

ABC10News

San Diego Councilman Mark Kersey considers proposal to regulate e-cigarettes

February 13, 2014

City committee to consider the proposal Feb. 26

SAN DIEGO - A city of San Diego Committee will consider a proposal to regulate electronic cigarettes.

The proposal, written by Councilman Mark Kersey, asks that e-cigarettes be regulated the same way as traditional cigarettes and restrict the use of e-cigarettes in all public facilities, according to a Thursday press release.

“There are a lot of questions about the safety of e-cigarettes both for users and those who may inhale the second-hand vapor,” Kersey stated. “We didn’t know the true health impacts of second hand smoke from regular cigarettes until much later and I simply don’t want to take the same risk with this new form of nicotine.”

E-cigarettes use liquid nicotine, known as “smoke juice” but instead of smoke, when exhaled, the e-cigarettes emit a vapor. E-cigarette usage among middle and high school students has increased over 100 percent from 2011 and 2012, according to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention.

“By leaving e-cigarettes unregulated, we could undo the incredible progress that’s been made educating our children on the dangers of nicotine addiction and ease the transition toward other dangerous tobacco products,” Kersey stated.

The City’s Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee will consider the proposal at a Feb. 26 meeting.

<http://www.10news.com/news/san-diego-councilman-mark-kersey-proposals-to-regulate-e-cigarettes-021314>