the risk of heart
18 disease and stroke, and other diseases are similar between ESD and cigarette use.¹⁷

¹¹ Hawaii News Now. (2025, April 30). *As vaping increases among youth, health officials warn of links to anxiety and depression* [Video recording]. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ffYL4E6SY4U>

¹² U.S. Food & Drug Administration. (2026, January 21). *Searchable Tobacco Products Database*. <https://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/searchtobacco/>

¹³ CDC Foundation. (2025, September). *E-Cigarette & Tobacco Monitoring and Research*. Monitoring Tobacco Product Use. <https://tobacomonitoring.org/>

¹⁴ Mukerjee, R., Hirschtick, J.L., Zavala Arciniega, J.L., Xie, Y., Barnes, G.D., Arenberg, D.A., Levy, D.T., Meza, R., Fleischer, N.L., Cook, S.F., *ENDS, Cigarettes, and Respiratory Illness: Longitudinal Associations Among U.S. Youth*, American Journal of Preventive Medicine, Volume 66, Issue 5, 2024, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amepre.2023.12.005>.

¹⁵ Boykan, R., Goniewicz, M. L., & Messina, C. R. (2019). Evidence of Nicotine Dependence in Adolescents Who Use Juul and Similar Pod Devices. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 16(12), 2135. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph16122135>

¹⁶ Stewart, B. W., Marshall, H., Bonevski, B., Griffin, H. J., Hopkins, A. M., Itchins, M., Mazza, C. J., Modi, N. D., Ryan, M., Varlow, M., & Sitas, F. (2026). The carcinogenicity of e-cigarettes: A qualitative risk assessment. *Carcinogenesis*, 47(1), bgag015. <https://doi.org/10.1093/carcin/bgag015>

¹⁷ Glantz, S. A., Nguyen, N., & Oliveira da Silva, A. L. (2024). Population-Based Disease Odds for E-Cigarettes and Dual Use versus Cigarettes. *NEJM Evidence*, 3(3), EVIDo2300229. <https://doi.org/10.1056/EVIDo2300229>

1 The DOH supports H.B. 1573, H.D. 3, S.D. 1 as a coordinated public health measure to
2 enforce the FDA MGO and regulate illegal ESDs being sold in Hawaii.

3 **Offered Amendments:** None

4 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HIPHI Board

May Okihiro, MD, MS
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John A. Burns School of Medicine,
Department of Pediatrics

Jennifer José Lo, MD
Vice Chair
Hawai'i Health Partners

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Taase Law Office

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The Queen's Medical Center

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University of Hawai'i at Hilo

Dina Shek, JD
Medical-Legal Partnership
For Children in Hawai'i

JoAnn Tsark, MPH
John A. Burns School of Medicine, Native
Hawaiian Research Office

Danette Wong Tomiyasu, MBA
Retired, Hawai'i State Department of
Health

HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community-Based Research &
Evaluation

Community Health
Worker Initiatives

Environmental Health

Hawai'i Climate Change and Health
Working Group

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free Coalitions

Hawai'i Immunization Coalition

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective/Healthy Aging &
Community Living

Public Health Workforce Development

Date: April 6, 2026

To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: Support for HB 1573 HD3 SD1, Relating to Health

Hrg: Wednesday, April 8, 2026, at 10:15 AM, Room 211

The Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i, a program of Hawai'i Public Health Institute¹ is in **Support of HB 1573 HD3**, which would require electronic smoking device and e-liquid manufacturers to certify to the Department of Attorney General annually that the manufacturer received a Marketing Granted Order from the federal Food and Drug Administration and that the manufacturer is in compliance with federal regulations and state laws.

Health Risks Persist

Tobacco-related disease continues to be the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, resulting in 480,000 deaths annually,² with 1,400 of those deaths happening each year in Hawai'i.³ 95% of adult cigarette smokers started before they turned 21 years of age,⁴ so it's clear that to eliminate the harms of tobacco in our society, we need to prevent youth from ever starting.

