INTRODUCTION

• In 2014, more U.S. high school students used e-cigarettes than traditional cigarettes (13.4% vs. 9.2%), making age restrictions an important public health issue
• In the absence of federal legislation and implementation of recommendations proposed by the FDA, many states have taken action
• We aimed to identify and categorize existing legislation across all 50 states

METHODS

• Used the database maintained by the National Conference on State Legislatures to identify pertinent state legislation
• Hand-searched text of all relevant legislative bills available through each state’s online database
• Categorized legislative action based on specific type of regulatory category: definition, youth access, marketing, taxation, clean air, childproof capping

RESULTS

- Bans sale to minors
- Bans sale to minors; mandates childproof caps
- Bans sale to minors; taxation statutes
- Bans sale to minors; sale regulations
- Bans sale to minors; prohibits on school grounds
- Bans sale to minors; childproof caps; education campaigns

DISCUSSION

• Forty-nine states have passed legislation aimed at curbing the sale of ENDS to minors
• Variation among state laws suggests a potential role for federal oversight alongside state action
• Health professionals should be aware of the variation among state laws and potential value in adapting outdated policies to include ENDS