



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**SUPPORT TESTIMONY**

**HB 1414 - Electronic Smoking Devices - Licensure, Indoor Use, and Taxation - Alterations**

The Honorable C.T. Wilson, Chair  
Economic Matters Committee  
Maryland House of Delegates  
6 Bladen Street, Room 231  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Crosby, and Esteemed Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

House Bill 1414 is aimed at addressing the public health concerns associated with electronic smoking devices. This bill seeks to enhance the regulatory framework surrounding the licensure, indoor use, and taxation of electronic smoking devices within our state.

HB 1414 proposes significant amendments regarding the sales and use of Electronic Cigarette Devices (ECD). One such provision ensures that only products approved by the Food and Drug Administration may be sold in Maryland. With this provision, only manufacturers who have passed stringent quality standards can sell their products to Maryland residents.

The bill extends the scope of the Clean Indoor Air Act, historically focused on traditional tobacco products, to include electronic smoking devices. By doing so, HB 1414 recognizes the evolving landscape of smoking habits and the need to safeguard the health of all Marylanders from the effects of vaping in indoor environments. This includes the impact of second-hand vapor inhalation and aligns ECDs with other tobacco-based products.

The legislation also addresses the economic aspects of electronic smoking devices by altering the taxable price from twelve percent to thirty percent. By adjusting taxation rates, HB 1414 aligns tax rates with similar products and aims to balance the economic interests of businesses with the state's duty to promote public health and welfare. This balanced approach ensures that the state can continue to fund vital public health initiatives and discourages using potentially harmful products through financial disincentives.

In conclusion, House Bill 1414 represents a comprehensive and forward-thinking approach to regulating electronic smoking devices in Maryland. It embodies our collective responsibility to protect public health, ensure the integrity of businesses operating within this space, and create a cleaner, healthier environment for all residents. I urge my fellow legislators to support this bill, recognizing its potential to significantly contribute to the well-being of our state and its people. For these reasons, I urge your support for House Bill 1414 and respectfully request a favorable report.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Kris Fair'.

Delegate Kris Fair  
District 3, Frederick County