For the past ten years, Hawai'i's middle and high school students have been reporting high prevalence rates for electronic smoking devices, with current use for middle school students at 10%, and 13% for high school students.⁵ The problem has now become an issue at many of our elementary schools across the state. The vast majority of the e-cigarettes that are causing problems at our local schools are not authorized to be legally marketed and sold in the United

Only 41 Products on Approved List

Currently there are thousands of unauthorized e-cigarette products on the market driving youth initiation and uptake. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is the agency responsible for regulating the e-cigarette industry. The FDA has a pre-market tobacco product application process to evaluate e-cigarette products to ensure they are appropriate for the protection of public health. The e-cigarette must assist adult smokers in reducing their use of combustible cigarettes without appealing to youth. This differs from the standard



they use for medical devices and drugs, which must prove they are safe and effective, because all tobacco products are inherently harmful.

Remove Thousands of Unauthorized Products from Hawai'i

If HB 1573 passes as is, this would narrow the available products to only those that received marketing authorization from the FDA.⁶ That list of authorized products is less than 45 because the majority of e-cigarette products on the market appeal to youth. While there are a couple of menthol-flavored products on that list, it would eliminate all other flavored electronic smoking devices other than tobacco.

While the e-cigarette products that are authorized are not safe, the products have been thoroughly reviewed by the FDA as products that likely do not appeal to youth.

We applaud the Legislature for considering this measure, and thank this committee for your consideration of HB 1573 HD3 SD1.

We respectfully ask you to pass this measure.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kevin Ramirez'.

Kevin Ramirez
Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i Program Manager
Hawai'i Public Health Institute

1 The Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawai'i (Coalition) is a program of the Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) that is dedicated to reducing tobacco use through education, policy, and advocacy. With more than two decades of history in Hawai'i, the Coalition has led several campaigns on enacting smoke-free environments, including being the first state in the nation to prohibit the sale of tobacco and electronic smoking devices to purchasers under 21 years of age.

2 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2023, May 4). *Burden of cigarette use in the U.S.* Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

<https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/resources/data/cigarette-smoking-in-united-states.html>

3 *The toll of tobacco in Hawaii.* Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. (2025, December 15).

<https://www.tobaccofreekids.org/problem/toll-us/hawaii>

4 U.S. Food and Drug Administration. (2024, August 29). *FDA issues final rule increasing the minimum age for certain restrictions on tobacco sales.* U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

<https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-issues-final-rule-increasing-minimum-age-certain-restrictions-tobacco-sales>

5 Hawai'i Health Matters. (n.d.). *Tobacco Prevention & Control 2030 Tracker.* Hawaii.

<https://www.hawaiihealthmatters.org/indicators/index/dashboard?alias=Tobacco2030>



6 U.S. Food and Drug Administration. E-Cigarettes, “Vapes” and Other Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) Authorized by the FDA.

<https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/e-cigarettes-vapes-and-other-electronic-nicotine-delivery-systems-ends-authorized-fda>



April 6, 2026

Testimony in Support of HB1573 HD3 SD1

Aloha Chairs and Committee Members:

My name is Greg Tjapkes (chap-kes), Executive Director of The Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawai'i, and I am providing testimony in strong support HB1573 HD3 SD1.

This directory bill would allow only electronic smoking device products authorized by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to be sold in Hawai'i. Because the FDA has authorized only 41 such products, passage of this measure would remove thousands of unapproved e-cigarette products currently available for sale.

Many of those products are clearly designed to appeal to youth. Restricting sales to FDA-authorized products will help keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco and reduce youth access to flavored and illegal vaping products.

California has adopted a similar approach to help ensure that only approved products are sold.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1573 HD3 SD1.

Greg Tjapkes
Executive Director
Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawaii

Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 10:15 AM
Via Video Conference; Conference Room 211

Senate Committee on Judiciary

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

To: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

**Re: Testimony in Support of HB 1573, HD3, SD1
Relating to Health**

My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

HPH supports HB 1573, HD3, SD1 which requires that electronic smoking devices and e-liquid manufacturers annually certify to the Department of Attorney General (Department) that they have a Marketing Granted Order from the FDA and comply with federal and state laws. The Department must publish a directory of certified manufacturers and products. Penalties are imposed on manufacturers who fail to certify and on parties selling uncertified products.

Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States and in Hawai'i. Tobacco use is a serious public health problem in terms of the human suffering and loss of life it causes, as well as the financial burden it imposes on society and our healthcare system. In Hawaii, approximately \$611 million is spent annually on healthcare costs directly attributed to smoking. Smoking-related illnesses result in an estimated \$1.1 billion in lost productivity each year. E-cigarette use or vaping among youth and young adults has become a national public health concern. E-cigarettes are now the most popularly used tobacco product among youth and young adults, surpassing cigarettes. While smoking rates in Hawaii have decreased over the years, electronic smoking device (ESD) use has rapidly increased.

Under the authority granted by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (TCA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is empowered to regulate tobacco products and e-cigarettes. The TCA mandates manufacturers of new e-cigarette products to submit a Premarket Tobacco Product Application and receive a marketing granted order (MGO) before the product may be legally sold in the United States. As of the end of 2025, only 39 tobacco and menthol e-cigarette products were granted an MGO. However, many e-cigarette products that lack an MGO are sold in Hawai'i.

This measure would be in alignment with federal requirements and create a coordinated effort to curtail the sale of e-cigarette products that have not been approved by the FDA. It would help to address the public health problem that e-cigarette use is becoming, and provide clarity to retailers and distributors about which e-cigarette products are compliant with federal and state regulations and are allowed to be sold in the State

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:51:51 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Zehner	Testifying for Hawaii Smokers Alliance	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are Strongly Opposed to hb1573. We stand on our previous testimony in opposition to this anti-small business bill. This awful bill will destroy vape shops in Hawaii.



Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.

To: Senate Committees on Judiciary and on Ways and Means
Re: **HB1573 HD3 SD1 – Relating to Health**
Hawai'i State Capitol & Via Videoconference
April 8, 2026 10:15 AM

Dear Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, and Committee Members,

On behalf of Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks!, I am writing in **SUPPORT of HB1573 HD3 SD1**. This bill would require vape and e-liquid manufacturers to certify annually to the Department of Attorney General that their products have received a Marketing Granted Order from the federal FDA and that they comply with federal regulations and state laws. It would require the Department to compile and make public a directory of certified products and also establish penalties for manufacturers that fail to comply and other parties that acquire, possess, transport, keep, sell, or offer for sale products that are not in the directory.

Hawai'i has some of the highest youth e-cigarette use rates in the nation, with more than 1 in 4 (29%) of high school and 1 in 6 (17%) of middle school students having tried e-cigarettes.¹ Flavored products play a major role in attracting young users, and Hawai'i was recently given a grade of "F" in the ending of the sale of all flavored tobacco products by the American Lung Association.²

Thousands of unauthorized e-cigarettes remain on the market, fueling youth use. The FDA regulates these products through a rigorous premarket review process that requires manufacturers to show a product is appropriate for the protection of public health—meaning it may help adult smokers reduce combustible cigarette use without appealing to youth.

This bill would allow only FDA-authorized products — currently fewer than 40³ — to be sold in Hawai'i. No candy or fruit flavored products that appeal to keiki have received authorization. While authorized products are not safe, they have been scientifically reviewed and are less likely to appeal to youth than the thousands of unauthorized products now on the market.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony. Please pass this bill.

Thank you,

Nicole Woo
Director of Research and Economic Policy

¹ <https://hhdw.org/report/query/selection/yrbs/YRBSSelection.html>

² <https://www.lung.org/media/press-releases/fy26-sotc-hawaii>

³ <https://www.fda.gov/tobacco-products/market-and-distribute-tobacco-product/e-cigarettes-vapes-and-other-electronic-nicotine-delivery-systems-ends-authorized-fda>



Hawaii Dental Association

Time/Date: 10:15 am, April 8, 2026
Location: State Capitol Room 211
Committee: Senate Committees on Judiciary and Ways and Means
Re: HB 1573, HD3, SD1, Relating to Health

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, and members of the committees!

The Hawaii Dental Association supports HB 1573, HD3, SD1, relating to health.

HDA expresses its longstanding and firm opposition to use of oral tobacco, including vaping nicotine from e-cigarettes, and urges people using any type of tobacco product to quit. Tobacco use is causally associated with higher rates of tooth decay, receding gums, periodontal disease, mucosal lesions, bone damage, tooth loss, jawbone loss and more. That is why the Hawaii Dental Association, like the American Dental Association, is working with dentists, educators, public health officials, lawmakers, and the public to prevent and, hopefully, eliminate the use of all tobacco products.

