



October 19, 2017

Members of Saint Paul City Council
15 Kellogg Blvd. West, 310 City Hall
Saint Paul, MN 55102

Members of the Saint Paul City Council:

I am writing today on behalf of Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES). We are a non-profit organization that was founded in 1981 by Latinos for Latinos. Our programs and services connect families to resources, skills, institutions, and systems and create an environment for people to be engaged and empowered. As a member of the Saint Paul community, we write to urge you to support passing the proposal that removes menthol tobacco from stores accessible to youth.

According to the Minnesota Department of Health, 102,100 Minnesota youth are projected to die from smoking. The tobacco industry targets diverse neighborhoods and those of lower socioeconomic status with advertisements and provide easy accessibility for youth to pick up these products. These industry tactics are paying off as too many of our young people are using, and becoming addicted to, these deadly products.

We hope that Saint Paul remains a leader in the state and assures that tobacco isn't the number one killer for another generation. Thank you for promoting the health of Saint Paul residents.

Sincerely,

Carla Kohler
Manager of Community Health