

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

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

Dear Kwok Wai Keung,

The recently proposed ban strongly affect current tobacco users, not just their health but also to the non-smokers. I would like to request the government to openly consider the needs of smokers in Hong Kong by regulating heat not burn products and alternative tobacco products. A regulation towards these products will provide a better alternative for smokers. Please allow me to share my thoughts.

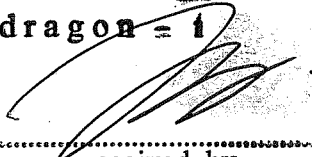
As a bar owner in Central district, I have noticed a growing trend of my customers and employees using new tobacco product during the past years, and not cigarettes anymore. I can see the potential positive impact of these products which can improve the lives of smokers and even non-smokers nearby. These alternative tobacco products apparently have less lingering smell that will not upset people around 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.

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,

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received by

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