

11 November 2015

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

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

I support the Council's efforts to regulate the sale of flavored tobacco targeted at youth, and to increase the minimum price of cigars to match the surrounding communities. As a resident of Saint Paul, I feel this step is a part of making our city attractive. As president of the Council of Graduate Students (COGS) at the University of Minnesota, I am concerned with the effect the status quo has on the children of graduate students, though the organization has not taken a stance. As a gay man, I am concerned with the targeting of tobacco products to marginalized communities. This proposal balances the ability to choose with protections for targeted individuals, and I feel this is worthwhile.

The methods used by tobacco companies to target youth and marginalized communities are within our power to change. Saint Paul can continue to be a leader in protecting the health of our community. By taking these products out of stores youth regularly visit, yet still allowing adults who choose to use them access at tobacco shops, Saint Paul can continue to strive for its constituent's best interests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicholas Goldsmith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicholas Goldsmith