

**RESOLUTION NO. 187 -2018, ESTABLISHING AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM AND A "DANGERS OF LIQUID NICOTINE" POSTER CONTEST IN SUFFOLK COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, liquid nicotine products are highly addictive and persons using these products are generally unaware of the chemical composition of liquid nicotine; and

**WHEREAS**, the Suffolk County Health Department is currently conducting a pilot educational program in local school districts on the dangers associated with liquid nicotine use; and

**WHEREAS**, young people are increasingly turning to liquid nicotine instead of cigarettes, believing that these products are not dangerous to their health; and

**WHEREAS**, young people are frequently enticed by the flavors that liquid nicotine comes in, such as cotton candy or strawberry, without understanding the addictive qualities of nicotine and the dangers associated with its use; and

**WHEREAS**, nicotine is a neurotoxin and overuse of liquid nicotine or spilling a small quantity of the liquid on one's skin can cause nicotine toxicity, a very dangerous condition which can cause nausea, vomiting, elevated heart rate and/or blood pressure, and even death. Nicotine toxicity is a significant concern for liquid nicotine users that is not present with tobacco based products, as the concentration of nicotine in tobacco is generally far lower than that found liquid nicotine; and

**WHEREAS**, children need to be taught at an early age about the dangers associated with liquid nicotine consumption in order to discourage its use; and

**WHEREAS**, the County Legislature should hold a poster contest for elementary school children to increase awareness of the dangers associated with the use of liquid nicotine; now, therefore be it

**1<sup>st</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that the Suffolk County Department of Health Services is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to prepare or obtain a publication detailing the dangers of liquid nicotine consumption for dissemination to legislators by September 10, 2018, to aid students interested in preparing posters for the contest; and be it further

**2<sup>nd</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that the Office of the Presiding Officer of the County Legislature shall conduct a "Dangers of Liquid Nicotine" campaign in elementary level schools throughout Suffolk County, inviting students to participate in a poster contest requiring a student's interpretation of what liquid nicotine is and the danger that liquid nicotine use poses to children and adults; and be it further

**3<sup>rd</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that any Legislator who wishes to participate in this contest shall send a letter and a copy of the "Dangers of Liquid Nicotine" pamphlet, published pursuant to the 5<sup>th</sup> RESOLVED clause of this resolution, to the Superintendents of public school districts located within their pertinent legislative district, advising the school of the contest; and be it further

**4<sup>th</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that each participating Legislator shall judge entries made by elementary school students and recommend one (1) winner from each school in their district as a finalist. Participating Legislators shall then recommend one (1) of the finalist posters to the Presiding Officer to represent their legislative district; and be it further

**5<sup>th</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that the deadline for submitting eligible posters shall be November 12, 2018; the Legislative Office of Budget Review shall then select the winning poster by November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, with the winning selection announced by the Presiding Officer at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the Legislature in December; and be it further

**6<sup>th</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that, following the announcement of the poster contest winner, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services is further authorized, empowered and directed to prepare a publication on the dangers of liquid nicotine consumption for dissemination to the public which shall incorporate the winning poster design on the cover of the materials; and be it further

**7<sup>th</sup>** **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: March 20, 2018

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Steven Bellone  
County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: March 30, 2018