KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION **KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY** **Legislative Bill**	**Red | Bill # HB 39** **Referred to Committee: House 3**
Authors: Madison Birmingham, Kylie Higgins, Webb Bates, Ryan Waford	**Action on the Bill**
School: Shelby East/West Middle School and Martha Layne Collins High School	**House** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated **Senate** ____ ☐ Passed ____ ☐ Defeated
City: Shelbyville	

An act to Prevent Minors From Buying and Using E-Cigarettes.

Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky

Section 1: Electronic cigarettes are metal or plastic battery-powered devices resembling traditional cigarettes that heat a liquid nicotine solution, creating vapor that users inhale. Users get nicotine without the chemicals, tar or odor of regular cigarettes. This cigarette still contains nicotine which is very harmful and can cause cancers. This bill will prevent minors, or kids under the age of 18, from buying and using these cigarettes. The use of battery powered cigarettes has doubled between the years of 2011 and 2012 among U.S. high school and middle school students. The Center for Disease Prevention and Control states that 1.78 million kids under the age of 18 have confessed to puffing on an E-cigarette. E-cigarettes are being advertised during prime-time television hours at a time when many children are watching. The health effects of e-cigarettes have not been adequately studied and the ingredients are not regulated. People, especially kids, are being led to believe that e-cigarettes are a safe alternative to real cigarettes, but they are highly addictive and can deliver strong doses of nicotine. Statistics state that using these cigarettes lead to using real cigarettes. Currently there are no regulations on who can buy E-cigarettes in Kentucky.

Section 2: The purpose of this bill is to keep as much nicotine as possible out of reach of teenagers. If this bill is passed, E-cigarettes will be regulated and sold the same way as other tobacco products. If someone wants to buy E-cigarettes, they will have to show picture identification that includes their age. All E-cigarettes will be stored behind the cash register of a store so that people have to ask to purchase them.

Section 3: Currently, E-cigarettes are under the Food and Drug Administration. Once this bill is passed, E-cigarettes will come under the control of the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Administration and the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control just other tobacco products. Since current cigarette regulation is already in place, no added funds will be needed for this bill. The E-cigarettes will be included in current regulatory and inspection practices. Any store owner who violates the law shall be fined not less than $1,000 or more than $2,500 for each offense. If a minor is caught buying or using E-cigarettes, penalties will include a fine of $50 and 20 hours of community service work for a first offense within a one-year period, and a fine of $200 and 40 hours of community service work for further offenses.

Section 4: This bill will take effect on January 1, 2014.