

To Chairman,

We, the Anti-Cancer Association of Hong Kong, stands adamantly in opposition to the current proposed legislation in outlawing the sale of e-cigarettes in Hong Kong.

Despite wails from Hong Kong's irresponsible bureaucrats, protectionist doctors (perhaps need protecting due to their poor skills) and protectionist members of the failed local education vested interests (same as doctors in needing protection from foreign competition). Cancer Research UK, the world's oldest charity for tackling cancer, has stated unequivocally that vaping, is far safer than cigarettes.

Like many in HK, we find the opinion of this UK charity to be far more credible than the dribble coming out the mouths of poorly skilled protection needing HK doctors and failed educators of the local school system where the rich who can choose, flees from.

Cigarettes, smoked, are without doubt one of the greatest scourges to public health. Therefore it is most shocking when an alternative, that consumers are now voluntarily choosing is going to be banned right out.

Perhaps it is as dangerous as cigarettes, but so far, all research points to a substantial reduction in risks. It is with this hope, that we oppose the proposed ban. In fact, vaping was invented by one of our brethren in Mainland China, because his father died and he wanted a nicotine delivery method that was far safer, and possibly could have prevented the death of his father if it was around when his father was smoking.

If this was an academic debate, perhaps our association is willing to tolerate such a ban.

However, I plead with every member of Legco, to head down to the oncology departments of both Queen Mary Hospital and Prince of Wales Hospital. Then just sit amongst the patients in the waiting room and imagine that if vaping was allowed, those suffering around you would be reduced massively in numbers. People are dying everyday, waiting for long term research results to prove safety would be too late, let informed consumers make that choice to save themselves.

Those supporting a ban will cause unnecessary deaths.  
Those supporting a ban has blood on their hands.

On the question of youth protection. Banning vaping is the equivalent of failed teachers fearing their students engaging in multi partner sexual activities, with all the sexually transmitted diseases risk involved, demanding a ban on condoms.

It is with the greatest disappointment that HK government has now regressed to the level of the South African government in respect of public health policies. Where their President Thabo Mbeki has repeatedly questioned the efficacy of HIV harm reduction policies such as the use of condoms.

If vaping saves lives, this ban will kill.

Yours Faithfully,

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Anti-Cancer Association of Hong Kong