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To: bc_54_18@legco.gov.hk

Date: Monday, April 08, 2019 03:02PM
Subject: Public Hearing for Heat not Burn Products (Apr 8)

April 8, 2019

Dear Mr. Kwok Wai Keung (Chairman)

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

I am not a smoker but some of my friends do. Most of my friends around me who switched to IQOS or e-cigarettes have made my life so much better! By hearing the news that the Hong Kong Government is fully banning this product, not only my friends were upset but myself as well! More and more accountable researches provided proven great points of switching from traditional cigarettes to Heat not burn products, but the HK Government is banning so.. Therefore, I am writing to strong initiate my view of regulating alternative tobacco Products instead of a full ban of these products.

I personally am very sensitive to smell of cigarettes and it irritates me of in taking second handed cigarettes! Yet it is a personal preference of individuals on how they release stress/ social networking, it would definitely be better if there is a better alternative for the smokers if they cannot quit. Recently, most of my friends switched from traditional cigarettes to IQOS (heat not burn product) and it has greatly changed our lives! Not only does IQOS release less smell and it releases water vapor instead of health affected chemicals to the people surrounding the smokers. From this, the smokers are beneficial from inhaling less chemicals, the non-smokers around them also don't have to submissively intake the second handed cigarettes!

I noticed that more world recognized organizations also shared detailed and valid scientific findings on the advantages in switching from traditional cigarettes to these kinds of new tobacco products - IQOS (if the smokers cannot quit). Hence, more developed Asian & European countries, eg: Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom etc., have also legalized in selling so. With these valid scientific findings on the advantages of product switching, why doesn't Hong Kong also legalize and allow selling in Hong Kong to benefit everyone – both non-smokers and smokers?

It will be really upsetting if all the smokers have to ultimately switch back to traditional cigarettes due to the nonsupport in regulating these types of products by the Hong Kong Government. The air pollution rate, the second handed smoking rate etc., will all go back up..

I sincerely am hoping by expressing my view may allow the Hong Kong Government understanding more about the public's voices and take corresponding actions in regulating these types of products (e-cigarettes & heat not burn products). Your support is much needed and we all hope to create a better Hong Kong together!
Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

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