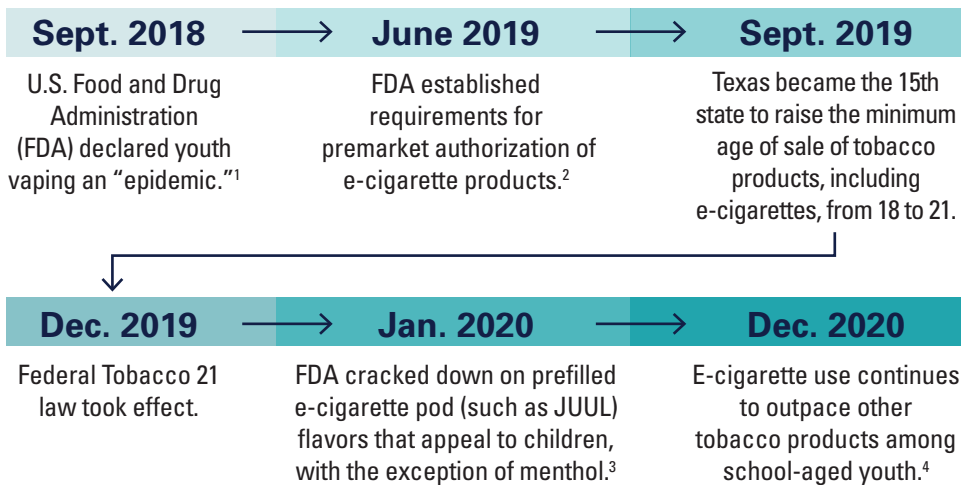




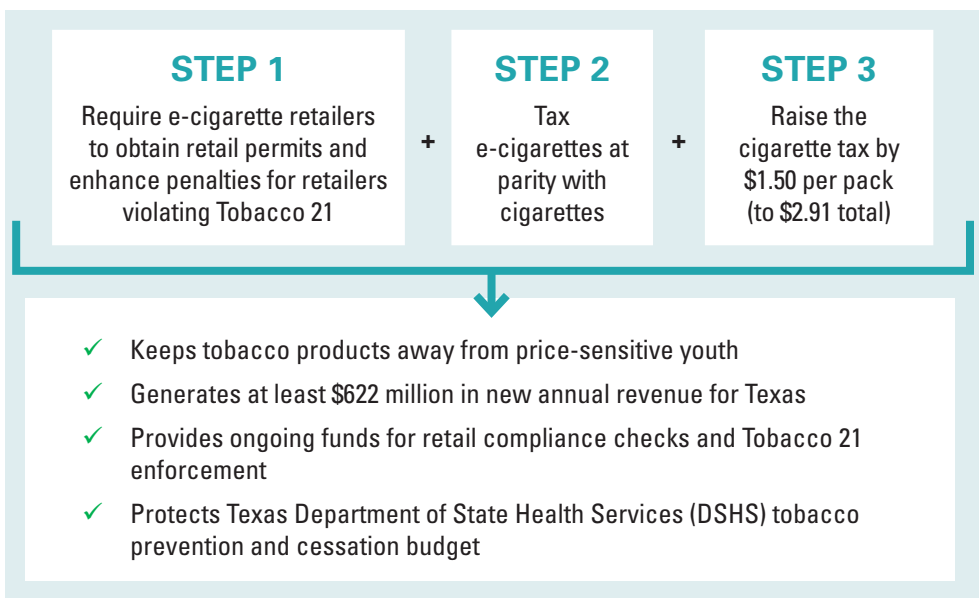
KEEP TOBACCO OUT OF THE HANDS OF TEXAS YOUTH

PROGRESS IS EVIDENT, BUT YOUTH VAPING REMAINS AT EPIDEMIC LEVELS



The number of Texas youth currently vaping is still alarmingly high (more than one in six),³ and 85% of current high school e-cigarette users prefer flavored products, including fruit (73%); mint (56%); menthol (37%); and candy, desserts, or other sweets (37%).⁴