HDA supports regulatory and legislative action to ban the sale and distribution of all e-cigarette and vaping products, with the exception of those approved by the FDA for tobacco cessation purposes and made available by prescription only. Therefore, we will continue to support legislation aimed at enhancing and promoting oral health.

HDA is a statewide membership organization representing dentists practicing in Hawaii and licensed by the State of Hawaii's Board of Dentistry. HDA members are committed to protecting the oral health and well-being of the people of Hawaii, from keiki to kupuna and everyone in between. Our organization is a key health policy stakeholder, representing providers of oral health services on every island. HDA's top priority is the care of our patients and the health of Hawaii residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to support this measure.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1573 HD3 SD1

TO: Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and JDC Members
Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and WAN Members

FROM: Michael Paul, Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist

DATE: April 8, 2026 (10:15 AM)

Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) **strongly supports** HB 1573 HD3 SD1, which require the manufacturers of electronic smoking devices (ESDs) and e-liquids to certify that they have received a Marketing Granted Order from the FDA and that the manufacturer is compliant with all state and federal laws. As well, this bill directs the Department of Attorney General to create a public directory of all certified electronic smoking devices and e-liquids.

The Food and Drug Administration has only approved 39 ESD products for sale in the United States, and yet, today there are thousands of different ESD products widely available for sale in many Hawai'i retailers. When manufacturers apply for FDA approval of their tobacco products, including ESDs, the FDA evaluates the impact of the product on public health. This includes weighing how much a product may assist adult smokers in reducing or eliminating their combustible cigarette use versus the potential for youth appeal. Thousands of ESDs and e-liquids for sale in our state do not meet that standard.

In my experience as a tobacco treatment specialist helping adults to quit or reduce their dependence on tobacco products, I have met many people who started vaping in middle or high school, and now as adults struggle to quit. They express similar experiences of being lured in by the flavors and ease of use of ESDs.

If SB 2410 is passed thousands of products that appeal to youth, and in some cases have been openly marketed to them, fueling our high rates of youth vaping, would no longer be on store shelves. Out of the thousands of pre-marketing applications for ESD products that the FDA has evaluated, only 39 have been approved.

HHHRC's mission is to reduce harm, promote health, create wellness, and fight stigma in Hawai'i and the Pacific. We work with many individuals impacted by poverty, housing instability, and other social determinants of health. Many have behavioral health problems, including those related to substance use and mental health conditions.



With the ongoing support of the Hawai'i Community Foundation, HHHRC continues to offer smoking cessation services that are tailored to meet the needs of our state's LGBTQ+ people, and other priority populations through its [Hawai'i's Last Drag](#) (HLD) program. We work with individuals in ways that are most appropriate for their current needs, with trainings conducted in person or via phone, text, or videoconferencing. We provide smoking cessation products to assist them with quitting the consumption of smoked tobacco and other nicotine products.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**Committee
Members**

Annaleah Atkinson
808 652-7743

Regina Floyd
702 292-2372

Brian Foster
808 639-3529

Kristen Greene
808 346-0386

Doug Haigh
808 635-1120

Diana Harvey
530 635-7052

Barbara Honeycutt
541 251-1487

Dave Lister
618 237-9138

Scott McCubbins
816 781-5883

Graeme Merrin
808 651-7211

Ryan Moen
808 651-0726

Tommy Noyes
808 639-1018

Jessica Pinson
937 901-5818

Doug Shannon
909 496-1188

Valerie Woods
808 822-2420

Ron Wiley
808 245-9527

Tom Worthen
435 994-0023



April 7, 2026

Joint JHA/WAM Committee

Strong Support for HB 1573 HD3 SD1, RELATING TO HEALTH.

Requires electronic smoking device and e-liquid manufacturers to certify to the Department of Attorney General annually that the manufacturer received a Marketing Granted Order from the federal Food and Drug Administration and that the manufacturer is in compliance with federal regulations and state laws. Requires the Department to compile and make public a directory of all electronic smoking device and e-liquid manufacturers and products duly certified. Establishes penalties for manufacturers that fail to comply with the certification requirements and for other parties that sell products that are not in the directory.

