



County of Monterey

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June 8, 2026

The Honorable Jacqui Irwin
Member, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 6220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 762 (Irwin) Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition.
As Amended January 26, 2026 – SUPPORT.

Dear Assemblymember Irwin,

On behalf of the County of Monterey, I write in support of your Assembly Bill 762 related to single-use vapes.

Single-use vapes are commonly encountered in the waste stream and must be managed as hazardous waste because they contain residual chemicals, batteries, and electronic components and cause fires. Single-use vapes are frequently encountered as litter in public spaces and the environment. Most troubling, single-use vapes are increasingly used by school children and (if lucky) confiscated by school officials as contraband. These devices are becoming ubiquitous, yet they pose significant public health, environmental, and safety challenges for parents, schools, and local governments that operate waste management systems and must manage illegally disposed vapes.

Designing and marketing single-use vapes perpetuates safety and addiction risks. Single-use vapes are now commonly encountered with digital displays on which the user can play games, thereby increasing the risk of addiction among children. These video display devices pose additional management challenges for solid waste collection programs and local household hazardous waste facilities. Even if detected, it can be difficult to remove embedded batteries from single-use vapes, thereby increasing the risk that the device (and battery) will be crushed and cause a fire either in the environment, in the back of a trash truck, or at a solid waste facility.

By banning the sale of single-use, disposable vapes, AB 762 will reduce local waste management (and illegal disposal cleanup) costs, reduce the risk of fires, reduce the likelihood that schools will have to deal with confiscated vapes, and reduce the risk of childhood addiction.



For these reasons, the County of Monterey is happy to support AB 762. Should you have any questions, please contact Senior Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker at 916-930-7780.

Sincerely,

Wendy Root Askew
Chair
County of Monterey Board of Supervisors