

PROCLAMATION

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER, 2020, AS VAPING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the federal government has declared youth e-cigarette use, or vaping, a nationwide epidemic; and

WHEREAS, youth vaping has increased dramatically across the country and in Florida; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, one in three Florida high school students reported electronic vaping – an increase compared to 2018, and 16.5 percent of Indian River County youth ages 11-17 currently use e-cigarettes, which is higher than the State rate of 14.5 percent; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes are unsafe for kids, teens, and young adults; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarettes typically contain nicotine, which is a highly addictive chemical and the developing youth brain is more vulnerable to its effects, including reduced impulse control, deficits in attention and cognition, and mood disorders; and

WHEREAS, e-cigarette aerosol is not harmless water vapor and the aerosol that users breathe and exhale from an e-cigarette device can contain harmful and potentially harmful substances, including cancer-causing chemicals and heavy metals such as nickel, tin, and lead; and

WHEREAS, the focus of October, 2020 Vaping Awareness Month is to provide accurate information about youth and adult e-cigarette use into the hands of our citizens, which is an important step to reversing this alarming trend in Indian River County; and

WHEREAS, Indian River County is committed to the goals and objectives of Vaping Awareness Month through a variety of public health activities and programs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA that October, 2020, be recognized as Vaping Awareness Month in Indian River County.

Adopted this 13th day of October, 2020.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Susan Adams, Chairman

Joseph E. Flescher, Vice Chairman

Peter D. O'Bryan

Bob Solari

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