Aloha JHA/WAM Committee Members,

I represent the Friends of Kamalani & Lydgate Park, a community service organization that built a major playground in Lydgate Beach Park on Kaua'i in 1994. Every weekend we bring families together to work collaboratively, sustaining that facility and other attractive features of that popular regional park.

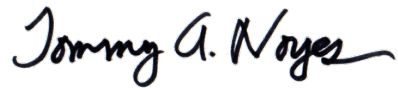
This directory bill will ban all tobacco products that aren't on the authorized list of products from the FDA (as of last month naming 41 products). The bill's purpose is to remove thousands of different e-cigarette products currently available for purchase.

The tobacco companies are preying on our precious keiki for profit. We must stop them. Since most products targeting youth will be made illegal, this law would help keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco.

It's more important than ever for our state to take responsibility for defending public health and strengthening tobacco regulations. While California has successfully established a similar practice to help ensure only approved products are sold in their state, the Trump administration has dismantled the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health and cut funding for local cessation and prevention programs.

Rather than allowing the tobacco industry to continue to entice our children into a lifetime of addiction, we urge you as state leaders to now do the right thing—act honorably and swiftly ban flavored tobacco products. This can save future generations from the preventable suffering that comes with tobacco use.

Mahalo for your attention to this testimony, and for protecting our keiki.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tommy A. Noyes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tommy A. Noyes
General Coordinator
The Friends of Kamalani and Lydgate Park



LATE

April 7, 2026

To: COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Re: SUPPORT of HB1573 HD3 SD1 RELATING TO HEALTH

Hrg: April 8, 2026 at 10:15AM

The Hawai'i Public Health Association (HPHA) is a group of over 450 community members, public health professionals, and organizations statewide dedicated to improving public health. Our mission is to promote public health in Hawai'i through leadership, collaboration, education and advocacy.

Tobacco-related disease continues to be the leading cause of preventable death in the United States, resulting in 480,000 deaths annually, with 1,400 of those deaths happening each year in Hawai'i. 95% of adult cigarette smokers started before they turned 21 years of age,⁴ so it's clear that to eliminate the harms of tobacco in our society, we need to prevent youth from ever starting. For the past ten years, Hawai'i's middle and high school students have been reporting high prevalence rates for electronic smoking devices, with current use for middle school students at 10%, and 13% for high school students. The problem has now become an issue at many of our elementary schools across the state. The vast majority of the e-cigarettes that are causing problems at our local schools are not authorized to be legally marketed and sold in the United

The Hawaii Public Health Association urges you to support HB1573 HD3 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important public health issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Kessler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Holly Kessler
Executive Director

Hawaii Chapter

OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

LATE

Aloha Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice-Chairs Moriwaki and Gabbard, and Committee Members:

The Hawai'i Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics (HAAP) would like to provide testimony in **strong support of HB 1573 HD3 SD1**, which would limit the sale of vape liquids and devices to those approved by the FDA. Following the example of California, which has implemented similar regulations to ensure that only approved products are sold there, we have the opportunity to limit e-cigarette products that are sold here in Hawai'i, thus protecting our vulnerable tweens and teens from many products that currently target youth for initiation into use and subsequent nicotine addiction.

Passing this bill would ban most e-cigarette products that specifically target youth, which would help to protect our keiki from the predatory marketing practices of Big Tobacco. As pediatricians, we have witnessed increasing numbers of youth who become addicted to nicotine because of bright packaging, youth-targeted messaging, and flavors that are especially appealing to children, such as melon or pineapple. The colorful packaging, fruity flavors, and misconception that vaping is less harmful than cigarettes only serve to obscure the truth, which is that tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable deaths and that tobacco use reduces the average smoker's life expectancy by about a decade and that tobacco companies are expert in exploiting loopholes to target adolescents, whose brains are not fully developed and who are therefore especially vulnerable to youth-targeted messaging. The youth vaping epidemic is only worsening over time, with more than 13% of high schoolers and 10% of middle schoolers in Hawai'i reporting using e-cigarettes (2023 data). As you may know, vape liquid contains high levels of nicotine, making it more addictive than cigarettes; this is in addition to dozens of other dangerous chemicals that can seriously harm a young person's lungs, increasing the risk of both chronic health problems and acute lung injury.

