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,

Re: Bills Committee: Regulate Alternative Tobacco Products Instead of Ban Urging for a Proper Public Consultation

I am a bar manager in Causeway Bay. I would like to ask for the government to consider the needs of smokers in Hong Kong by regulating heat not burn products and alternative tobacco products and listen to the needs of the general public. The proposed ban will strongly harm current tobacco users, not only their health but also to non-smokers. A regulation towards these products will provide a better alternative for smokers. I hope that you will listen to my thoughts and understand our concerns.

As a current smoker and a bar manager in Causeway Bay district, I routinely come in contact with many smokers. After being exposed to heat not burn products, I believe these new tobacco products can provide a better alternative to those who choose to smoke.

The government has not initiated a consultation on the topic before proposing a final ban on new tobacco products. I believe the government should reconsider this decision and openly initiate a public consultation. A public consultation allows the government to fully understand the benefits of these products, and consumers can voice their opinion on this topic. Regulation ensures that minors do not have access to these new tobacco products, while a full ban will encourage illegal sales without any form of regulation.

Since you are a LegCo member in the Bills Committee, I request that you to support a neutral & balanced approach to protect public health. Also, I hope that the government will initiate a public consultation to ensure all voices and opinions are heard.

The Government should regulate, not ban these alternative heat not burn products in Hong Kong.

Sincerely,

For and on behalf MODERN RICH GROUP 必達

Signature(s)