



October 18th, 2019

Intermission of Legislative Recess Part II:

California Legislature to Introduce Measure to Banning Flavored Vaping Products

Friday night in interviews with POLITICO, Assemblymember Jim Wood, Democrat representing Santa Rosa stated he and colleagues will seek to address this issue as quickly as possible which will result in them crafting a Bill to end the sales of all flavored nicotine and cannabis vaping products.

As Chairman for the Assembly Committee on Health, Member Wood's approach is to go take a thorough and "*targeted approach*" which would only be directed at flavored products which by Federal Authorities, the CDC and FDA are enticing and misleading to minors.

In his belief, "the knee-jerk reaction is just to ban everything, but I wonder from a public health perspective that if we do that, do we create unintended consequences and do additional harm specifically with people who are addicted to nicotine"

While torn on the issue, the Assemblymember is concerned in new users of nicotine vaping products as well as cannabis vaping products which are becoming very accessible to these under – age teens particularly in the instance of our "booming" illicit market; something which the unintended consequences of an absolute ban would mean more of the same.

The sentiment to a ban of some kind has become ubiquitous and as Assemblymember Wood has affirmed "if a total vaping ban becomes "*the will of the Legislature* we need to find a way to do it that doesn't create other problems," as these have been proposals of the very recent past in the legislature (health) and while they were strictly Nicotine related will now be sure to be inclusive of flavored cannabis vaping products.

Last year Assemblymember McCarty's measure, AB739, faced submission in Committee on Governmental Organization without hearing, with a similar Bill in AB1639 which was later tabled by the Author Assemblymember Gray with only SB38 authored by Senator Jerry Hill out of San Mateo, making it to the Governor's Desk but, later withdrawn in the Senator's *disgust* due to being "watered – down" in the committee process

It is clear there have been contention on this issue in regards to nicotine and now as the outbreak of illnesses associated have come to the forefront of the Globes intention, this time will surely not be like the last as they have already jumped on the issue with full – force and urgency.

The legislature has no reason to hold back this time and more than enough ammunition to make the strongest case possible and in the case of what is most plausible approach, the legislature has made it known, there will be a ban of some sorts and we the industry must take this with a sense of urgency to directly engage this issue as the legislature has already begun to do so.



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POLITICO Interview: **California lawmakers to propose vaping bans in 2020** October 18th
<https://subscriber.politicopro.com/states/california/story/2019/10/18/california-lawmakers-to-propose-vaping-bans-in-2020-1225680>