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News Release

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Board Approves Ban on Sale of E-Cigarettes to Stop Vaping Among Youth *Ordinance Would Make It Harder for Users Under Age 21 to Buy Products*

Acting on a formal recommendation from Supervisors Dave Cortese and Cindy Chavez, the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved banning the sale of e-cigarettes to residents under age 21 in unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County.

The Board's vote at the Tuesday, September 24 meeting, was a response to the rapidly growing use of e-cigarettes, or vaping, among teen-agers and the increasing negative effects on teens and young adults across the country who become addicted to nicotine. The next vote on the ordinance will be taken on Tuesday, November 5.

"We need to act now," said Supervisor Dave Cortese. "Our young people are being targeted by predatory marketers who recruit new users by getting them hooked on the nicotine in e-cigarettes. This ordinance will make it harder for teens to buy e-cigarettes."

The use of e-cigarettes by high school students increased by 78% between 2017 and 2018, according to the Centers for Disease Control. In Santa Clara County, one third of high school students reported using e-cigarettes, according to a survey by the County Public Health Department.

In 2016, the Board also adopted an ordinance to address teen tobacco use by prohibiting the use of tobacco products to anyone under age 21, including flavored cigarettes. But the dramatic rise in e-cigarette use among youth along with respiratory illnesses and a link to six deaths demanded further action by the Board.

Click [here](#) to read the report on the ordinance, and [here](#) to hear the Board's discussion.

For more information, call the Office of Supervisor Dave Cortese at 408-299-5030.