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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Suffolk County Legislators

FROM: Julie Davis Lutz, Ph.D.
Chairperson, Suffolk County School Superintendents
Legislative Committee

RE: Legislation to Limit the Use of Flavored Liquid Nicotine

DATE: December 19, 2018

We write in reference to the adoption of amendments to a local law limiting the flavoring of liquid nicotine and e-cigarettes sold in Suffolk County to flavors that are not enticing to children. As the Legislative Committee for the Suffolk County School Superintendents Association, we wholeheartedly support your efforts.

Vaping is a growing epidemic on Long Island and in our local communities. As the Legislative Intent indicates, the number of students that are vaping and using e-cigarettes has risen dramatically over the past few years. Vaping has been proven to be harmful and addictive to adolescents. Research draws a connection between vaping by middle school students and later use of more addictive and potentially deadly drugs. We believe that the packaging of e-cigarette and vaping products, including the use of flavors attractive to children, is a catalyst for this epidemic. Limiting the availability of such products in Suffolk County would help to reduce the interest of children in these products and increase their overall health and well-being.

Thank you for your efforts in this area as we work together to support the children in Suffolk County.

JDL/km
c: SCSSA Legislative Committee Members