



RON DeSANTIS
GOVERNOR

September 8, 2020

Secretary Laurel M. Lee
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

FILED
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TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Dear Secretary Lee:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8 of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby veto and transmit my objection to Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 810, enacted during the 122nd Session of the Legislature of Florida, during Regular Session 2020 and entitled:

An act related to the use of tobacco products and nicotine products.

While originally conceived as a bill to raise the legal age to buy tobacco to 21, (which is superfluous given this is already mandated by federal law) CS/CS/CS/SB 810 effectively bans tobacco free vaping flavors used by hundreds of thousands of Floridians as a reduced-risk alternative to cigarettes, which are more dangerous.

This legislation would almost assuredly lead more people to resume smoking cigarettes, and it would drive others to the hazardous black market. The latter consequence is especially significant because the much-publicized cases of lung injury associated with vaping in recent years have been traced to illegal, or black market, vape cartridges containing THC, not to the types of legal vaping products that this bill would abolish.

Reducing the use of all nicotine-related products, including vaping, among our youth is an important goal, but this will not be achieved by eliminating legal products for adults and by devastating the small businesses who provide these adults with reduced risk alternatives to cigarettes.

For these reasons, I hereby veto SB 810.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor