Submission No 6

INQUIRY INTO VAPING AND TOBACCO CONTROLS

Name: Alan Gorley

Date Received: 10 February 2024

From: do-not-reply@mail.parliament.vic.gov.au

To: <u>Vapingtobacco.Inquiry</u>

Subject: Your submission to our inquiry into vaping and tobacco controls

Date: Sunday, 11 February 2024 8:17:09 AM

Organisation:

Name: Alan Gorley

Submission: To whom it may concern, My name is Alan Gorley from Bentleigh East, Victoria and I am writing to register my objection to current regulations on nicotine vaping products in Australia. I believe nicotine vaping products are far less dangerous than conventional cigarettes but the complex requirements for buying them have created a black market where products are unregulated and easily available to minors. We should change this by allowing adults to purchase regulated nicotine vaping products in retail settings. Firstly, The current prescription model for vaping doesn't work, as people don't always want to or have time to visit the doctor's office just to get access to a less harmful alternative to smoking cigarettes. It doesn't make sense to limit access to life-saving tools like this. Moreover, Vaping is an effective alternative for people who want to quit smoking but don't have access to or don't want to use the traditional options - like nicotine patches and gum. We need more ways to boost smoking cessation rates, and legal, commercial retail sales could help make this happen. Lastly, The current restrictions on vaping represent an outdated and ineffective public health approach, sending out the wrong message about an important public health issue and ultimately putting more people at risk of developing serious health conditions. In summary, we need a system that makes it easy for smokers to switch to vaping without having to jump through all the hoops of the current prescription model. The only way we can do this is by empowering responsible retailers to sell regulated vaping products. Any other policy will be more of the same and the current problems of tax avoidance, access for minors, and demand for criminal supply will not be addressed. Yours sincerely, Alan Gorley Bentleigh East, Victoria 3165