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MASSACHUSETTS INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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MASSACHUSETTS INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION RESOLUTION TO STOP THE YOUTH VAPING AND E-CIGARETTE EPIDEMIC

WHEREAS ~ The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) and school districts across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts have seen first-hand, the harmful consequences of vaping and the use of e-cigarette products by our youth and condemn its use; AND

WHEREAS ~ Tobacco companies have used flavored vaping products in conjunction with low prices to promote the sale of vaping and e-cigarette products among our youth; AND

WHEREAS ~ E-cigarettes are dangerous and contain nicotine and other harmful chemicals; AND

WHEREAS ~ Youth Risk Behavior data across the Commonwealth shows a decrease in the using of tobacco products among our students, but indicates a greater number of our high school juniors have tried vaping; AND

WHEREAS ~ Recent data from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) shows vaping-related illnesses have impacted 1,299 individuals, with 29 vaping-related deaths across the country AND

WHEREAS ~ The MIAA and school districts across the Commonwealth have increased education at all levels in the area of vaping, and have consulted with area organizations to combat its use; AND

WHEREAS ~ It is abundantly clear that nicotine is harmful and 1 Juul pod contains the same amount of nicotine as one pack of cigarettes; AND

WHEREAS ~ Nicotine is derived from tobacco, is addictive and is a gateway to traditional cigarette use and has immediate short-term negative health impacts with brain development, popcorn lung and leads to cardiovascular issues; AND

WHEREAS ~ Youth & teen vaping/e-cigarette use is at alarming rates and Massachusetts is the 8th worst state in the country in terms of high school use of electronic cigarettes; AND

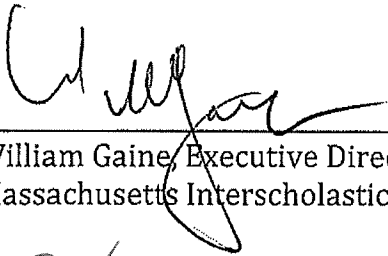
WHEREAS ~ Flavors make it easier for children to start using tobacco products and are designed to lure them to vaping-related products; AND

WHEREAS ~ Youth across the nation are now using these products at a rate that is 6 times higher than adults; AND

WHEREAS ~ Flavors are already banned in cigarettes (with the exemption of mint and menthol) and one of the nation's leading e-cigarette companies have recently banned the sale of flavored vaping products; AND

WHEREAS ~ Vaping/e-cigarette products are not subject to an excise like other tobacco products, thus making them cheaper for children who are price sensitive consumers.

BE IT KNOWN that the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) supports current legislation that would place a ban on flavored vaping products and create an excise on vaping/e-cigarette products on parity with traditional tobacco products.



William Gaine, Executive Director
Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association



Jeffrey W. Granatino, President
Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association

11/12/19

Date