According to the U.S. Surgeon General's report on e-cigarettes and young people, “No matter how it’s delivered, nicotine is harmful for youth and young adults.”

E-cigarettes are devices that heat a liquid, usually containing nicotine, flavoring and other additives, into an aerosol that the user inhales.

E-cigarettes are considered among tobacco products because most contain nicotine, which comes from tobacco and are addictive. Besides nicotine, e-cigarettes can contain other harmful ingredients.

A recent CDC report indicates that e-cigarette use has risen dramatically in the last five years, with 1 in 6 high school students using e-cigarettes in the past month.

Last year, we proudly supported and vigorously advocated for the inclusion of electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) in the Clean Indoor Air Act and the ban of their use on school grounds.

Alarmingly, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) shows that e-cigarettes and other Electronic Nictone Delivery Systems (ENDS) use among students in grades 6-12 tripled in one year’s time and are the most commonly used tobacco products among youth. According to a recent report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, there is now substantial evidence the e-cigarette use can be “highly addictive” and teenagers that use these devices are at higher risk of smoking traditional tobacco products.

E-cigarettes and other ENDS are shockingly available in more than 7,000 fruit and candy flavors and use cartoons and celebrities, which are appealing to youth, in their advertising.

NYS PTA fully supports:

• The imposition of an excise tax of 10 cents per fluid milliliter on vapor products at the distributor level;

• Legislation, regulation and/or other national, state and local measures to strengthen the prohibitions on the sale, advertising and marketing of e-cigarettes and other ENDS to youth (18 years or younger); and

• Increased educational programs and activities aimed at ending tobacco and e-cigarette use by youth.

For more information, please contact Kyle McCauley Belokopitsky, Esq., NYS PTA Executive Director at execdirector@nyspta.org, 518-452-8808