



JAMES L. MADARA, MD
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, CEO

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October 8, 2019

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Office of the Governor
State of Rhode Island
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Governor Raimondo:

On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and medical student members, I write to thank you for your action to ban flavored e-cigarette products in the state of Rhode Island. We strongly believe the use of e-cigarettes and vaping is an urgent public health epidemic that must be addressed.

The AMA has long recognized that the use of products containing nicotine in any form among youth, including e-cigarettes, is unsafe. With serious vaping-related illnesses and deaths reported and soaring numbers of America's youth using e-cigarette products with flavors designed and marketed to appeal to young people, more stringent policies are necessary. Your executive action will help keep harmful e-cigarette products out of the hands of young people and prevent another generation from becoming dependent on nicotine.

The AMA applauds your leadership on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact Annalia Michelman, Senior Legislative Attorney, AMA Advocacy Resource Center, at annalia.michelman@ama-assn.org or (312) 464-4788.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James L. Madara". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

James L. Madara, MD

cc: Rhode Island Medical Society