

Hello, I want to thank you for your time. My name is Riley and I live at 1605 31st Street. I am a recent graduate of Western and I work here in the community. I am here to support the proposed legislation on regulation of e-cigarettes in public places.

1. Because it is irritating to the public.
2. Because it has potential health risks to people that are not voluntarily inhaling the vapor.
3. Because it establishes a social activity that is unhealthy for future generations.

There were two main reasons that the SIPP act was established. The first was for fire safety and property value. Because e-cigarettes do not burn they don't pose as much of a risk for landlords and although some have been reported to explode, they are not causing fires every day. The other reason that the SIPP act was established was for public safety and comfort. This is where e-cigarettes are comparable to combustibles. Do you remember walking into a bowling alley and feeling the odor cling to your clothes and hair? It is not a pleasant smell, something that we are all put off by. E-cigarettes are laced with delicious smells that are meant to be pleasant but often become overpowering. The odor is of a different nature but still can be irritating. Imagine a restaurant full of mixed flavors of vapor. Smoking in public places was in part banned because it was irritating to the public. E-cigarettes are irritating to the public. The traditional SIPP was established also because of health risks. Second hand smoke is something that is comparable to e-cigarettes as the aerosol that is burned through the e-cig process turns into vapor that can indeed be inhaled again. Although it has been shown to be far less dangerous than traditional cigarettes, safer does not mean safe. A study called "second hand exposures to vapors from electronic cigarettes" found that although the levels of inhalation of secondhand emissions are quite a bit lower, the chemicals are still being inhaled. They concluded that "using an e-cigarette in indoor environments may involuntarily expose nonusers to nicotine" we don't know exactly what the health effects of nicotine exposure are yet but nicotine is extremely unhealthy. E-cigarettes are a nicotine product. The aerosol that is burned can be inhaled and can cause health defects.

As a closing note, and perhaps an attempt at rhetoric I would like to add that we should be looking at our long term effects of these choices. When we establish this kind of behavior we create an example for people to follow. If kids grow up in an environment where smoking a cigarette is disgusting but e-cigarettes are allowed anywhere, are they going to rationalize the facts? They will follow our footsteps. We are giving birth to another unhealthy habit as a social activity and we have the opportunity and the duty to recognize that.