



Personal letter to Subcommittee on Smoking (Public Health) (Notices) (Amendment) Order 2017

Au Yeung, Shiu Lun Ryan

to:

lwcyu

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From: "Au Yeung, Shiu Lun Ryan" [REDACTED]

To: lwcyu@legco.gov.hk

Dear Chairman,

I strongly support the enlargement of pictorial warning on surfaces of tobacco packages. The World Health Organization (WHO) publication "Plain packaging of tobacco products: Evidence, design and implementation" ([http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/207478/1/9789241565226\\_eng.pdf?ua=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/207478/1/9789241565226_eng.pdf?ua=1)) has already summarized clearly the rationale for plain packaging to reduce tobacco use, together with the presentation of sound scientific evidence. Part 4 of this publication also explained some claims made by the tobacco companies with regards to plain packaging (e.g. increasing illicit trade) are not supported by concrete evidence. Furthermore, the most recent Cochrane Review published in April, 2017 (<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD011244.pub2/abstract>), which included approximately 800,000 participants from 51 studies, also showed plain packaging may reduce smoking prevalence. Given the well established harm of tobacco and existing evidence, the proposal made by the Government on enlargement of pictorial warning should be passed without delay in order to safeguard public health in Hong Kong.

Yours sincerely,

Ryan Au Yeung

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Au Yeung, Shiu Lun Ryan  
Research Assistant Professor  
School of Public Health,  
Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine,  
The University of Hong Kong  
Phone: (852) 3917 6740  
Fax: (852) 3520 1945