To Australia’s Federal Politicians

Please, protect our kids’ health and pass the Vape Bill

A letter from Australian doctors across all fields of medicine, pharmacists, dentists, nurses, public health experts, teachers, mental health and social workers, advocates, guardians and parents.

The tobacco and vape industries and their allies are working hard to addict a new generation of young Australians to nicotine through their vaping products. One in six Australian children aged 12-17 has vaped in the last month1. Nine in ten vape stores are located near schools2, and most teenagers report how easy it is to access vapes. The tobacco and vape industry’s marketing strategy deliberately targets young people. The devices deliver large amounts of nicotine resulting in accelerated addiction.

We need to stop the tobacco and vape industry and their allies from making vapes easily accessible to children and young people.

The Bill will close the loophole that retail and online shops exploit to sell illegal vapes to children. If the Bill is passed, it means an end to convenience stores, delis and petrol stations selling vapes to children.

As our elected members, you have a critical opportunity to avoid undoing decades of success in preventing tobacco and nicotine use among children.

You can protect our children while ensuring people who want to quit have access to vaping products through a prescription model.

87% of Australian adults support reforms to stop the sale of vapes to people under 18 years3.

We stand with them and urge you to do the same.

The time to act is now.

Support the Bill.

3. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare. National Drug Strategy Household Survey 2022-23: Electronic cigarettes and vapes. Supplementary data tables. Canberra: AIHW, 2024. 86.8% of Australian adults aged 16- support or strongly support “Prohibiting the sale of electronic cigarettes/vapes, including those without nicotine, to people under 18 years of age.”

Support the bill
Find out more
www.acosh.org/vapefree