



October 15, 2019

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doug Collins
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Vote in Favor of the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act (H.R. 3942)
at the House Judiciary Committee Markup

Dear House Judiciary Committee Member:

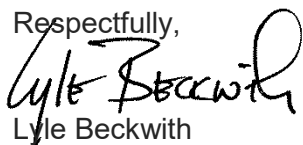
The National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS) represents the convenience store industry, which has more than 153,000 stores in the United States and employees over 2.375 million workers. In 2018, the convenience industry generated \$654.3 billion in total sales. Convenience stores serve about 160 million people per day—around half of the U.S. population—and the industry processes nearly 75 billion payment transactions per year. Yet, the industry is truly an industry of small businesses—approximately 62 percent of convenience store owners operate a single store, and approximately 74 percent of NACS' membership is composed of companies that operate ten stores or fewer.

NACS has devoted a substantial amount of time and resources to ensuring that convenience store operators are equipped to comply with federal, state, and local tobacco regulations. In fact, the convenience industry spends more than any other industry to ensure it is verifying age and complying with those laws. NACS shares the House Judiciary Committee's concern with the alarmingly high number of underage users of e-cigarettes. In 2018, the *American Journal of Health Promotion* found that when minors get e-cigarettes from a retail sale, those products are most likely purchased on the Internet.

To that end, NACS urges you to support the Preventing Online Sales of E-Cigarettes to Children Act (H.R. 3942) when the House Judiciary Committee considers the bill. This legislation would close the online loophole that allows e-cigarettes to be sold to minors by: (1) requiring online sellers of e-cigarettes ensure that the delivery carrier checks the ID of an adult upon delivery (the current requirement for cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products sold online) and (2) guaranteeing that online sellers collect and remit the appropriate taxes. These requirements have been highly effective in reducing both illicit sales of cigarettes over the Internet and sales to minors. When you buy an e-cigarette in a convenience store, we are required to conduct a face-to-face ID check. It is common sense that these requirements be applied to e-cigarettes sold over the Internet.

Please vote in favor of H.R. 3942 during the House Judiciary Committee markup to curb youth access to e-cigarettes.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lyle Beckwith". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Lyle Beckwith
Senior Vice President, Government Relations

cc: Members of the House Committee on the Judiciary