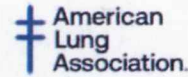


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CITY CLERK



September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Dear Mayor Bennett, Council President DeBaun, Vice President Boland and Members of the Council,

The American Lung Association, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, and Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights **encourages the City Council of Terre Haute to vote YES to add the use of electronic smoking devices (ESDs) to the definition in your local smokefree air ordinance.**

Everyone deserves the right to a smokefree workplace because secondhand smoke is a leading cause of heart disease, cancer, respiratory illness, and other serious health risks. Smoke is smoke including secondhand smoke and aerosol produced from electronic smoking devices.

The national trend is for the inclusion ESDs in smokefree laws — 27 states and more than 1,000 municipalities restrict e-cigarette use in venues where smoking is not allowed. Use of ESDs in smokefree spaces not only poses a public health risk to the user and the bystander but also renormalizes the act of indoor smoking, role modeling the behavior to young people. In addition, ESD use makes enforcement of 100% smokefree spaces challenging, especially for business owners, as it's difficult to determine what type of product is in use.

ESDs do not just emit "harmless water vapor." **Secondhand aerosol from ESDs contains nicotine, ultrafine particles and low levels of toxins** that are known to cause cancer. Many of the elements identified in the aerosol are known to **cause respiratory distress and disease**. For these reasons, The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends that employers "establish and maintain smoke-free workplaces that protect those in workplaces from involuntary, secondhand exposures to tobacco smoke and airborne emissions from e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems." Ventilation systems are not a solution to removing the toxins identified in secondhand aerosol. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) has concluded that ESDs emit harmful chemicals into the air and need to be regulated in the same manner as tobacco smoking. The "E-cigarettes do not produce a vapor (gas), but rather a dense visible aerosol of liquid sub-micron droplets consisting of glycols, nicotine, and other chemicals, some of which are carcinogenic (e.g., formaldehyde, metals like cadmium, lead, & nickel, and nitrosamines)."

To maximize protections and realize the full public health benefit of a 100% smokefree law, including use of ESDs, we urge your support of this ordinance. Thank you for your leadership and desire to make Terre Haute the best place to live, work, and visit. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or feedback.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Nichols, MBA  
American Lung Association

Allie Kast  
American Cancer Society  
Cancer Action Network

Traci Kennedy, MPA  
Americans for Nonsmokers'  
Rights