

VAPING AWARENESS PUBLIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

SPEARHEADING THE FIGHT TO BREAK CIGARETTE ADDICTION



WWW.VAPESOCIETY.ORG

HB842

FAV/AMENDMENT

Date: March 27, 2025
To: Economic Matters Committee Post-Cross
From: Scott Webber
Co-Founder

The V.A.P.E. Society as an organization and myself, Scott Webber as an Officer and as a Maryland resident, firmly and steadfastly support strong regulation of the vaping industry. This includes both vigorous controls to minimize the use and abuse by young adults, but also advocates for expanding availability and use for ALL users of combustible tobacco products, based on the unquestionable scientific and medical benefits underlying the concept of ‘Harm Reduction’, and the undeniable benefits of vaping over smoking.

With this understanding, the V.A.P.E. Society supports SB0842 and its attempts to regulate the sale and distribution of vaping [ESD] products.

However, we believe that it goes to far, and infringes upon civil liberties without sufficient due process, much as is being seen by the current Trump Administration in many of its recent activities involving DOGE, ICE, and other agencies that are working at the fringes – or beyond – of extrajudicial practices.

We are also concerned about the extraordinarily disproportionate regulatory burdens placed on different industries and societal actors.

Recent bills submitted into the current session, including HB1516 and SB1026 decried the excessive and unsustainable burden upon the banking industry of having every entity that hold Maryland mortgages or installment loans from having to be licensed, or even having to identify a single person or entity to be the target of licensure. The reduction of regulation – involving the COMPLETE WAIVER OF LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS upon these multi-million, or multi-billion dollar entities, who want the power to foreclose upon Maryland homeowners, but complain about the burden of simply having to register and be licensed, is fully supported by the OFR, with a position that they simply cannot be expected to keep up with regulating these lenders and assignees due to the excessive burden.

Per SB0842, not only do all impacted entities have to register and be licensed, but they must post DAILY reports to the Executive Director, among other requirements.

To achieve a balance of regulation, and due process, the V.A.P.E. Society submits the following amendments:

1. Reduce the invoice report posting requirements to coincide with the monthly inventory posting requirements.
2. Change all seizure without warrant language to ‘seizure upon showing of good cause’, and make ‘good cause’ determinations based on the monthly reports submitted, or upon visual and clear identification of a defined contraband item.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Webber', with a stylized, flowing script.

Scott Webber

Supporting Testimony From Scott Webber

Based on SCIENCE and FACT:

Vapor is NOT smoke!

Vaping is SAFE to the user and to bystanders

Vaping is the most effective means to get smokers to stop smoking

Vaping saves \$\$ Money \$\$

Vaping saves LIVES !!

Vaping is GREAT for Maryland's Public Health

Vaping is GREAT for Maryland's Fiscal Health

Opposing Vaping based on fear, ignorance, and misinformation is bad governance

SUPPORTING Vaping based on science, evidence, and fact is smart and responsible

If you have any interest in becoming more aware and educated about the benefits – and risks – of Vaping, please contact the V.A.P.E. Society and we would be most willing to assist you in finding the truth based on SCIENCE, FACT and EVIDENCE.

Please visit www.vapesociety.org or call or write

Scott Webber – Co-Founder

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