Tobacco and Other Smoking Products (Vaping) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024

Submission No: 4

Submitted by: Super Vape Store

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Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I am writing to express my urgent concerns regarding the obsolescence of the Queensland Parliament Committee in handling the Inquiry into Tobacco and Other Smoking Products (Vaping) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024. The committee, dominated by a Labor majority, simply follows the mandates of the Labor party at both federal and state levels, rendering this entire process pointless. Without a second house for cross-referencing, this parliament operates with little to no checks and balances. The current process resembles a dictatorship more than a democracy, which is an embarrassment to our democratic principles. The Labor Party and this committee are so biased that any discussion on vaping is futile. Previous committees have demonstrated this bias. It's laughable to consider banning an entire industry while cigarettes remain available at every corner store. In Queensland, the fine for selling cigarettes to children is a fraction of the fine for selling nicotine vapes to adults, who are capable of making their own choices. This highlights the absurdity and inconsistency in current regulations. Immediate restructuring is essential to ensure the inquiry is handled by a body equipped with up-to-date knowledge and insights, and to restore credibility to our legislative process. The current committee will inevitably be split on vaping due to party preferences, and the chair, being Labor-affiliated, will push to pass this bill. It will then go to a Labor-majority parliament and be voted in. This is a flawed and absurd system. Furthermore, to even consider implementing vaping penalties when it's not even passed the Senate on a federal level shows how out of touch this Government is. The Labor Government needs bipartisan support in the Senate for the current federal bill to pass. I don't believe it will pass as other parties have expressed concerns about this mandate. I look forward to this year's state elections as it will be a bloodbath, especially given how the by-elections have recently performed.RegardsZack O'HareDirector -Super Vape Store