

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,

**Public Hearing on Regulating Alternative Tobacco Products Instead of Ban**

I am writing to express my thought on proposed ban of e-cigarettes and heated tobacco products as announced by the government. I believe these products should be regulated instead of fully banned and being available in Hong Kong.

I am a non-smoker and sensitive to the secondhand smoke, especially when I was walking on the street and how people just exhale without caring us. I am not a researcher or inventor, I won't know the component of the new products, I don't know how harmful that it, but at least, at this stage, I won't be coughing crazily if someone walk passed while using these new products and it didn't smell like the ordinary cigarettes.

Also, if the government is trying to ban instead of regulate it, I am sure there will be more illicit cigarettes around. The main thing is to educate our people, just like marijuana. And to be honest, no matter you had banned the product or not, the cigarettes company still have nothing to lose, as globally, user will just get it from somewhere else meanwhile Hong Kong government will have a lost on the tax income.

I believe as a civilized city, Hong Kong should give the option to the citizen instead of choosing for them. Yet, we are talking about the choice of a less harmful product not the same or something worse than the tradition ones.

I do hope you can read and take this as one of the advice.

Regards,

Janice