

October 12, 2017

City Council
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

St. Paul City Council Members,

I work hard every day to provide for my family and to contribute to our society. I don't think it is right for you to take menthol out of my city just because you think it will make for a good headline.

This ban isn't going to curb teen smoking. Teens will continue to get cigarettes the same way they always have and that's through their social circles, not from the retailers directly.

If you want to stop teen smoking, you need to focus on educating the youth about the harmful effects. This is a solution that lets you respect the freedom of choice adults have in this country. I am a smoker, and I deserve the right to choose for myself what kind of tobacco I smoke.

Sincerely,

Rodney Lewin
2100 East

October 12, 2017

City Council
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

St. Paul City Council Members,

I do not support the menthol tobacco ban. It is not fair to make me, someone who doesn't have easy access to transportation, find my way across the city to one of the 12 tobacco shops this city has just to buy a pack of menthol cigarettes. Menthol is a legal product and until it no longer is legal, you shouldn't have the ability to tell me where I can and cannot buy it.

City Council, I see this ban as an overreach of power. I do not think you should pass this ban; you will be upsetting a large amount of people if you choose to pass it.

Sincerely,



41 N 12st 55403



October 12, 2017

City Council
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

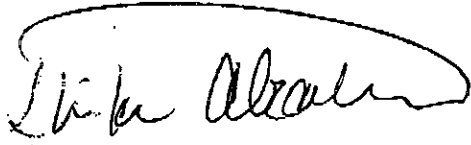
St. Paul City Council Members,

The St. Paul City Council should not be making personal health decisions for us. Whether I choose to smoke is my own choice, and as an adult, the leaders in my community should respect that choice.

Your job is to represent the city, and the city is telling you that we do not support this harmful menthol ban. Not only is it going to make the lives of those who smoke more difficult, but it is putting businesses at risk as well.

Please rethink your position on this ban and vote no when the time comes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Abruzzo". The signature is written in a cursive style and is enclosed within a large, hand-drawn oval shape.

October 12, 2017

City Council
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

St. Paul City Council Members,

Please don't make it so I have to take multiple city buses, walk through neighborhoods I am not familiar with, and waste my money on other modes of transportation just to buy a *legal* product.

As an adult, I have the right to purchase menthol tobacco if I choose to do so. It is not the place of City Hall to tell me what to do. You are not my parents, and I would appreciate if you stopped trying to pass bans that put you in that position.

I urge you to rethink your stance on this issue. There are many harmful consequences a ban like this will have on our community.

Vote no to the menthol ban.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Carl Blomstedt".

October 12, 2017

City Council
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

St. Paul City Council Members,

Please do not make my already stressful life even more stressful. I enjoy a menthol cigarette at the end of the day to unwind and relax and now you are trying to take that away from me.

My access to transportation is limited so by removing menthol from my local stores I can walk to, this is going to completely disrupt my life. Your job as civil servants is to try to make the lives of people you serve easier but instead you are doing just the opposite.

Please listen to what the community needs and that is not having our rights to legal products restricted.

Vote no on the menthol ban.

Sincerely,

Eric Tame

October 12, 2017

City Council
15 W. Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

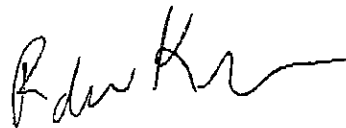
St. Paul City Council Members,

I do not think the menthol ban will be good for the city of St. Paul. This is a ban that is going to kill jobs. Retailers rely heavily on menthol products as part of their revenue stream, and if you take that away from them, they are going to have to lay people off to make up the difference.

We should be supporting business in this city, but bans like these are making it harder for small businesses to be successful.

Please rethink your position on this harmful ban and vote no.

Sincerely,



1489 Carroll Ave

October 13, 2017

City Council
15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102

Saint Paul City Council members,

If the City Council claims to be so anti-tobacco, why are you handing over thousands of dollars of profit to tobacco only shops? The menthol ban is a misguided and a not fully thought out idea.

Please rethink your stance on the menthol ban. This ban is going to do more harm to our communities than good. This ban is taking away revenue from our communities and handing it over to our neighboring cities.

We should be supporting our local businesses instead of turning business away from them. I encourage you to rethink this proposed menthol ban. We can end teen smoking without hurting our local economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony Wheeler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and "W".

352 Wacowata St

October 13, 2017

City Council
15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Room 310
St. Paul, MN 55102


Saint Paul City Council members,

Everyday I struggle to find a way to work because I do not have a car. At the end of a long day, being able to walk down the street to buy a pack of menthol cigarettes is something that makes the daily grind a little easier to stand. But now you are telling me that once again I have to struggle to find transportation across town to buy a product I legally use to unwind.

I do not support the proposed ban of menthol tobacco from our local convenience stores and corner markets. I am a menthol smoker but I am also a law abiding, tax paying, hardworking citizen of St. Paul, and I have the right to decide what kind of tobacco I smoke.

Menthol is a legal product and I have the right to that product. City Council, are you in the business of taking away peoples' rights?

Sincerely,



946 Arco.