



OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

October 22, 2019

Dear Representative Webber and Committee:

On behalf of the people CARE of Southeastern Michigan serves, including the 15,000+ youth we serve each year, I urge you to enact measures to protect youth from vaping. We have seen a drastic increase in both you access and use of vaping products and a sharp increase in the number of people hospitalized and have a died as a result of vaping related illnesses. Every day we hear from local schools, parents, and even youth about vaping related concerns.

Now is not the time to restrict the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services ability to quickly respond to this growing public health issue. The strategies being used by the vaping industry are similar to tactics used by the tobacco industry. They are targeting youth to create a new generation of people addicted to harmful nicotine products by making them appealing to a younger market through flavorings, targeted advertsing to young people, and falsly promoting vaping as a healthy or healthier choice.

Now is not the time to restrict the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services ability to quickly respond to this growing public health issue. Michigan has the opportunity to be at the forefront of curbing the growing vaping epidemic.

Sincerely,

Monique Stanton

President & CEO

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