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Hello. My name is Dylan Vogtman, I am 26 years old, I live in Finksburg Maryland and own and operate a vapor business in Finksburg MD. I am here to vehemently oppose this flavor ban.

The majority of people in this room have had significant life improvements thanks to vapor products. You'll hear about it saving lives and altering death sentences. The stories we tell are not fabricated and we would gladly make the same statements under oath. Hundreds of millions of people have started smoking around the same young, adolescent age and many of their stories ended their death. Approximately 320 million people have died from smoking related diseases from 1980 to 2020 and this is the real issue that needs to be addressed

I spent my teenage years participating in missionary programs all across the country and even abroad. I know the power of Christ, I've seen it with my own eyes and the new life it has given people. I thought the transformations were amazing. In the Spring of 2015, I began working in a vape shop to help people quit smoking. I found that the transformations in this medium were just as amazing as Christ's. I knew I had found a calling and I wanted to help every single smoker in the world quit. New life had a whole new meaning. Watching someone transition from cigarettes to vapor products is truly a spiritual experience and I hope all of you find time to go visit a place that does this work and see it for yourself.

You'll hear over and over and over that flavors are the reason that people are able to quit. Tobacco tastes terrible and adding menthol to tobacco barely tastes better. When an alcoholic is quitting drinking he shouldn't be drinking O'douls. We are shaking the foundation of our country with the most disruptive technology since the microwave.

We want to end the era of the deadly combustible cigarette.

We want to end smoking related diseases.

Some people will say that these products are not cessation products, but I can introduce you to a thousand people who will say that it is. Flavors are vital to nicotine gum, and flavors are vital to ENDS products.

Currently, you can access foreign-owned websites and with just a credit card number you can access hundreds of ENDS products. We have zero control over these sites

selling and shipping to underage kids. A flavor ban would force adults to use the sites and increase the likelihood that kids will find them.

Cannabis has been federally illegal since 1935. After nearly a century of filling prisons, it is still federally illegal while its health benefits are just now being utilized and understood. With the introduction of vapor technology, the cannabis industry found a way to vaporize liquid cannabis. Drug dealers, with no intent to operate within the confines of the law, have produced products containing vitamin e acetate that have killed more than 50 people. With a flavored vapor ban I expect bad actors will arise and there will be more sickness and death as uneducated consumers turn to a dangerous black market.

Something needs to be done. Something that will work and be supported by the companies that make up this industry. We need to reach everyone trapped in an addiction with cigarettes in every part of Maryland to help them quit.