

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

April 3, 2019

Dear Chairman Kwok,

Regulation of Alternative Tobacco Products
- Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill 2019

As a smoker, I am writing to the Bills Committee to express my discontent towards the latest legislative proposal on the ban of alternative tobacco products such as Heated Tobacco Products. I believe these alternative tobacco products should be properly regulated instead of banning them.

As a smoker, I did my research before switching to Heated Tobacco Products. There are well-known research centers showing proven results that these alternative tobacco products such as heated tobacco are significantly less harmful than traditional cigarettes. In addition, these alternative tobacco products are proven to be an effective tool to quit smoking.

I understand these products are new. Although, they are not "healthy", but it is less harmful compared to traditional cigarettes. I don't think I can quit altogether right now, thus choosing these less harmful alternatives is the next best option for me.

A ban would send out a misleading message to the public, giving an impression that these new products are more harmful than traditional cigarettes, and it is totally not true. This will prevent many traditional cigarettes smokers from switching to these new better alternatives. Many countries such as Japan and Korea and Malaysia are regulating Heated Tobacco Products and allowing their smokers to choose. Why can't Hong Kong do the same and allow its smokers this better choice?

Therefore, the Hong Kong Government should regulate these alternative tobacco products and listen to all of us users out there through a proper consultation, which is not done yet.

Thanks for paying attention to this matter!

~~Yours sincerely,~~


Peter Ming Yu Fung

Reference #1A09A10F