

HB1538 Testimony

by Sue Homola, SAM NH Chairman

Overview

Vape pens are one of the most popular methods of marijuana use by adolescents and young adults because they can look like objects students might commonly use (highlighters, USB drives, smart watch, phone case. etc.)

- They can also be hidden in items like sweatshirts and backpacks with a tube atomizer in a hood or bag compartment.
- Vape devices can deliver a dose of concentrated THC very quickly and discreetly.
- This is a problem in schools, and students can easily vape in the classroom.

Source: <https://braveparenting.net/thc-vape-pens/>

SAM NH Recommendation

- SAM NH supports HB1538 if the consequences for violations are adequate to serve as deterrent to manufacturers of vapes and stores who sell them, such as a revocation of tobacco license for stores.

-It is unclear if the "administrative action of the liquor commission" can provide an adequate basis of civil litigation against manufacturers of vape products marketed towards minors.

- Without adequate actions for violations, this bill will not be effective in stopping these products being marketed to adolescents.

- Consider updating the language to NH RSA 126-K, YOUTH ACCESS TO AND USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS. Source: <https://gc.nh.gov/rsa/html/X/126-K/126-K-mrg.htm>