More than 200 pediatrician members of the Hawai'i Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics support measures that can help to fight the youth vaping epidemic. We have seen first-hand the harmful impacts of nicotine addiction in our adolescent patients, and we strongly urge your support of HB1573 HD3 SD1.

Maya Maxym, MD, PhD, FAAP

On behalf of the Hawai'i Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:29:29 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristin Mills	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am a resident in Pukalani Maui, a parent, and a health educator, and I am in support of HB1573 HD3 SD1 to allow only FDA authorized ESD products.

Electronic Cigarette Devices (ESDs) are not only harmful to humans but are especially harmful to our youth and to our environment. There are currently way more ESD products being sold than are authorized through the FDA.

HB1573 HD3 SD1 would ban all tobacco products that aren't on the FDA authorized list. Further, passing this bill will remove thousands of ESD products, that often find their way to our youth and end up being dumped in our environment.

Please support HB1573 HD3 SD1 and be part of the solution to help keep our youth and our environment safer from the unhealthy effects of ESDs.

Thank you,

Kristin Mills

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:35:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judy Beaver	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- This directory bill will ban all tobacco products that aren't on the authorized list of 41 products from the FDA.
- Passing this will remove thousands of different e-cigarette products currently available for purchase. This makes passing this bill an absolute must!
- Most products targeting youth will be made illegal, helping keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco.
- California has established a similar practice to help ensure only approved products are sold in their state.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:56:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jay Ihara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Jay Ihara, and I strongly support HB1573 HD3 SD1

This proposed legislation will prohibit all tobacco products that are not included on the authorized list of 41 products from the FDA. If passed, this measure will eliminate thousands of e-cigarette products currently available for sale. Most products that target youth will be made illegal, helping protect our children from Big Tobacco. California has implemented a similar approach to ensure that only approved products are sold in the state. Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:14:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jake J. Watkins	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill will put small local vape shops out of business.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:20:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donita Garcia	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- This directory bill will ban all tobacco products that aren't on the authorized list of 41 products from the FDA.
- Passing this will remove thousands of different e-cigarette products currently available for purchase.
- Most products targeting youth will be made illegal, helping keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco.
- California has established a similar practice to help ensure only approved products are sold in their state.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 12:21:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shani Carvalho	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha nui kākou,

My name Shani Kai Carvalho of Paauilo, Hāmākua. I serve my community as a certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist at Hamakua-Kohala Health Hawaii Island and am a mother of four ages 8-18, and I support HB 1573 HD3 SD1 that will allow only FDA authorized electronic smoking device products to be sold in our state. This bill will allow us to help keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco by not having products that target them on the market. Mahalo.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 1:30:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Weiner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of HB1573, which bans all tobacco products not on FDA's pre-approved list. This will ban 1000's of mostly electronic tobacco devices and liquids, which have been unregulated and easily available to both teens and adults. At present there are 41 products, and most of the banned products are targeted toward youth with attractive packaging, games, and catchy flavors. The nicotine concentrations are very high and addictive to assure a long-term captive audience. The chronic medical consequences are devastating and expensive. The environment cost is also high and growing. This bill is a very good start in ridding Hawai'i of the burden of flavored tobaccos, which have had a devastating effect on our Keiki, schools, and the environment. Many thanks for taking this step and voting to protect our kids.

Linda Weiner, MD

Kauai Pediatrician

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 1:34:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Liza Ryan Gill	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill:

- This directory bill will ban all tobacco products that aren't on the authorized list of 41 products from the FDA.
- Passing this will remove thousands of different e-cigarette products currently available for purchase.
- Most products targeting youth will be made illegal, helping keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco.
- California has established a similar practice to help ensure only approved products are sold in their state.

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 2:38:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Emma Waters	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Writing in strong support of this important bill. Mahalo.

