

PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
October 17, 2019**

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**HANOVER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH INTRODUCES
ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT SALE OF FLAVORED OILS USED IN VAPING**

The Hanover Township Board of Health took a step toward protecting minors from the health risks associated with the use of electronic smoking devices by introducing an ordinance on October 9th prohibiting the sale of flavored vaping oils within Hanover Township. The introduction of this legislation is important considering the United States Surgeon General’s findings that electronic smoking devices pose a significant health risk for youth and the staggering statistics from the New Jersey Department of Health about the widespread practice of vaping among children and teens. According to the NJDOH, in 2018, more than 1 in 5 high school students and 1 in 20 middle school students reported using e-cigarettes.

If adopted, the Board of Health ordinance introduced on October 9th will align with a regulation the board put on the books in 2016 to prohibit the sale of electronic smoking devices to under-age individuals. Their current goal is to prevent youth access to flavored electronic devices and related products.

“The oils used in electronic smoking devices feature fruit, candy, and dessert flavors,” noted Dr. Stanley Zaborowski, Board of Health President. “This has an obvious appeal to youth, and is marketed with names and other content to target children and young adults. The Hanover Township Board of Health wants to discourage vaping among minors. We feel an ordinance like this will supplement and support our previous efforts to protect children and teens.”

Hanover Township Mayor Ron Francioli, who serves as the Township Committee liaison to the Board of Health, wholeheartedly supports the initiative. “Hanover Township’s Board of Health is the first municipality in our region to introduce an ordinance like this. I commend them for taking such a strong lead on this to help protect our kids.” Francioli went on to say that he hopes neighboring municipalities throughout Morris County and the State consider introducing and adopting similar legislation to safeguard children and young adults in all of our communities.

As it’s more formally known, Ordinance No. 1-2019 entitled, “An Ordinance of the Township of Hanover Board of Health Amending and Supplementing Part III, Board of Health Legislation, Chapter 337 Entitled “Electronic Smoking Devices,” is up for second reading and adoption on November 13th at 7:30 p.m. in the public meeting room at Town Hall, 1000 Route 10, in Whippany. A public hearing will be held at that time and all members of the public attending will have an opportunity to comment during that hearing. Upon adoption, the ordinance would take effect immediately following publication as provided by law.

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