

Clerk to Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Chairman Kwok Wai Keung,

Re: Smoking (Public Health) Amendment Bill
(to Bills Committee): Regulation of Alternative Tobacco Products
Asking for a Proper Public- Wide Consultation

I am writing to request the Bills Committee to reconsider the recent proposal from the Government to pose ban on e-cigarettes and alternative tobacco products. As a wife & mother, I recognize the benefit of these products to both smokers and even non-smokers as they help making my home a cleaner and safer place with much less smell.

With my husband's experience in switching from traditional cigarette to alternative tobacco product, it has proven that he has suffered from much less side effects of traditional cigarettes. Moreover, it has brought much less smell to our living place where my toddler's life would have been greatly impacted otherwise.

I have concern about the full ban which the government is proposing now rather than to regulate Heated Tobacco Products. If such products are properly regulated like how cigarettes are being regulated now, they would not be reachable by youth. The Government never laid down the good and bad of these products compared to cigarettes. I hope the government can let us know if there are authorities releasing research results from other countries that we can learn from.

Apart from that, I would like to request a proper public-wide consultation to share our views from all aspects of life and ask for the Government to provide feedback on our views directly.

As you are the LegCo member who has joined the Bills Committee, we request that you would lend your hand in support for a balanced approach to protect the public health and the consumers' freedom of choice.

Based on the above, I urge the Government to regulate, not ban these alternative products in HK.

Thank you and best regards,

Christy Chan