Date: April 6, 2026

To: The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
The Honorable Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: Support for **HB1573 HD3 SD1**, Relating to Health

Hrg: Wednesday April 8, 2026 at 10:15 am Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Aloha Senate Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary,

As a parent, community member and healthcare professional I am writing in strong support of **HB1573 HD3 SD1**, which requires requires electronic smoking device and e-liquid manufacturers to certify to the Department of the Attorney General annually that the manufacturer received a Marketing Granted Order from the federal Food and Drug Administration and that the manufacturer is in compliance with federal regulations and state laws; requires the Department to compile and make public a directory of all electronic smoking device and e-liquid manufacturers and products duly certified; and, establishes penalties for manufacturers that fail to comply with the certification requirements and for other parties that acquire, possess, transport, keep, sell, or offer for sale products that are not in the directory.

This directory bill will ban all electronic smoking products (vapes) that are not on a pre-approved list of products from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

HB1573 HD3 SD1 will remove thousands of unregulated e-cigarette products currently available for purchase in Hawai'i for which FDA approval for marketing has not been granted.

Under **HB1573 HD3 SD1**, most e-cig products which target our youth will be made illegal, helping protect our keiki from life-long nicotine addiction.

To date, sixteen states have established similar registries to ensure that only FDA-approved products are sold in their states.

I strongly support **HB1573 HD3 SD1**, respectfully ask you to pass it out of committee.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Forrest Batz, PharmD
Keaau, HI

April 8, 2026

Aloha Chairs Rhoads and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Moriwaki, and members of the Senate committees on Judiciary, and Ways and Means,

I am writing in support of HB 1573, HD3, SD1 “Relating to Health.”

The Hawaii Attorney General has deemed that currently only representatives of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration have the authority to enforce its rules intended to govern illegally marketed tobacco products. Earlier this year the White House administration gutted the FDA’s tobacco prevention and control division leaving enforcement efforts in limbo. Therefore, it is imperative that the Hawaii State Legislature expand the Hawaii AG’s office authority to also enforce against the unauthorized marketing and sale of electronic smoking devices. HB 1573, HD3, SD1 would grant that authority to the Hawaii AG’s office.

E-cigarettes have quickly become one of the most popular nicotine devices sold illegally our keiki and young people. In addition to serving as a way to hook our children at early ages on nicotine (which can also lead to increasing their vulnerability to other potentially deadly addictions, and to leading health risks such as cardiovascular disease, Hawaii’s leading cause of death and disability).

Unfortunately, many of the e-cigarettes offered for sale in Hawaii are not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as safe for sale or consumption and are therefore on the market illegally. Because of recent cuts to the FDA’s Tobacco Control and Prevention Program by the current administration, the need to regulate those products falls is falling on state and local legislators to protect their constituents and environments.

Tobacco-related illnesses annually account for over \$600 million in healthcare costs to the state and its taxpayers. And smoking-related illnesses result in an estimated \$1.1 billion in lost productivity each year in Hawaii. These costs far outweigh the approximately \$75 million in tobacco taxes collected annually by Hawaii. Therefore, it is economically sensible for the state to pursue policies to reduce tobacco consumption as any losses in tobacco tax revenue would be likely redeemed through purchases of other taxable products by former tobacco users, while helping to control healthcare and lost productivity costs to the state and its taxpayers.

I urge you to support HB 1573, HD3, SD1 to help reign in the illegal sale and use of those products and to support the Hawaii Attorney General’s office in enforcing against their illegal sale to minors.

Mahalo for your attention to this important bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Weisman
Kailua, HI

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 9:59:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laverne Moore	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Joint JHA/WAM Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB1573 HD3 SD1, which establishes an ESD directory for FDA-authorized products.

As an educator, I have witnessed firsthand the impact that unregulated e-cigarettes have on student learning. The sheer variety and accessibility of these products—many of which are specifically designed to target youth with appealing flavors and discreet packaging—create significant distractions and health concerns within our schools.

This bill is a critical step toward:

- * Removing thousands of unauthorized e-cigarette products from our communities.
- * Keeping our keiki safe by making many products that target youth illegal.
- * Ensuring that only the 41 FDA-authorized products remain available for sale.

