



**MEDIA STATEMENT  
THE OFFICE OF THE CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER OF THE  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OF MALAYSIA (SUHAKAM)**

**EDITOR, NEWS DESK**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ENFORCEMENT TO CONTROL SMOKING PRODUCT FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 2024**

**KUALA LUMPUR (1 AUGUST 2024)** - The Children's Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia (SUHAKAM) is deeply concerned about the recent incident involving a secondary school student who is in critical condition, suspected of excessive vaping with magic mushroom-laced liquid or gel.

We urge parents and guardians to be vigilant about the dangers and health risks associated with vape-related products. These products, often marketed on social media with bright packaging and appealing flavours, are particularly attractive to young people.

If you know a child who is engaging in vaping, it is crucial to seek help immediately. Government health facilities and other professional organizations offer smoking cessation services that can provide treatment and counselling.

We strongly recommend that the Government intensify efforts to curb the social supply of vapes targeting children and adolescents, with stricter monitoring of illicit sales through social media.

The public are warned on the narratives and promotion of e-cigarettes or vaping as 'healthier and less harmful' substitutes for tobacco smokers to quit or reduce cigarette consumption. The battle against tobacco should not be conflated with an introduction of nicotine or other addictive chemical to new users especially children.

The Children's Commissioner calls for strict enforcement of Section 13 of the Control of Smoking Products for Public Health Act 2023 [Act 852], which prohibits the sale of tobacco or substitute tobacco products to children. Additionally, Section 17 of Act 852 makes it an offence for individuals under 18 to smoke or use any tobacco or substitute tobacco products. The success of these prohibitive measures relies on earnest and serious implementation of the Act.

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**Children's Commissioner  
1 August 2024**