

WOODLAND JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT



Resolution 15-23

In Support of Proposition 31: Prohibit Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products

WHEREAS, in 2020, the California Legislature passed SB 793, a bill that ended the sale of candy-flavored tobacco products in California, including minty-menthol cigarettes, to protect children from getting hooked on candy-flavored tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to overturn SB 793, out-of-state tobacco companies filed and qualified for a referendum for California's November 2022 statewide ballot. A "yes" vote on Proposition 31 will uphold the state's bipartisan and overwhelmingly popular law ending the statewide sale of candy-flavored cigarettes, cheap sweet cigars, and minty menthol cigarettes and a "no" vote will repeal it. The implementation of SB 793 is suspended pending the outcome of Proposition 31; and

WHEREAS, 6,800 California kids each year become new daily smokers, and 4 out of 5 kids who have used tobacco started with a flavored product. 70% of youth e-cigarette users say they use e-cigarettes "because they come in flavors I like;" and

WHEREAS, e-cigarette use remains at epidemic levels with more than 2 million middle and high school kids still using e-cigarettes. Kids prefer candy-flavored e-cigarettes and use a variety of flavors. According to the 2021 National Youth Tobacco Survey, 84.7% of youth e-cigarette users use flavored e-cigarettes, a 20% increase since 2019; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes deliver massive doses of nicotine, a highly addictive drug that puts youth users at greater risk for addiction and is especially harmful to kids. It can harm adolescent brain development and impact their attention, mood, and impulse control. A YES vote on Prop. 31 will help keep California kids from getting hooked on nicotine; and

WHEREAS, with candy flavors like sour apple, fruity pebbles, sugar cookie, and minty menthol (the original candy-flavored cigarette), it's clear that Big Tobacco is targeting youth for these products; and

WHEREAS, smoking is extremely costly for California businesses and taxpayers. Tobacco use costs approximately \$13.3 billion in health care costs each year, including \$3.6 billion in Medi-Cal expenditures. Upholding the law and ending the sale of candy-flavored tobacco would save more than \$800 million in health care costs each year; and

WHEREAS, ending the sale of candy-flavored tobacco will help youth avoid a lifelong addiction to smoking, and employers will benefit by having a healthier and more productive workforce; and

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2019, the Woodland Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees approved Resolution 5-20: In Support of Banning the Sale of Flavored Tobacco Products in the City of Woodland; and

WHEREAS, ending the statewide sale of all candy-flavored and minty-menthol-flavored nicotine products is necessary to keep our kids safe.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Woodland Joint Unified School District Board of Trustees supports Proposition 31 to prohibit the statewide sale of flavored tobacco products, and urges a YES vote to Proposition 31 in the November 8, 2022, statewide general election.

IN WITNESS THERETO, the Woodland Joint Unified School District does hereby adopt this resolution on this 27th day of October 2022, by the following Board of Trustees vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENCES:

ABSTENTIONS:

BOARD SECRETARY

BOARD PRESIDENT