



Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies • PO Box 6163 • Penacook, NH 03303 • [www.cswnh.org](http://www.cswnh.org)

February 11, 2026

The Honorable Judy Aron  
House Environment and Agriculture Committee  
Granite Place Room 153  
Concord, NH 03301

**Re: Support for HB 1096 establishing a committee to study ways to manage disposal of vapes and e-cigarettes.**

Dear Chair Aron and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding HB 1096 on behalf of Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies (CSWS). We are a New Hampshire-based non-profit environmental organization dedicated to promoting sustainable management of solid waste.

HB 1096 would establish a committee to study ways to manage the disposal of vapes and e-cigarettes. These battery-operated devices heat flavored, nicotine-infused liquid into an aerosol that can be inhaled. Vaping and e-cigarettes contain multiple toxic materials, including lithium-ion batteries, nicotine, heavy metals, and plastics, and need to be treated as hazardous waste. However, most wind up in household trash or recycling bins. The batteries can cause fires in solid waste facilities and collection trucks, and nicotine, lead, and mercury leach into the water that percolates through landfills.

E-cigarettes were first marketed in the United States in 2006 as a safer alternative to cigarettes. Early versions have evolved into a variety of devices, and the fourth generation “pod mod” was introduced in 2015. Access to vaping products is essentially ubiquitous in New Hampshire. They are available in specialty shops from Berlin to Nashua and Keene to Portsmouth, as well as at many convenience stores and from on-line vendors. Product packaging seldom if ever includes directions for safe disposal, and users have no idea that these devices are considered hazardous waste. We surveyed several New Hampshire vendors by telephone and all stated that they disposed of used vapes and e-cigarettes in the trash.

New Hampshire is not alone in seeking to deal with this problem. Current approaches include outright bans of some devices, extended producer responsibility programs, redesign initiatives to facilitate battery removal and recycling, and educational outreach.

CSWS strongly supports HB 1096. Establishing a committee to investigate potential strategies for safe disposal of vapes and e-cigarettes is an important first step in addressing this issue. Collaboration with other states in the northeast and beyond to develop a regional approach could facilitate implementation of a disposal strategy. We urge you to vote HB 1096 **Ought to Pass**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clark T. Corson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Clark" being more prominent.

Clark T. Corson  
Program Director