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**From:** CA <tonycecchetto@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 5, 2020 5:14 AM  
**To:** Office of the Legislative Counsel  
**Subject:** bill 233

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Bill 233

Clause 3 adds electronic cigarettes to the prohibitions against minors possessing tobacco and allows items forfeited to the Crown to be disposed of as the Minister of Health and Wellness directs.

Adding e-cigarette to end of every line in hopes to group them with tobacco products is wrong. Though both combustible cigarettes and ecigarettes have nicotine that is about the only thing they have in common. Cigarettes contain about 7000 chemicals where most eliquid would have 3 main ones then depending on how the flavour profile is would be dependant on how many other added flavours there are. Still a lot less then the 7000 in cigarettes.

Section 3 of Chapter 14 of the Acts of 1993, the Tobacco Access Act, as amended by Chapter 12 of the Acts of 1999, Chapter 58 of the Acts of 2014 and Chapter 26 of the Acts of 2015, is further amended by

(e) "tobacco" means tobacco in any form, intended to be consumed in any manner, and, for greater certainty, includes snuff, tobacco leaves, any extract of tobacco leaves and electronic cigarettes, but does not include any food, drug or device that contains nicotine to which the Food and Drugs Act (Canada) applies;

Electronic cigarettes as much as people like to think they are tobacco they are not. Nicotine may come from the tobacco plant but it is much different then tobacco and it the only thing even related to tobacco in an ecig and like you stated in that section it would not apply to devices that contain nicotine. Just because the Food and Drug act does not apply doesn't mean that an electronic cigarette is now a tobacco product or should be treated as such. Electronic cigarettes are a harm reduction tool that can be used to lower smokers harm when smokers are reluctant to quit. "vaping" has been shown to be at least 95% less harmful then smoking and has also shown to be a proven and effective way to get people to quit all together.

Section 7 of Chapter 14, as amended by Chapter 12 of the Acts of 1999 and Chapter 26 of the Acts of 2015, is further amended by

- (e) tobacco with a nicotine concentration above the amount prescribed in the regulations; or
- (f) an electronic cigarette with a capacity above the amount prescribed in the regulations.

Putting a nicotine cap in place would restrict adults access to harm reduction tools that have proven to be effective in helping smokers quit. Canada already has a 66mg nic cap in place as stated above and showed be followed federally as it would be confusing to have different provinces with different nicotine strength caps as anyone looking to order higher then Nova Scotia is willing to bring in will resulting in residents ordering from out of province manufactures to get their products.

The other thing I will touch on is the electronic cigarette market has been a consumer driven grass roots industry. Lots of items have come from smokers making the switch and developing their own products that they think will help others make the switch to a less harmful alternative. Putting limits on device capacities and how much a device can hold will limit consumers ability to better the products as well as the manufactures making the products.

Chapter 14 is further amended by adding immediately after Section 10 the following Sections:

10A (1) An enforcement officer may seize without a warrant any thing that is produced to the enforcement officer or that is in plain view during an inspection that the enforcement officer believes may be used as evidence of an offence.

If I'm not mistaken this goes against Canada Charter or Rights and Freedoms as I don't think police officers or any officers are allowed to seize anyone's property without following the proper laws in place. Taking peoples items without following laws and warrants could result in serious legal matters for the government and law officials moving forward. Something to consider when making new laws.

As a former asthmatic smoker who struggled with trying to quit for many years, I am very thankful for "vaping" products, electronic cigarettes, electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), or whatever people feel like calling them these days. The issue with calling them vaping products is you can vape a lot of different substances and I'm sure most have heard; vaping nicotine hasn't killed anyone. You might have thought you read that wrong, but you didn't. No nicotine e-liquid was not responsible for any of the lung injuries we seen present themselves in Sept of 2019 and dates moving forward. The CDC finally came forward and confirmed that vitamin acetate in Thc distillate was the cause of it and surprisingly enough governments and media up here in Canada seem very reluctant to face those facts. They continue to demonize and raise fear and panic when it comes to ENDS products and have really hurt the main goal from most of the industry which is if you are a smoker you could quit. Using e-cigarettes has been proven to be more effective then any other NRT (nicotine replacement therapy) on the market to help smokers quit. For those smokers that don't want to quit and have no desire they should switch to an electronic nicotine delivery system that will allow them to consume nicotine, which is the substance they are addicted to, in an at least 95 % less harmful way. Allowing smokers to have access to these products and keeping them affordable is the best solution to have a smoke free Nova Scotia.

If you want to continue to have people smoking which I feel like some of you might after looking at the budget and wanting the 196 mill you make off smokers continue to pass this bill. As for the estimated 4 million your wanting from vaping your not even going to come close to that if you pass this bill. You will effectively destroy this industry with just the proposed tax alone. Doubling the cost of products wont only stop youth from using the products you will stop adults and push adults back to smoking which seems like this is what the plan is anyway.

If you or any of your loved ones have smoked or if anyone in your family has been sent to death by smoking cigarettes please do not send everyone else and their loved ones to that death as well by passing this bill.

Anthony Cecchetto