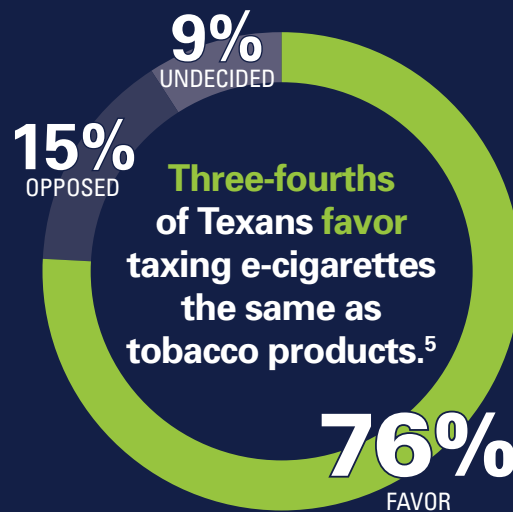
HOW TEXAS LAWMAKERS CAN COMBAT TOBACCO USE



1. FDA. (September 2018). [Statement from FDA Commissioner Scott Gottlieb, M.D., on new steps to address epidemic of youth e-cigarette use.](#)
 2. FDA. (June 2019). [Premarket Tobacco Product Applications for Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems \(ENDS\).](#)
 3. Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids. (October 2020). [The Toll of Tobacco in Texas.](#)
 4. [National Youth Tobacco Survey](#) (December 2020).
 5. Poll commissioned by the Texas Medical Association and conducted by the Eppstein Group, Nov. 18-23, 2020, among 1,200 registered voters, including cell phone and online surveys, with a margin of error of +/- 2.9%.

In Texas, some tobacco taxes and regulations still do not apply to e-cigarettes.

Texas does not require a permit to sell e-cigarette products and charges sales tax but no excise tax on these products, including cartridge-style, disposable pods, and refillable tanks.



THE TEXAS PUBLIC HEALTH COALITION RECOMMENDS:

1. Require all retailers to obtain a permit to sell e-cigarettes (SB 248).
2. Close the excise tax loophole on e-cigarettes and tax at parity with all cigarettes, including all components such as tanks, mods, and liquids (SB 216/HB 1255/HB 1523).
3. Raise the cigarette tax by \$1.50 per pack.
4. Enhance enforcement of Tobacco 21 law prohibiting sales of tobacco and e-cigarette products to underage Texans, including increased compliance checks on retailers and enhanced penalties.
5. Protect and restore DSHS funding for tobacco prevention and enforcement.
6. Oppose any attempts by the tobacco industry to corrupt bills prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products in Texas.



The Texas Public Health Coalition is a coalition of health professional organizations and health-focused organizations dedicated to disease prevention and health promotion.

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MEMBERS

Alzheimer's Association	Texas Association of Community Health Centers
American Heart Association	Texas Chapter of the American College of Physicians Services
American Lung Association	Texas eHealth Alliance
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas	Texas Health Institute
Children's Hospital Association of Texas	Texas Hospital Association
The Cooper Institute	Texas Medical Association
Harris County Public Health	Texas Nurses Association
The Immunization Partnership	Texas Oral Health Coalition, Inc.
It's Time Texas	Texas Osteopathic Medical Association
March of Dimes	Texas Pediatric Society
Methodist Healthcare Ministries	Texas Physicians for Social Responsibility
Texas Academy of Family Physicians	Texas Public Health Association
Texas Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics	Texas Renal Coalition
Texas Academy of Physician Assistants	Texas School Nurses Organization
Texas Association of City & County Health Officials	Texas State Alliance of YMCAs
	United Ways of Texas

RESOURCES

CANCER PREVENTION AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS
MD ANDERSON CANCER CENTER

MICHAEL AND SUSAN DELL CENTER FOR HEALTHY LIVING
PARTNERSHIP FOR A HEALTHY TEXAS

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES