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Getting it Right from the Start Condemns Hemp Industry Lawsuit Against California's Emergency Regulations on Intoxicating Hemp Products

Statement From Dr. Lynn Silver, Senior Adviser, Public Health Institute:

“We are deeply dismayed by the hemp industry’s lawsuit to block California’s emergency regulations on intoxicating hemp products which took effect on Monday, September 23rd. The new regulations do not allow hemp products to be intoxicating and establish age limits for the remaining products. This legal action is yet another blatant attempt by the hemp industry to prioritize profit over public health. By opposing these much-needed regulations, the industry is fighting to continue selling products that are harming our children and youth.

These regulations were put in place to close dangerous loopholes that allowed intoxicating hemp products to be legally marketed and sold, including to children. These products, often containing far higher levels of THC than legal cannabis edibles, and imitating common candies, have no place in our stores, where they are easily accessible to young people. The lawsuit shows that the industry is willing to go to any length to keep pushing these products, even at the expense of causing child poisonings and hooking teens.

We urge the courts to reject this cynical effort to block common-sense regulations and stand with Governor Newsom, the California Department of Public Health, and the families and advocates who are fighting to protect our communities from harmful psychoactive products. The health of our children and youth must come first—not the profits of a reckless industry.”

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[Getting it Right from the Start](#), a project of the Public Health Institute, works with states, cities, counties and community partners to develop evidence-based model policies and provide guidance on cannabis policies that can help reduce harms, protect against youth and problem cannabis use, and advance social equity.