



Sue Schettle, Chief Executive Officer
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November 10, 2015

Members of the Saint Paul City Council
City of Saint Paul
15 W Kellogg Blvd #310
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Council President Stark and Members of the Saint Paul City Council:

I am writing on behalf of the Twin Cities Medical Society in support of the ordinance to restrict the sales of flavored tobacco to adult only tobacco shops. Twin Cities Medical Society is a membership organization that represents approximately 5,000 physicians living and working in the Twin Cities metro area. One of our key missions is advocating for policies that promote public health.

Our physician members share all too often that tobacco is still a problem among their patients. Flavored tobacco products are the tobacco industry's attempt to chip away at tobacco prevention efforts that have resulted in fewer kids falling victim to a lifetime of nicotine addiction. Removing these products from stores where kids frequent is the next step in reducing Minnesota youth smoking initiation rates. Flavored tobacco restrictions are effective and Saint Paul now has the opportunity to be a leader among the nation.

A quarter of Minnesota high school students have tried flavored tobacco products. Adopting this regulation will minimize the availability and norm of flavored tobacco use among our kids. We stand behind this ordinance, and you. Thank you for protecting the public health of Saint Paul residents. Your leadership is an invaluable asset to the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Schettle".

Sue Schettle, Chief Executive Officer