Rena Moran State Representative

Ramsey County



Minnesota House of Representatives

April 1, 2015

The Honorable Chris Coleman, Mayor of Saint Paul And Members of the Saint Paul City Council Saint Paul City Hall 15 W. Kellogg Blvd. Saint Paul, MN 55102

Dear Mayor Coleman and Members of the City Council:

I am writing to express support for Ordinance #15-12, which will place necessary regulations on businesses that have had their tobacco license revoked. Ultimately, this ordinance helps promote a climate of safety and a sense of security in our neighborhoods.

I am concerned about the impact stores that repeatedly violate city code have on our young people, our families and our neighborhoods. These problem stores attract criminal activity and cause isolation among neighbors. These stores are a blemish for the entire neighborhood. They discourage positive growth and dampen the sense of community that is essential for a healthy neighborhood. If the City takes action to address the issue and the license gets transferred to someone who continues to run the business unlawfully, there is much effort but no progress.

This ordinance gives the City a way to ensure the new license holder will operate responsibly and according to the law. It would deter criminal activity and create a sense of security in neighborhoods that have been struggling to flourish for far too long.

This ordinance is an important step for creating safer, crime-free communities. I want to see Saint Paul and all of its neighborhoods thrive. Your support for this ordinance shows your commitment to building a safe, secure and prosperous Saint Paul.

Sincerely,

Renà Moran

State Representative