

To Australia's Federal Politicians

Please, protect our kids' health and pass the Vape Bill

A letter from Australian doctors across all fields of medicine, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, public health experts, teachers, mental health and social workers, advocates, guardians and parents.

The tobacco and vape industries and their allies are working hard to addict a new generation of young Australians to nicotine through their vaping products.

One in six Australian children aged 12-17 has vaped in the last month¹. Nine in ten vape stores are located near schools², and most teenagers report how easy it is to access vapes. The tobacco and vape industry's marketing strategy deliberately targets young people. The devices deliver large amounts of nicotine resulting in accelerated addiction.

We need to stop the tobacco and vape industry and their allies from making vapes easily accessible to children and young people.

The Bill will close the loophole that retail and online shops exploit to sell illegal vapes to children. If the Bill is passed, it means an end to convenience stores, delis and petrol stations selling vapes to children.

As our elected members, you have a critical opportunity to avoid undoing decades of success in preventing tobacco and nicotine use among children.

You can protect our children while ensuring people who want to quit have access to vaping products through a prescription model.

87% of Australian adults support reforms to stop the sale of vapes to people under 18 years³.

We stand with them and urge you to do the same. The time to act is now.

Support the Bill.

1. ASSAD 2022/2023: Australian secondary school students' use of tobacco and e-cigarettes. Prepared for the Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. Melbourne: Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer, Cancer Council Victoria, 2023.
2. Study conducted in Western Australia in Jan 2023. See: Vape stores in Western Australia: growth, proximity to schools and socio-economic gradient of density. Australian and New Zealand Journal of Public Health 2024:100118.
3. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2022-23: Electronic cigarettes and vapes. Supplementary data tables. Canberra: AIHW, 2024. 86.8% of Australian adults aged 18+ support or strongly support "Prohibiting the sale of electronic cigarettes/vapes, including those without nicotine, to people under 18 years of age".



Professor Emily Banks AM, Australian National University
Professor Renee Bittoun, Nicotine Addiction Specialist
Professor Tom Calma AO FAA FASSA, National Coordinator Tackling Indigenous Smoking
Emeritus Professor Simon Chapman AO, The University of Sydney
Emeritus Professor Donna Cross OAM FAHMS
Emeritus Professor Mike Daube AO, Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University
Dr Kingsley Faulkner, Past President, Royal Australasian College of Surgeons (RACS)
Associate Professor Becky Freeman, The University of Sydney
Associate Professor Michelle Jongenelis, The University of Melbourne
Professor Simone Pettigrew, The George Institute for Global Health
Dr Anthea Rhodes, Paediatrician, Director, RCH National Child Health Poll
Professor Philip Robinson, Director, Department of Respiratory and Sleep Medicine, The Royal Children's Hospital
Professor Fiona Stanley AC FAA FASSA
Dr Moya Vandeleur, Respiratory and Sleep Paediatrician, The Royal Children's Hospital



Support the bill
Find out more
www.acosh.org/vapefree

 acosh
Australian Council on Smoking & Health