From:	Nancy Crawford
To:	Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject:	Flavor Removal
Date:	Monday, October 26, 2020 12:49:16 PM

Dear Missoula City Council Members,

My name is Nancy Crawford. I'm a mother, a former pharmaceutical industry executive, and I'm a volunteer parent advocate representing the Montana chapter of Parents Against Vaping (PAVe). I support ending the sale of all flavored vaping products as well as all other flavored tobacco products.
I joined PAVe here in Montana because this issue is deeply personal to me.
Before our son was born I was a smoker. I grew up in a family of smokers. I witnessed my grandmother struggle for years with COPD and congestive heart failure and other related illnesses in family members including various cancers and heart disease. I started smoking when I was just 12 years old and was finally able to quit at the age of 25 after 5 serious attempts! My lungs and health remain compromised to this day from the lasting effects of smoking even though I was able to quit after many attempts 38 years ago. My son never knew 3 of his grandparents because they died of cancer due to addiction to nicotine. This is a tremendous loss for my family. As if that's not enough, our son was introduced to flavored vaping in high school! Now at the age of 20 he is a dual user of flavored vapes and cigarettes! That tracks with the research showing that kids who vape are four times more likely to turn to combustible cigarettes.

In the same way that Big Tobacco targeted my extended family by marketing cigarettes to me, my siblings, and cousins when we were young, the industry is once again targeting our youth with flavored e-cigarettes and vaping products. Nationwide, 4 out of 5 kids who have used tobacco started with flavored products. They are using their same old playbook updated for a new generation. They use deceptive social media marketing to downplay the risks of high-tech products that are stealth-by-design. And they lure kids in right under their parents' noses with sweet and fruity flavors and minty menthol to mask the harsh taste of nicotine salts that vaping companies use to deliver enormous and more potent amounts of nicotine to entice kids to pick up a deadly habit.
Flavors draw kids into vaping and tobacco use, and nicotine addicts them and keeps them coming back for more.
Please take all flavored tobacco products off the shelves to Protect Missoula's Kids.

Thank you,
Nancy Crawford
Parent Volunteer Advocate, PAVe
Parentsagainstvaping.org