

Assembly Business & Professions Committee
January 13, 2026
Testimony in Opposition to Assembly Bill 762 (Irwin)

Good morning, Chair Berman and Members. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Amy O’Gorman Jenkins, and I’m here on behalf of the California Cannabis Operators Association in respectful opposition to AB 762.

Our association represents more than 300 licensed operators across the supply chain serving over half the state’s population. We share the author’s commitment to environmental stewardship, recycling, and consumer protection.

However, the bill does not address the lithium-ion battery challenge in a meaningful way. Lithium-ion batteries are ubiquitous across modern consumer products. Vaping devices represent only a fraction of products that contain them, and legal integrated cannabis vapes are an even smaller subset. Eliminating this category from the legal supply chain does not materially reduce lithium-ion waste or disposal risk at the statewide level.

From a regulatory and public health standpoint, legal cannabis integrated devices are tested, tracked, compliant, and manufactured to safety standards. Unregulated cannabis vapes are not. When compliant products are restricted, consumers shift to illicit alternatives — as seen during the 2019 EVALI outbreak, which the CDC linked to illicit-market vapes — undermining both environmental and consumer safety objectives.

These devices also serve unique medical and accessibility functions. For patients managing chronic pain, neurological conditions, or mobility impairments, legal integrated vapes offer a safe, fast-acting, and precise dosing mechanism. Requiring users to manipulate removable cartridges and batteries introduces dexterity barriers, particularly for immunocompromised or disabled patients.

Labeling these devices as “single-use” or “non-reusable” is also misleading. A half-gram unit delivers around 150 doses; a full gram can provide up to 300 doses. These are used over weeks or months, not discarded after one session.

AB 762 eliminates a critical product category without offering real solutions to lithium-ion battery disposal, nor does it enhance consumer education around safe

disposal practices. Eliminating legal products will not deter bad actors from selling untested, imported integrated vape devices; it will simply migrate existing consumers to the illicit market, where enforcement is least effective and no environmental or public health safeguards exist.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge your “no” vote on AB 762.