Melissa Hendrix

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Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Committee members:

I'm writing today to express my strong opposition to HB 1441. After reading everything it seems as if this bill will hurt my business but will help the big tobacco companies. Our vape industry has been working with legislation to regulate our products in a way that will help everyone however this bill only helps certain companies.

The requirements that HB1441 imposes only hurts the small vape manufacturing businesses that are unable to meet. This will leave the big tobacco products on the shelves of all the corner stores and will limit the number of products for the consumer. This is a financial burden on the vape industry as a whole big or small. Big tobacco will be able to foot the bill for this one and their products will remain available.

If this bill sits the way it is this bill will limit the customers to high nicotine products, driving out of state to purchase what they want, or a black market. This will shut down small businesses which will take tax revenue from the state and cost the state around \$100 million annually. This is more paperwork that is not needed to regulate our industry.

Vaping is not going away whether you ban the products or just learn to regulate better. Consumers will do what they can to get what they want. In turn this will take payroll tax revenue, state sales taxes, and an increase in unemployment for the state.

This is a threat to the vape manufacturers and all the small vape shops that are truly vape shops will suffer the most. True vape shops are checking ID's and paying the correct tax that has been applied. This will also hurt the state's economy, small vape businesses, and public health.