

Ladies and Gentlemen of the COMMITTEE FOCUSED ON RAISING PURCHASE AGE OF ALL TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO 21:

Being the parents of a person born in 2002, we have endured many new safety and security measures around our nation and especially in our schools. There has been a heightened awareness everywhere. To find ourselves in this moment where we so ardently work to protect the children--our future--while we have allowed toxic, quick habit-forming e-cigarettes and vape products to fall into their hands under the guise of being "harmless" is truly unforgivable. The fact that these devices even for adults have been touted as a good, safe replacement for cigarette/nicotine addiction is certainly questionable. The 20+ years of work to educate and lessen regular cigarette use among teens has all but been erased within the grasp of vaping. It is easily concealable and available!

Please make a statement and a start to address this growing problem in our state by raising the purchase age of ALL TOBACCO PRODUCTS TO 21. With the train so far out of the station, It will then become the job of of the FDA, in my opinion, to better regulate the safety and efficacy of products being placed on shelves for anybody's consumption. It is a true disappointment that these products have been allowed, but YOU ALL HAVE THE POWER to heighten awareness and provide a sliver of protection to our youth against this new wellness concern. Thank you for your consideration and representation.

Tony & Karen (Starr) Giannelli