

# ELECTRONIC CIGARETTE DEVICES



## **Our Goal:**

The goal of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama is to establish a fully tobacco free society. Tobacco is a highly addictive substance and the single most preventable cause of disease, disability, and death in the United States. The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama supports measures to eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke, eliminate tobacco use by youth, promote cessation treatment, and deter tobacco use in the general population.

## **What are electronic cigarette devices?**

Electronic cigarettes, commonly referred to as e-cigarettes, are products designed to deliver nicotine or other substances to a user in the form of a vapor. Typically, they are composed of a rechargeable, battery-operated heating element, a replaceable cartridge that may contain nicotine or other chemicals and an atomizer that, when heated, converts the contents of the cartridge into a vapor. This vapor can then be inhaled by the user. These products are often made to look like cigarettes, cigars and pipes. They are also sometimes made to look like everyday items such as pens and USB memory sticks for people who wish to use the product without others noticing.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration:

- E-cigarettes may contain ingredients that are known to be toxic to humans.
- These products may be attractive to young people and may lead kids to try other tobacco products, including conventional cigarettes, which are known to cause disease and death.
- Because clinical studies about the safety and efficacy of these products have not been submitted to FDA, consumers currently have no way of knowing the danger of e-cigarettes.

## **Our Position:**

Electronic cigarettes are often marketed as a smoking cessation aid or tobacco replacement; however, there is no scientific evidence that e-cigarettes can help smokers quit. The Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama, along with other leading national health organizations, including the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, the American Heart Association, the American Lung Association, and the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, remain concerned about the potential public health effects of e-cigarettes. The Coalition supports the inclusion of e-cigarettes in all new smokefree laws and we support state laws to prohibit the sale of any flavored e-cigarette product.



For more information, visit  
[tobaccofreealabama.org](http://tobaccofreealabama.org)