

My name is Mary Yeager I am a mother, grandmother, aunt and friend. I was a 25 year smoker who improved my health by switching from cancer causing cigarettes to Vaping. My husband smoked for over 30 years and quit smoking using vape. Thousands and thousands of Marylanders who are the mothers, fathers, grandmothers, grandfathers of our youth got off cigarettes and improved their health and longevity by switching to vaping. The stories are real and there are thousands of them. As we would say in the Army that is ground truth.

From the Maryland Department of Health: 7,500 adults in Maryland die each year due to tobacco-related causes, and hundreds of thousands more suffer from tobacco-related diseases such as COPD, emphysema or cancers.

Annual Health care cost in Maryland directly caused by smoking \$2.71 Billion. Medicaid costs caused by Smoking in Maryland \$576.5 Million

Vaping is 95% safer than Cigarettes and Vaping is a harm reduction method that gets people off cigarettes. Over thirty-five thousand doctors who reviewed the study and agree. These doctors only motivation is improving the health of their patients by reducing the harm caused by cigarettes. The studies are extensive and ongoing. This is valid scientific information that I believe because my anatomy is no different than a UK citizen. The UK has managed to reduce smoking rates by using Vaping as a harm reduction method. They have also restricted the access of children to cigarettes and vape.

My husband smoked for over 30 Years and got off cigarettes using vaping. This summer he ran around the yard and taught our granddaughter to catch fireflies, find worms and of course pick crabs. If he had not given up cigarettes there is a good chance he would not be running around the yard. Having a healthy active grandpa is good for my granddaughters and I want to keep that grumpy old man alive so we can continue to provide the support that helps grow strong families and good kids.

Our stories are echoed by thousands and thousands of Marylanders who stay off cigarettes by vaping flavors. Strong healthy families are good for Maryland.

If you ban flavors adults who got off cigarettes by vaping will go back to cigarettes or turn to the black market that will arise. My husband and I and the thousands and thousands of Maryland Vapers do not want to be part of the 7,500 deaths and, and hundreds of thousands who suffer from tobacco-related diseases such as COPD, emphysema or cancers.

I believe there are ways to keep kids from getting access to JUULS (which is the main culprit) and any vape while still allowing the mothers, father, aunts, uncles, grandmothers and grandfathers their choice to use a product that reduces harm and is 95% safer than cigarettes.

So ask you reconsider your position and help keep my old man and Chloe and Pipers grandpa alive and healthy a little longer.