

**From:** Emily Saunders [<mailto:magicrabbit369@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 12, 2017 5:50 PM

**To:** #CI-StPaul\_Ward3

**Subject:** Hello again!-From your constituent Emily Saunders

Hello-I find myself writing to you again as a very unhappy resident of Highland Park in Saint Paul. Now you are trying to take away my choice to smoke menthol cigarettes. I have already said I am against the Ford Plant redevelopment. But now this too? why are you doing this? Why are you like this?

Us smokers have been forced to pay exorbitant taxes on cigarettes like we are doing something morally wrong by smoking. All of us have the choice to endanger our health if we so choose. I don't understand why you're picking on the menthol smokers. (of Highland Park). I'm unaware if this proposed menthol ban includes all of Saint Paul, but if it does, I will order my cigarettes online or go to another city to buy them. You are losing out on tax revenue if you do this.

Chris Tolbert-I don't know you. I don't hate you. But apparently your interests directly oppose my interests. I am a menthol smoker who lives near Highland Park. And I am not alone. You're constituents should have a say in decisions like this. After all, it's your constituents who elected you. I am sincerely and respectfully asking you to reconsider the ban on menthol cigarettes.

Thank you for your time.

Emily Saunders

Pattie,

Please let Chris Tolbert know that I support his position on the menthol tobacco sales as stated in the Villager. I agree that less prominently displayed tobacco products would be preferable to the proposed ban. I also think that increasing the penalty for sale of tobacco products to minors would be more appropriate and effective.

Restricting the sale of menthol tobacco products to "adult only" tobacco shops will only increase crime affecting those shops and black market sales.

Responsible retailers already keep larger quantities of tobacco products (e.g., cartons) under lock and key, with restricted key access to deter theft.

Thank you!  
Karen

Anonymous caller support the flavored tobacco ban

Tara Colten . 683 Aurora Ave . Saint Paul, MN 55104-4812

Council Member Dai Thao  
15 Kellogg Boulevard West  
310-A City Hall  
St. Paul, MN 55102

RECEIVED

SEP 11 2017

COUNCILMEMBER  
DAI THAO

Dear Council Member Thao-

It is disheartening that St. Paul's city council is considering banning the sale of menthol-flavored cigarettes within city limits. As someone who smokes menthol cigarettes, this would obviously be a big inconvenience for me. Therefore, I oppose this ban and consider it unnecessary.

As a smoker over the past twenty years, I never imagined that my choice of tobacco would be taken away from me. This proposed law does not seem fair or just. If this prohibition takes hold, one has to wonder what is the next target.

When I started smoking, cigarettes were sold for \$3 a pack. Now, I am currently using mailed coupons to purchase my preferred brand of Newports for under \$9. Price used to be the only issue but now, with this ban, availability is also going to be a concern.

If I cannot buy my cigarettes locally, I will probably have to go to the town where my mother lives to purchase them. She resides in Hudson, which is a twenty-minute drive. This sanction seems to target just a small group of smokers, menthol users, and I find this to be extremely unfair. Therefore, I ask that you vote against this discriminatory measure.

Best regards,

Tara Colten



Postcards from BEAUTIFUL LIE UGLY TRUTH – for menthol ban received from:

Ntxim Siab Lee @ 1970 Arlington Ave E

Tyshawn Williams @ 851 Magnolia Ave

Tenant @ 1754 Montana Ave #11

Kajsiab Lee @ 1970 Arlington Ave E

Jae Yang @ 1879 Stillwater Ave

Shoua Vang @ 1529 Magnolia Ave

Karissa Round @ 1648 Darlene Street

Hue Yang @ 1132 Jenks Ave

Ghass Mends @ 1953 Nevada Ave

Xai Wa Xyooj @ 2021 Arlington Ave

Ward 1 resident called and said she and her husband are against the menthol ban.

Ward 1 resident called and said she is opposed to the menthol and flavor ban, and feels it is un-American.