

October 15, 2018

Saint Paul City Council 15 Kellogg Boulevard Saint Paul, MN 55102

Re: Ord 18-50, an ordinance related to minors entering liquor stores which sell tobacco

ANSR strongly supports the amendment which will prohibit minors from entering liquor stores that sell menthol tobacco. This is a reasonable modification to the ordinance in that it treats liquor stores the same as other stores which are allowed to sell menthol tobacco.

Tobacco continues to be the leading preventable cause of death and disease in Minnesota. People who do not start to smoke by age 21 are very unlikely to ever begin to use tobacco. Since menthol flavored tobacco is the cigarette of choice for many young people, it makes sense to place added restrictions on these products.

We thank the council for considering this positive policy change.

Jeanne Weigum

President

