

Mike J. Molina

From: John A. H. Tomoso <john.a.h.tomoso@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2019 9:40 AM
To: Keani N. Rawlins; Tasha A. Kama; Alice L. Lee; Tamara A. Paltin; Shane M. Sinenci; Mike J. Molina; Yukilei Sugimura; Riki Hokama; Kelly King
Subject: Letter to Maui County Council Members advocating for banning flavored tobacco including eCigarettes
Attachments: CTFH-Maui-Flavor Ban Letter to Maui County Council-JAHT-01-18-19.docx

PLEASE SEE MY LETTER ATTACHED....

Ke aloha no,

H+

BCC: CTFH-Maui ListServ

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January 18, 2019

TO: Members of our Maui County Council

Aloha mai,

My name is **John A. Hau'oli Tomoso+** and I am a member of the Coalition for Tobacco-Free Hawai'i (CTFH). I'm writing today to request your support of our 2019 legislative priority to ban flavored tobacco, including e-cigarette products in Hawai'i.

Our Coalition supports the Coalition for a Tobacco-Free Hawaii Youth Council, which is made up of high school and college students from across the state. This year our Youth Council and the Coalition have selected this as our policy priority because we believe something must be done to stop the epidemic of vaping amongst youth. Hawai'i has some of the highest rates of vaping in the country, with 25% of high school students and 15% of middle school students reporting they vaped in the past 30 days. 81% of kids nationwide use a flavored tobacco product as their introduction to tobacco, including vaping. 30% of vapers start using combustible tobacco within 60 days of starting to vape and 95% of current smokers started before the age of 21.

It is clear to the members of our Youth Council and to our CTFH, state-wide that banning flavored tobacco is key to breaking this cycle. Flavored tobacco has no place in Hawai'i and we hope you feel the same. We don't need candy flavored tobacco to entice youth into starting a potentially life-long addiction to nicotine. Will you help us convince our State Legislators that this has to stop by filling out the endorsement form at flavorshookkidshi.org?

Mahalo for your kokua to keep Hawaii's families, keikis and communities safe, healthy and with a shared quality of life, for all generations!

Sincerely,

John A. Hau'oli Tomoso+

Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawai'i-Maui

BCC: CTFH-Maui ListServ

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