

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

There has been heated discussion regarding the proposed ban for new tobacco products for example like heat-not-burn products. I want to take this opportunity to express my opinions towards this issue with this letter.

I am the bar owner in Tsim Sha Tsui and I have heard a lot about the recent ban. Although I am not a smoker, I have seen and experienced the benefits of not burning products from my customers and my staff.

I have a lot of concerns about the overall ban that the government is now proposing, rather than regulating heat not burn products. If these products are properly regulated, like today's cigarettes, young people will not be able to get these products. If some countries publish research results from other countries that we can learn from, I hope the government can tell us.

The government has yet to conduct a public consultation before proposing a Bill to ban these products. It seems logical to receive and review the public's opinion on the subject, and evaluate the products' pros and cons to public health.

I hope that as being one of the LegCo members representing Tsim Sha Tsui geographic Constituency, you will help to support a neutral approach considering the wellbeing of the Hong Kong people and respect the consumers' freedom of choice. Based on the above, I urge the Government to regulate, not ban these alternative products in HK.

Best regards,

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LOK KWUN MING

Director

