

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:34 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

June 10, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 12 and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. Adolescents are still going through critical periods of brain growth and development, and they are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of nicotine. A study published in the journal, *Pediatrics*, found that the earlier youth are exposed to nicotine, the less likely they will be able to quit smoking. Tobacco companies have a long history of marketing to vulnerable populations and targeting youth with imagery and by marketing appealing flavors.

The use of e-cigarettes by teens has sky-rocketed in recent years. A 2018 study by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that e-cigarette use increased 78% among high school students in just the past year alone. Similarly, while adult cigar use has declined, cigar use by young men and teenage boys has continued to increase. It is not coincidental that these are the same products that are available in a wide array of kid-friendly flavors, packaged in bright colors, and sold with product names designed to be alluring to young people.

Targeted marketing to communities of color, low income communities and LGBTQ communities adds to the health disparities in populations already impacted by social inequities. In African-American communities, the tobacco industry has aggressively marketed menthol flavored tobacco products to youth. Approximately 85% of African-American smokers smoke menthol cigarettes, and consequently, African-American men have the highest death rates from lung cancer, when compared to other demographic groups. The anesthetizing effect of menthol masks the harshness of tobacco, making menthol cigarettes more appealing to beginning smokers, and menthol smokers demonstrate greater dependence, and are less likely to quit.

Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Rhee
19124 Ballinger St.
Northridge, CA 91324

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:36 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

June 26, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 12 and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol in the City of Los Angeles.**

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. Adolescents are still going through critical periods of brain growth and development, and they are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of nicotine. A study published in the journal, *Pediatrics*, found that the earlier youth are exposed to nicotine, the less likely they will be able to quit smoking. Tobacco companies have a long history of marketing to vulnerable populations and targeting youth with imagery and by marketing appealing flavors.

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Targeted marketing to communities of color, low income communities and LGBTQ communities adds to the health disparities in populations already impacted by social inequities. In African-American communities, the tobacco industry has aggressively marketed menthol flavored tobacco products to youth. Approximately 85% of African-American smokers smoke menthol cigarettes, and consequently, African-American men have the highest death rates from lung cancer, when compared to other demographic groups. The anesthetizing effect of menthol masks the harshness of tobacco, making menthol cigarettes more appealing to beginning smokers, and menthol smokers demonstrate greater dependence, and are less likely to quit.

Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,



Charles G. Smith
9207 Forbes Avenue
Northridge, CA 91343

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:38 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

June 10, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 11 and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. Adolescents are still going through critical periods of brain growth and development, and they are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of nicotine. A study published in the journal, *Pediatrics*, found that the earlier youth are exposed to nicotine, the less likely they will be able to quit smoking. Tobacco companies have a long history of marketing to vulnerable populations and targeting youth with imagery and by marketing appealing flavors.

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Targeted marketing to communities of color, low income communities and LGBTQ communities adds to the health disparities in populations already impacted by social inequities. In African-American communities, the tobacco industry has aggressively marketed menthol flavored tobacco products to youth. Approximately 85% of African-American smokers smoke menthol cigarettes, and consequently, African-American men have the highest death rates from lung cancer, when compared to other demographic groups. The anesthetizing effect of menthol masks the harshness of tobacco, making menthol cigarettes more appealing to beginning smokers, and menthol smokers demonstrate greater dependence, and are less likely to quit.

Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Jamie L. Escoto
8211 Creighton Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:39 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

June 27, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 11, an oncology nurse practitioner, and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. Adolescents are still going through critical periods of brain growth and development, and they are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of nicotine. A study published in the journal, *Pediatrics*, found that the earlier youth are exposed to nicotine, the less likely they will be able to quit smoking. Tobacco companies have a long history of marketing to vulnerable populations and targeting youth with imagery and by marketing appealing flavors.

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Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Laura B. LaRose, MSN, AGACNP-BC, AOCNS
11982 Kiowa Ave #204
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:41 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

June 26, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 2 and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. Adolescents are still going through critical periods of brain growth and development, and they are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of nicotine. A study published in the journal, *Pediatrics*, found that the earlier youth are exposed to nicotine, the less likely they will be able to quit smoking. Tobacco companies have a long history of marketing to vulnerable populations and targeting youth with imagery and by marketing appealing flavors.

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Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Melissa Park
10875 Kling St #305
Los Angeles, CA 91602

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:43 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

July 3, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District #8, Cancer Warrior and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

Both opponents of smoking and purveyors of cigarettes have long recognized the significance of adolescence as the period during which smoking behaviors are typically developed. Adolescents are still going through critical periods of brain growth and development, and they are especially vulnerable to the toxic effects of nicotine. A study published in the journal, *Pediatrics*, found that the earlier youth are exposed to nicotine, the less likely they will be able to quit smoking. Tobacco companies have a long history of marketing to vulnerable populations and targeting youth with imagery and by marketing appealing flavors.

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Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

PAULA TYNER
1835 W. 83rd Street
Los Angeles, CA 90047

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:44 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

June 28, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 13 and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

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Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Fajuri
1336 Lucile Ave., #2
Los Angeles, CA 90026

Communication from Public

Name: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Date Submitted: 07/31/2019 10:46 AM
Council File No: 18-1104
Comments for Public Posting:

July 5, 2019

Hon. David Ryu
Chair, Health, Education, Neighborhoods, Parks, Arts and River
District 4, City of Los Angeles
200 N. Spring Street, Room 425
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Chair Ryu:

As a resident of the City of Los Angeles in District 14 and a volunteer with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, **I fully support motion 18-1104 authored by Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products including menthol** in the City of Los Angeles.

Tobacco remains the leading cause of preventable death in our country, and sadly, nearly 95% of adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 21 and most begin with a flavored product. Of the 9 million youth currently living in our state, nearly 1.4 million of them will become smokers, and approximately 440,000 of those kids will die prematurely because of tobacco use.

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Again, I fully support Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell's motion to restrict the sale of flavored tobacco products (including menthol) in the City of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Virginia Escamilla
2027 Yosemite Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90041