

Shaun Belflower
BINGHAM

My name is Shaun Belflower. I have been a resident of main for 32 years, Since my family moved here when I was 1. I am URGING you to PLEASE do not pass or even consider LD 1550. I am a former 2 pack a day cigarette user. i smoked for almost 10 years. I had a Doctors visit where i was told i would be dead within the next year to year and i half if i couldnt find a way to kick the habit.

I tried many different ways of quitting over the years from Gums, patches, hypnosis, and even had a doctor prescribe me a medication to help and nothing took. then i had a friend i played online gaming with recommend that i try using a "vape" device to quit and told him I have tried everything else so why not. He gave me my first device and tank. 2 weeks later I smoked my last cigarette.

When i started using Liquid Nicotine E-juice it almost didnt work because i tried to go with Tobacco or Non-Flavored liquids and i couldnt stand the taste if it and if that had been the only thing available then it would have failed and i would have smoked myself into the hospital. Luckily for me a Shop Called Vapor Guru's in Waterville and the employee there helped me and we went through many different flavors until I found out that i liked. I used that liquid which was Banana Cream Flavor to quit. I started with 6mg and brought myself down to 1.5mg before removing the nicotine completely.

I have since been back to the doctor and he was amazed by how much my lungs recovered to the point where they had healed over 75% of the damage that cigarettes had done over the years. I still use vape products from time to time now but they contain NO Nicotine and my lungs have continued to improve this whole time.

A full on Flavor Ban will do FAR more HARM then you could imagine. Not only will it not stop teens from getting ahold of the products if they choose to (just like they did with Cigarettes for the past 50+ years) but it will cause many of the Adults that currently use them for smoking cessation to return to cigarettes which is akin to signing there death certificates. My father James C. Belflower just passed away on March 12th 2021 from Small Cell Lung Cancer and he smoked his entire life so I have seen and experienced what cigarettes do to a person.

Like I mentioned earlier i still use the 0MG liquids once in awhile recreationally when i get the strong urge to have a cigarette and losing access to the flavors I use will be a blow to a person such as myself that still struggles with staying away from tobacco.

This bill will cause the people who need help to either not be able to get it or to do it though back channel, possibly even illegal, ways so Please DO NOT LET LD 1550 GET ANY FURTHER.