

# Reps. Brandtjen and Dittrich: Legislators want age requirement to purchase vaping supplies

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Rep. Brandtjen (608) 267-2367  
Cell - (414) 915-8425

Madison- State Representative Janel Brandtjen (R-Menomonee Falls) along with State Representative Barb Dittrich (R-Oconomowoc) and State Senator Andre Jacque (R-DePere) are introducing legislation aimed at restricting access to vaping supplies and other paraphernalia for minors under the age of 18.

“Vaping has kids thinking that smoking is cool again,” said State Representative Janel Brandtjen. “We need to give law enforcement the necessary tools to curtail this trend,” she added.

The legislation comes after law enforcement agencies and other municipal leaders have begun to voice their concerns about the alarming increase in youth vaping. Last fall the FDA called youth vaping an “epidemic” in America.

State Representative Barb Dittrich said, “With having a teenage daughter at home, I have seen in all too many ways how youth vaping has reached epidemic proportions. While these products may have been introduced for smoking cessation purposes, they have subsequently fueled nicotine addiction, thereby causing cardiac and lung complications in our teens. This bill will create the same safety wall we have in place for tobacco and alcohol products, and hopefully, will help people take this problem more seriously.”

Senator Andre Jacque said, “The lifelong harmful effects of tobacco and nicotine use

are staggering, and preventing early use of the e-cigarette and vaping products causing that addiction is extremely important to our children's health and their future. This legislation is a critical step forward in updating our regulations so law enforcement has the tools needed to stop youth substance abuse."

Rep. Brandtjen can be reached using the contact information below. Please feel free to contact her with any concern.