

Clerk to Bills Committee on Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019
Legislative Council Secretariat
Legislative Council Complex
1 Legislative Council Road
Central, Hong Kong
bc_54_18@legco.gov.hk
April 3rd, 2019

Dear Hon KWOK Wai-Keung,

Re: Submission on Public Hearing on the Smoking (Public Health)

I am writing to request for your help to convince the Government to reconsider the proposed ban, and instead allow alternative tobacco products such as IQOS and Heets to be sold in Hong Kong.

As a smoker in Hong Kong, I would like to have the choice of a better alternative product when compared to my usual cigarettes because the IQOS does NOT produce any smoke. This is the main reason why I prefer using IQOS instead of smoking cigarettes. IQOS does not affect the people surrounding me in comparison to cigarettes. This is in contrast to when I smoke my usual cigarettes, which produces second hand and even third hand smoke which my non-smoker friends have an issue with.

As parents of two young children, I try my best to keep them at a distance from any smoke produced from cigarettes. One issue that I face when taking my children out into the public is the unavoidable second hand smoke from passers-by, the smoke produced from traditional cigarettes which ultimately affects my children. Should all smokers in Hong Kong use IQOS instead of traditional cigarettes, this issue is going to be significantly reduce.

I believe imposing a blanket ban on alternative tobacco products will not only restrict existing smokers such as myself from a better alternative but more importantly negatively affect non-smokers surrounding them, including my children. If these products are banned, I will have to go back to traditional cigarettes.

As the Legco Bills Committee reviews this submission, I sincerely hope you consider my view and reconsider the proposed ban, and instead allow alternative tobacco products such as IQOS and Heets to be sold in Hong Kong.

Most grateful for your kind attention.

Sincerely,

Brian Chiu
Hong Kong Citizens