



## YOUTH COMMISSION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Alisa Miller, Clerk, Rules Committee  
**FROM:** Youth Commission  
**DATE:** March 17, 2014  
**RE:** Referral response to BOS File No. 131208

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At our regular meeting of March 17, 2014 the Youth Commission voted unanimously to support the following motion:

**To support BOS File No. 131208, Ordinance amending the Health Code to prohibit the use of electronic cigarettes where smoking is otherwise prohibited; require a tobacco permit for the sale of electronic cigarettes; prohibit the sale of electronic cigarettes where the sale of tobacco products is otherwise prohibited; and making environmental findings.**

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**During discussion on this item, the Youth Commission proposed and unanimously approved the following comment and recommendations regarding this legislation:**

The Youth Commission urges the Board of Supervisors to request the Department of Public Health to conduct a study on how electronic cigarette products affect nicotine consumption rates among young people and how this type of legislation can prevent nicotine addiction among young people.

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We would like to provide some context for the position expressed above:

During their discussion on this item, Youth Commissioners expressed concern that e-cigarettes are good in theory and harmful in practice, as they are a gateway to nicotine addiction. They are manufactured to emulate the act of smoking in look and feel, which undermines the work done by youth advocates and young people themselves to curb smoking consumption among, and tobacco marketing toward, young people.

Please inform us of forward movement on this item.

If you have any questions about these recommendations or anything related to the Youth Commission, please don't hesitate to contact our office at (415) 554-6446.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicholas Persky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

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Chair, Nicholas Persky  
2013-2014 San Francisco Youth Commission