

**SENATOR THE HON. ERIC ABETZ
LIBERAL SENATOR FOR TASMANIA**

MEDIA RELEASE

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UNSW report underscores need for vaping

A new report released by the University of New South Wales that found vaping to have successfully improved the health and reduced the dependence on cigarettes underscores the need for vaping to be legalised in Australia.

The paper published in the Internal Medicine Journal of the Royal Australian College of Physicians by UNSW Associate Professor Colin Mendelsohn found those who have made the switch to e-cigarettes have had significant health improvements and in countries where e-cigarettes are legal, there has been much greater success in people quitting smoking.

“This latest research shows that there is a real and meaningful benefit that would come from the legalisation of vaping and e-cigarettes in Australia,” Senator Abetz said.

“With the failed war on tobacco leading to a multi-million dollar illicit tobacco black market, it is important to consider new options such as vaping over trying to tax tobacco out of existence.”

“This latest paper just reinforces the clear international experience of e-cigarettes has been positive, with Public Health England finding that they are 95% less harmful than cigarettes.”

“While the recent House of Representatives report was disappointing, I was pleased to see a number of my colleagues dissent in that report.”

“I am hopeful that the Government will be open to bringing about some change on this important issue,” Senator Abetz concluded.

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