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April 8, 2019

Dear Mr. Kwok (Chairman)

**Re: Bills Committee: Regulate Alternative Tobacco Products Instead of Ban**  
**Urging for a Proper Public Consultation**

I am a mother of 1 kid. My husband starts smoking when he was aged 18 and now he is already 34 which I fully understand that there is no way for him to quit smoking as smoking is already part of his life. I fully understood it is his way and **ONLY** way to release the high pressure in his work and life. So do I and other HK people? We will choose to go crazy shopping, drink alcohol, go gambling or even having many junk food/ coke/coffee to release our stress. It is very normal that we find our own way to get grid of feeling of stress and I totally respect everyone has their own way and freedom to de-stress and relax.

Since I gave birth in 2017, my husband started to use IQOS (new heat-not-burn product) to replace the conventional cigarette. What's the reason of doing so? It is just very simple! He wants to avoid affecting others especially to my kid and our families. Also, with more and more scientific evidences proofing that this new type of cigarette products (IQOS) present lower health risks to both smokers and non-smokers, my husband decided to switch to IQOS and truly believe this new scientific innovative products could produce less harmful impact to his health and even help him to change his life and experience ever. Indeed, after using IQOS, he mentioned that he has lesser cigarette in-intake as the IQOS device need to be charged and he could not having so many sticks of cigarette in one time. He kinds of needs to "wait" for the charging time and eventually he takes fewer and fewer cigarettes than before. Previously, he consumed 20 sticks per day and now he reduced to max. 5 per day. Also, in terms of the smell, it is much better than before. I barely can't smell the smoke from his body (ie. hand, finger, hair) and even his clothes. It creates less impact to my kid and our families and help to create a more comfortable living environment for all of us.

I understood this kind of new products are not allowed to sell in Hong Kong. Indeed, I knew that it has already launched in other developed countries like Japan, Seoul, UK, Switzerland and etc and supported by many valid and strong scientific evidences/findings.

What the reasons or justification of Hong Kong Government banning this product in our market? What's the rationale of rejecting or ignoring those scientific research and findings? If the Government has more up-to-dated scientific evidences or solid justifications overthrowing those global scientific results, we are more than happy to understand more and suggest the Hong Kong Government can proactively share the new

findings to the world as soon as possible. We are all now living in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we believe in Science & Research and Facts more than “talking”. We need an open society with more information or process transparency.

Personally, I saw the actual benefits that IQOS bring to my husband, his friend and even myself. As a wife of IQOS user, I **DO NOT** want my husband go back to the traditional cigarettes which our family need to suffer from those disgusting smells again. Instead of full ban, I prefer to bring in this new innovative science-driven products which offer better alternative to smokers. Again, I believe it is their “human right” and freedom to choose for better options or better life and no one could stop them.

I think we all need to be more open as it is the new norm and social trend in the world. We spent so much effort, money and time to encourage our next generation to spur innovation and develop in Science and Technology. Why we are doing so? It is just because we believe Science and Technology could change our life and make ourselves and our world better and better. As a mother, I prefer my kid and our next generation will continue to embrace new mindsets, adopt new ways of working to create and invent new stuffs for better future. And it is essential part in our human civilization process.

I am now writing to express our view and urge the Hong Kong Government to be more open, listen to the public and users’ voices and take corresponding actions in regulating the new heat-not-burn product. Please do not just propose full ban for the sake of banning and not providing solid supporting and evidences. Thank you for your kind attention.

Best Regards,

Fung Kam Yan

