



## Buncombe County Board of Commissioners

### Request for Board Action

Meeting Date: 2/18/2020

#### New Business

**Department:** Health & Human Services (HHS)

**Presenter (s):** Jan Shepard, Health Director

**Contact (s):** Stoney Blevins, HHS Director

**Subject:** Amend County Ordinances - Addition of Vaping/ Electronic Cigarettes

**Brief Summary:** The Buncombe County Health and Human Services Board respectfully recommends that the County Commission amend section 50.1 of the county ordinance "Smoking Prohibited in County Buildings on County Grounds or in County Vehicles" as well as section 13, "Tobacco Use Policy," of the county's personnel ordinance, to include the prohibition of vaping or e-cigarette use in all applicable sections of the two ordinances.

The health dangers associated with vaping, or the use of e-cigarettes, is gaining attention both nationally and in Buncombe County. NC poison control handled well over 200 exposures to e-cigarette products in 2017 and 2018, and about 60% of these cases involved children under the age of 6. According to the CDC, "e-cigarettes are not safe for youth, young adults, pregnant women, or adults who do not currently use tobacco products."

**Recommended Motion & Requested Action:** Approve the amendment of Section 50.1 and the County Personnel Ordinance to include vaping and electronic cigarettes.

#### County Manager's comments and Recommendation:

County Manager recommends approval.