



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
Wednesday, February 12, 2025 at 9:32 a.m.

By

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And

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SB 1525 – RELATING TO HEALTH

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i Cancer Center strongly supports SB 1525, which 1) requires electronic smoking device and e-liquid manufacturers to submit certifications with the Department of Taxation annually, stating that the manufacturer's products comply with federal regulations; 2) requires the Department of Taxation to maintain a directory of manufacturers of electronic smoking devices and e-liquids whose certifications the Department approved; and 3) imposes penalties.

We support this bill because of findings from our research on Hawai'i adolescents and young adults conducted over the last several years. Our research shows that use of electronic nicotine devices (ENDs) is quite prevalent among Hawai'i adolescents and young adults and increased retail availability and point-of-sale marketing of these products are associated with increased use of the products among young people. There are concerns regarding mislabeled products being made available to young people. Further, there are concerns that young people are increasingly using disposable flavored ENDS products produced by dubious manufacturers.

SB 1525 is important because requiring ENDS and e-liquid manufacturers to submit certifications with the Department of Taxation and having the Department of Taxation maintain a directory of manufacturers would help better surveil ENDS and related products as well as ensure that only products that comply with federal regulations are made available to the general public. This bill may especially help monitor the type of ENDS products that young people may access in the market. Hence, we strongly support SB 1525 and ask you to pass this out of committee.