

1 A RESOLUTION designating May 1, 2019, as Vaping Awareness Day.

2 WHEREAS, in 2018, 27.1 percent of high school students and 7.2 percent of  
3 middle school students in the United States used a tobacco product; and

4 WHEREAS, one in five high school students and one in 20 middle school students  
5 used e-cigarettes in 2018, high school use jumped 78 percent, and middle school use  
6 jumped 48 percent in the United States over 2017; and

7 WHEREAS, in 2017, 26 percent of Kentucky high school students, compared to  
8 19.5 percent nationwide, and 7.6 percent of Kentucky middle school students used a  
9 tobacco product; and

10 WHEREAS, in 2017, 14.1 percent of Kentucky high school students, compared to  
11 13.2 percent nationwide, and 3.9 percent of Kentucky middle school students used e-  
12 cigarettes; and

13 WHEREAS, nicotine is a highly addictive drug that impairs brain development,  
14 reducing impulse control and inhibiting learning; and

15 WHEREAS, nearly 90 percent of adult tobacco use starts before age 18; and

16 WHEREAS, three out of four teen smokers end up smoking into adulthood; and

17 WHEREAS, every day in the United States, 300 youth become daily cigarette  
18 smokers; and

19 WHEREAS, youth who use e-cigarettes are more likely to become adult smokers;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, new tobacco products, such as JUUL and other pod mod e-cigarettes,  
22 present an opportunity to update school health policies; and

23 WHEREAS, Kentucky has the fourth-highest youth smoking rate in the nation; and

24 WHEREAS, 2,500 new youths become smokers every year in Kentucky, and  
25 119,000 youths alive today will die prematurely from smoking;

26 NOW, THEREFORE,

27 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***

1 ***Kentucky:***

2       ➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby proclaim Wednesday, May 1,  
3 2019, as Vaping Awareness Day in the Commonwealth.

4       ➔Section 2. The members of the Senate hereby urge all school districts to  
5 organize and sponsor educational activities to educate students, staff, and parents about  
6 the dangers of vaping and to train school staff to identify the warning signs of abuse and  
7 how to assist students who suffer from or are at risk of addiction.

8       ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate shall deliver a copy of this Resolution to  
9 Kentucky State Senator Brandon Smith; and Ms. Pam Burton, Johnson County Schools,  
10 251 North Mayo Trail, Paintsville, Kentucky 41240.