

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

I am disappointed to learn that the some members of our City Council want to restrict the sale of tobacco products in my community. Banning menthol cigarettes and mint and wintergreen tobacco products could shift sales of these products from law abiding retailers to other sources, some of which could be illegal. As a result, the regulations being considered could potentially devastate responsible retailers that sell tobacco products across the city. It could also put local jobs at risk! Banning the sale of mint and wintergreen flavors in tobacco and e-vapor products, as well as menthol cigarettes will only further restrict the choices adults have for the products they prefer. My business employs your constituents and contributes to our local economy. The proposed sales bans would directly impact my bottom line by driving my customers to stores in neighboring towns where they can buy milk, bread, and other products that my store depends on. Regulation of flavored tobacco and e-vapor products already occurs at the federal level since the Food and Drug Administration has regulatory authority over tobacco products. Banning the sale of legal products preferred by adult tobacco consumers crosses the line. A ban goes too far. I will be watching this issue closely and ask that you oppose any attempt to ban tobacco sales anywhere in the Twin Cities. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Moussa Ache

1184 Maryland Ave E

Saint Paul, MN 55106-2828

Dear Cnclm Bostrom,

I am disappointed to learn that the some members of our City Council want to restrict the sale of tobacco products in my community. Banning menthol cigarettes and mint and wintergreen tobacco products could shift sales of these products from law abiding retailers to other sources, some of which could be illegal. As a result, the regulations being considered could potentially devastate responsible retailers that sell tobacco products across the city. It could also put local jobs at risk! Banning the sale of mint and wintergreen flavors in tobacco and e-vapor products, as well as menthol cigarettes will only further restrict the choices adults have for the products they prefer. My business employs your constituents and contributes to our local economy. The proposed sales bans would directly impact my bottom line by driving my customers to stores in neighboring towns where they can buy milk, bread, and other products that my store depends on. Regulation of flavored tobacco and e-vapor products already occurs at the federal level since the Food and Drug Administration has regulatory authority over tobacco products. Banning the sale of legal products preferred by adult tobacco consumers crosses the line. A ban goes too far. I will be watching this issue closely and ask that you oppose any attempt to ban tobacco sales anywhere in the Twin Cities. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ahmed Mohammed

898 Arcade St

Saint Paul, MN 55106-3852

Jeffrey Lopez (1399 Hazlewood Street) sent a postcard from "BEAUTIFUL LIE - UGLY TRUTH" (8/23)

From: advocacy@mylegislators.com [<mailto:advocacy@mylegislators.com>] **On Behalf Of** Sam Hunt
Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 11:17 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward5 <Ward5@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Subject: Please OPPOSE harmful regulations in the Twin Cities

Dear Cnclm Brendmoen, I am disappointed to learn that the some members of our City Council want to restrict the sale of tobacco products in my community. Banning menthol cigarettes and mint and wintergreen tobacco products could shift sales of these products from law abiding retailers to other sources, some of which could be illegal. As a result, the regulations being considered could potentially devastate responsible retailers that sell tobacco products across the city. It could also put local jobs at risk! Banning the sale of mint and wintergreen flavors in tobacco and e-vapor products, as well as menthol cigarettes will only further restrict the choices adults have for the products they prefer. My business employs your constituents and contributes to our local economy. The proposed sales bans would directly impact my bottom line by driving my customers to stores in neighboring towns where they can buy milk, bread, and other products that my store depends on. Regulation of flavored tobacco and e-vapor products already occurs at the federal level since the Food and Drug Administration has regulatory authority over tobacco products. Banning the sale of legal products preferred by adult tobacco consumers crosses the line. A ban goes too far. I will be watching this issue closely and ask that you oppose any attempt to ban tobacco sales anywhere in the Twin Cities. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. Sincerely, Sam Hunt 1200 Rice St Saint Paul, MN 55117-4903

Marla Harris (14xx Case Avenue) #4 St Paul 55106 sent a postcard from "BEAUTIFUL LIE - UGLY TRUTH

From: advocacy@mylegislators.com [<mailto:advocacy@mylegislators.com>] **On Behalf Of** Eddie Siouffy
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2017 9:20 AM
To: #CI-StPaul_Ward3
Subject: Please OPPOSE harmful regulations in the Twin Cities

Dear Cnclm Tolbert, I am disappointed to learn that the some members of our City Council want to restrict the sale of tobacco products in my community. Banning menthol cigarettes and mint and wintergreen tobacco products could shift sales of these products from law abiding retailers to other sources, some of which could be illegal. As a result, the regulations being considered could potentially devastate responsible retailers that sell tobacco products across the city. It could also put local jobs at risk! Banning the sale of mint and wintergreen flavors in tobacco and e-vapor products, as well as menthol cigarettes will only further restrict the choices adults have for the products they prefer. My business employs your constituents and contributes to our local economy. The proposed sales bans would directly impact my bottom line by driving my customers to stores in neighboring towns where they can buy milk, bread, and other products that my store depends on. Regulation of flavored tobacco and e-vapor products already occurs at the federal level since the Food and Drug Administration has regulatory authority over tobacco products. Banning the sale of legal products preferred by adult tobacco consumers crosses the line. A ban goes too far. I will be watching this issue closely and ask that you oppose any attempt to ban tobacco sales anywhere in the Twin Cities. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. Sincerely, Eddie Siouffy 2005 Ford Pkwy Saint Paul, MN 55116-1932

Dear Council Member

I am a retailer in the city of Saint Paul for the last 27 years, own and operate 2 MINNOCO gas stations, for all that time I provided services and have been active in the community and ran a clean operation.

we have been having a very hard time keeping up with the increases of our expenses such as electric and gas, minimum wages, taxes and the list goes on....
also my family's health insurance policy went up from \$13,000 per year a few years ago to about \$40,000 after Obama care came into effect, basically it has been a challenge.

My customers come to my store for the convenience I offer, Gas, cigarettes , milk , eggs, bread.....
This proposed menthol tobacco ban will take away 68% of my cigarette business, it will be extremely hard for me to keep up with my experiences and keeping my doors open if you take that much of my revenues away and give it to Tobacco stores.
Tobacco stores sell Drugs accessories and all kinds of stuff that I refuse to sell. Awarding them by giving them our business makes no sense what so ever.

also I like to add that no studies been done on weather this ban will achieve any of the intended goals nor what kind of economic impact on the city and the city's small businesses ?????
its an IDEA that has no proof of accomplishing anything at all.

Do you know that the city of Saint Paul streets are full of marijuana ?, that is what lots of the young people of the city SMOKE, attention and work should be done their, not targeting legitimate businesses who are trying to survive.

The reason for this BAN also does not make no sense, it says that tobacco company's target African American and LGBTQ communities , infarct they are in business to sell tobacco, period.

This ban is a bad idea all around, also it will destroy lots of small businesses which will make it hard for some neighborhoods that rely on the convenience that these stores offer.

PLEASE VOTE NO TO THIS BAD IDEA, and save whats left of small businesses in Saint Paul.

I am willing to meet and answer any questions, also offer what I know to help come up with IDEAS that will actually accomplish goals.

THANK YOU very much for taking the time to read my email and learn about my issue with this proposed ban.

Thanks again
Abdalla Tobasi
TOBASI STOP#1&2

612 865-3185

TSWU VAJ from 782 Magnolia Avenue E sent a postcard in favor of the menthol ban. Post card was from "BEAUTIFUL LIE – UGLY TRUTH"

La Rico called to say he is not in favor of the ban on menthol cigarettes. He did not want to leave his address.