

House Resolution 1536

By: Representative Cooper of the 43<sup>rd</sup>

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing and commending the National PTA and its constituent associations for their  
2 efforts to address the dangers of e-cigarettes and related products and urging local efforts to  
3 continue to address such dangers; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the National PTA and its constituent associations support legislation, regulation,  
5 and other national, state, and local measures that will address the manufacturing of and  
6 ingredients in electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes) and other electronic nicotine delivery  
7 systems (ENDS); that will prohibit the advertising, marketing, and selling of such products  
8 to youth; and that will prohibit the use of such products in public places and on school  
9 grounds; and

10 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2014 showed that  
11 e-cigarettes and ENDS use among students in grades 6-12 have tripled over the course of one  
12 year's time and are the most commonly used tobacco products among youth today; and

13 WHEREAS, e-cigarettes and other ENDS are available in more than 7,000 fruit and candy  
14 flavors and use cartoons and celebrities, which are appealing to youth, in their advertising;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has taken the first step  
17 in establishing FDA oversight of e-cigarettes and other ENDS; however, there are no federal  
18 restrictions in place preventing the sale and advertisement of e-cigarettes and other ENDS  
19 to minors; and

20 WHEREAS, the FDA has banned such marketing techniques and advertising for cigarettes,  
21 because their analyses and others have found that e-cigarettes and other ENDS contain a  
22 number of toxins, carcinogens, and components suspected of being harmful to humans and  
23 have acknowledged that consumers of e-cigarette products currently have no way of knowing

24 whether e-cigarettes and other ENDS are safe, or how much nicotine or other potentially  
25 harmful chemicals are being inhaled; and

26 WHEREAS, there is no regulatory oversight of the manufacturing process, and injuries and  
27 deaths have occurred as a result of using e-cigarettes and other ENDS and the liquid form of  
28 nicotine they use; and

29 WHEREAS, e-cigarettes and other ENDS contain nicotine, a highly addictive drug that has  
30 immediate biochemical effects on the brain and body; and

31 WHEREAS, according to the United States Surgeon General, nicotine alters adolescent brain  
32 development and is toxic in high doses; and

33 WHEREAS, according to the CDC, phone calls to poison control centers related to toxic  
34 levels of nicotine exposure from e-cigarettes and other ENDS have increased more than 14  
35 fold since 2011; and

36 WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of Attorneys  
37 General, the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association, and other  
38 organizations support the regulation of e-cigarettes and other ENDS, which the FDA has the  
39 authority to adopt; and

40 WHEREAS, e-cigarettes and other ENDS were deemed to be harmful to our youth and other  
41 individuals by the United States Court of Appeals; and

42 WHEREAS, the majority of school districts in Georgia have enacted no-smoking policies  
43 to restrict or prohibit the use of e-cigarettes and other ENDS on school grounds and at school  
44 activities, and some municipalities in Georgia have also enacted policies to restrict or  
45 prohibit the use of e-cigarettes and other ENDS in public places; and

46 WHEREAS, it is abundantly fitting and proper that the National PTA and its constituent  
47 associations educate youth, parents, school boards, and local officials on the dangers of  
48 e-cigarettes and other ENDS.

49 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
50 the members of this body recognize and commend the National PTA and its constituent  
51 associations for their efforts to address the dangers of e-cigarettes and related products.

52 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of this body encourage the Georgia PTA  
53 and the local chapters of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the National Association of  
54 Attorneys General, the American Lung Association, and the American Heart Association to  
55 convene a meeting to continue the National PTA's efforts to address the dangers of  
56 e-cigarettes and related products.

57 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
58 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
59 public and the press.