Congressional report presses for e-cigarette rules

April 14 2014, by Michael Felberbaum

A new Congressional report says concerns about electronic cigarettes underscore the need to regulate the fast-growing industry.

The report released Monday highlights several issues including an array of flavors and marketing that could appeal to young people, the lack of age restrictions and no uniform warning labels.

It was written by the staff of Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, California Rep. Henry Waxman and others.

Electronic cigarettes are battery-powered devices that heat a nicotine solution and create vapor that's inhaled.

A 2009 law gave the Food and Drug Administration the power to regulate tobacco products.

The agency first said it planned to assert authority over e-cigarettes in 2011 but has yet to do so.

The proposed FDA regulation was submitted to the Office of Management and Budget for review in October.

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Citation: Congressional report presses for e-cigarette rules (2014, April 14) retrieved 25 April 2024 from https://medicalxpress.com/news/2014-04-congressional-e-cigarette.html

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