

HB0003/993496/1

BY: Economic Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 3
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 17, before “and” insert “making the provisions of this Act severable; declaring certain findings and the intent of the General Assembly;”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 19, before line 16, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, if any provision of this Act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or any other application of this Act that can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and for this purpose the provisions of this Act are declared severable.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) cartridge-based and closed electronic smoking devices present public health concerns due to the increase in the usage of these products by Maryland’s youth population;

(2) data demonstrates that teen use of electronic smoking devices increased by 70% between 2016 and 2018 and that Maryland’s youth are introduced to electronic smoking devices through closed and cartridge-based electronic smoking devices; and

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(3) the use of electronic smoking devices puts Maryland's youth at risk of developing a lifelong addiction to nicotine products, which can harm adolescent brain development by negatively affecting the parts of the brain that control attention, mood, learning, and impulse control.

(b) It is in the interest of the State and the intent of the General Assembly to discourage the use of closed and cartridge-based electronic smoking devices without depriving adult users of electronic smoking devices of access to open electronic smoking device products as an alternative to combustible cigarettes.”;

and in line 16, strike “2.” and substitute “4.”.