Protecting the well-being of our students is paramount to their success in the classroom. I urge the committee to pass this measure to help curb the youth vaping epidemic in Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Laverne Moore, Retired Special Education Teacher

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/6/2026 11:50:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryan Mih	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a parent, pediatrician, and medical director of the Kapi’olani Smokefree Families Program, I strongly support this bill, which will prevent the sale of tobacco products that are not any of the 41 pre-approved products by the FDA.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has strongly supported elimination of tobacco and nicotine products. These products have been shown to be disproportionately used by young people. Big Tobacco and vaping companies are blatantly disregarding the FDA approval process and flooding the market with illegal unapproved nicotine products.

Hawaii has one of the highest rates of middle schoolers (16%) and high schoolers (26%) currently using e-cigarettes—it is twice the national average. Nicotine is a highly addictive drug that impacts the adolescent brain, reducing impulse control and affecting mood. Those who use e-cigarettes are four times more likely to smoke regular cigarettes later on. The e-cigarette industry claims these are cessation devices, but a recent study has shown that even if one adult can quit with these devices, the trade-off is 81 young people who will start the habit in their place. This is completely unacceptable.

Once young people are addicted to nicotine, it is extremely difficult to quit. By eliminating the wide range of unapproved nicotine products from Hawaii, we have the chance to improve the health of many, especially of our keiki.

On behalf of the keiki and young people of Hawaii, I urge you to support this bill.

Mahalo for your consideration and support of this important measure.

Sincerely,

Bryan Mih, MD, MPH, FAAP

Pediatrician

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 8:16:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Stensrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1573 HD3 SD1 which would create a registry of approved electronic smoking devices for sale. Currently the state has no way to keep illegal devices off of store shelves and can only request retailers to stop selling them. This bill would give the Attorney General's Office the authority to stop the sale of these illegal devices that cause so much harm in our communities. Without this bill unscrupulous retailers will continue to sell these products putting their profits over the health of our people.

Please support HB1573 HD3 SD1

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 9:14:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Valerie Smalley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Vice Chair,

As a mother, grandmother and tobacco treatment specialist for the last 25 years I am in strong support of HB 1573 HD3 SDI.

- This directory bill will ban all tobacco products that aren't on the authorized list of 41 products from the FDA.
- Passing this will remove thousands of different e-cigarette products currently available for purchase.
- Most products targeting youth will be made illegal, helping keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco.
- California has established a similar practice to help ensure only approved products are sold in their state.

Thank you for your continued efforts to safeguard our Hawaii residents from the unknown short term and long term effects of these products. As in the case of research on the harmful effects of cigarette smoking, it is looking like we are just now learning about similiar effects of these products which will impact on our states financial health cost for many years to come.

Valerie Smalley

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 10:17:47 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sabrina Spencer	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Asking you not to ban these products that so my people here in Hawaii enjoy.

Thank You - Stay Maui Strong

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 12:36:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maddalynn Seseapasara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in full support of this bill.

This directory bill will ban all tobacco products that aren't on the authorized list of 41 products from the FDA.

Most products targeting youth will be made illegal, helping keep our keiki safe from Big Tobacco.

Thank you for your time, please make the right decision and support this bill.

Mahalo,

Maddalynn Seseapasara

LATE

HB-1573-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/7/2026 6:00:09 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/8/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Hagan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Honorable Chairs, Vice-Chairs, and Committee Members-

I am writing in **strong support of HB 1573 HD3 SD1, RELATING TO HEALTH.**

As a nurse, a teacher, and a parent, I am concerned about the high rates of vaping in our state's youth, not to mention the environmental damage from disposable e-cigarettes. This bill would limit the sale of electronic smoking device (ESD) products to ones that are authorized by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Currently, this is 41 out of thousands of products that are flooding the markets. Our Attorney General should be able to ensure that the products being sold in Hawai'i stores have at least gone through basic federal review. Most of these products are made in China, where there is a ban on the sale of flavored e-cigarettes that tend to target youth. Instead, they are exported to be sold to the United States. Our health and safety is at risk from so many unapproved products being sold in our communities, so I urge you to support HB1573.

Mahalo,

Kathleen Hagan, MS, APRN-BC, CNE

Pā'ia, Maui