



Oral Testimony in Support before the

House Committee on Judiciary

on

HB 2450 – Amending the Kansas clean indoor air act to include vaping of tobacco-derived products.

by

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Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

As we understand it, **HB 2450** would amend the Kansas clean indoor air act to include the prohibition of the indoor use of “electronic cigarettes” as defined by K.S.A. 79-3301.

At the KASB Delegate Assembly in December of 2019, members voted to adopt our 2020 Legislative resolution that includes the following statement:

Electronic nicotine delivery devices. Support efforts to improve education and awareness of and address the physical and psychological damage caused by tobacco and electronic nicotine delivery devices, including cessation. Support action by the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) to prohibit tobacco use and the use of electronic nicotine delivery devices at school activities. Expand the Indoor Clean Air Act to include such devices.

This language was included in our policy statement after several regional discussions in the summer and fall of 2019 reflecting a growing concern among our members about the use of ENDD’s on school grounds.

The State Board of Education has been leading the discussion on the impacts of Vaping/E-Cigarette use in school facilities and in December approved recommendations from their task force that would prohibit not only students and staff but also parents, volunteers, contractors and vendors from using any tobacco products and e-cigarettes “in any district facility, in school vehicles, at school-sponsored activities, programs or events, and on school owned property at all times.”

While most Kansas school districts have taken action to ban the use of these devices in schools, the ability to regulate the general population during school sponsored events or activities is more complicated because it is not prohibited in current statute.

KASB believes that adopting HB 2450 to include “electronic cigarette” in the language of the Kansas clean indoor air act would help to strengthen the policies of school districts across the state and support them in the enforcement of those policies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2450 and I will be happy to stand for any questions at the appropriate time.