

Resolution 4
Mississippi Nurses' Association
107th House of Delegates
Biloxi Convention Center
Biloxi, MS

Introduced by: **Alice Messer, DNP, RN, FNP-BC, Director of Council on Health Affairs on behalf of the MNA Board of Directors**

RESOLUTION: **Support Nurses' Role in Increasing Awareness of the Health Risks of E-Cigarette Use by Youth and Young Adults**

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes, devices that typically deliver nicotine, flavorings, and other additives to users through an inhaled aerosol, are a rapidly emerging trend, and are especially popular among youth and young adults¹; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes are not safe for youth, young adults, pregnant women, or adults who do not currently use tobacco products²; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes are now the most commonly used form of tobacco by youth in the U.S. and dual use, or using both e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes, is common among youth and young adults 18-25 years of age¹; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, more than 2 million U.S. middle and high school students used e-cigarettes in the past 30 days, including 4.3% of middle school students and 11.3% of high school students²; and

WHEREAS, nicotine exposure during periods of significant brain development, such as adolescence, can disrupt the growth of brain circuits that control attention, learning, and susceptibility to addiction³; and

WHEREAS, Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses are committed to the promotion of health and safety issues of the public; and

WHEREAS, the purposes of the Mississippi Nurses' Association include working for the improvement of health standards (Article 1; Section 2.A.); and

WHEREAS, the functions of the Mississippi Nurses' Association include promoting, through appropriate means, standards of nursing practice, nursing education, and nursing service (Article 1, Section 3.A.).

The Mississippi Nurses' Association, THEREFORE, RESOLVES, to increase awareness of the role of nurses in educating patients, parents, and caregivers on the health risks of e-cigarette use by youth and young adults.

The Mississippi Nurses' Association, THEREFORE, RESOLVES, to increase awareness of the health risks of e-cigarette use by youth and young adults, as appropriate, through publication of articles in the *MS RN*, information disseminated via email, and information disseminated during continuing education events. Such efforts demonstrate nurse advocacy for the health of all the youth and young people of the great state of Mississippi and beyond.

¹ "E-Cigarettes and Young People: A Public Health Concern." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov/features/ecigarettes-young-people/index.html.

² "About Electronic Cigarettes (E-Cigarettes)." Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. www.cdc.gov/tobacco/basic_information/e-cigarettes/about-e-cigarettes.html

³ "E-Cigarette Use Among Youth and Young Adults A Report of the Surgeon General." U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/2016_SGR_Fact_Sheet_508.pdf.