

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

LATE

DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

In reply, please refer to:
File:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

SB2222, RELATING TO FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Testimony of David Sakamoto, MD, MBA
Deputy Director, Health Resources Administration

February 11, 2014
9:30 am, Room 229

1 **Department's Position:** The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) supports with suggestions the
2 passage of SB2222 to prevent youth from experimenting with tobacco products and developing long-
3 term tobacco addiction.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** None.

5 **Purpose and Justification:** SB2222 amends the Hawaii Revised Statutes by creating a new chapter,
6 Flavored Tobacco Products, to make it unlawful to sell, offer for sale, or distribute any flavored tobacco
7 product, including menthol products and electronic smoking devices within the State as of 01/01/2015.

8 The DOH supports this measure to regulate the sale of flavored tobacco products. The DOH
9 respectfully recommends the following definitions for "electronic smoking devices" and "tobacco
10 products" that was developed with the Department of the Attorney General as follows:

11 "Electronic smoking device" means any electronic product that can be used to vaporize and
12 deliver nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to,
13 an electronic cigarette, electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, or electronic pipe, and any cartridge or other
14 component of the device or related product.

1 "Tobacco product" means any product made or derived from tobacco, that contains nicotine or
2 other substances, and is intended for human consumption or is likely to be consumed, whether smoked,
3 heated, chewed, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, or ingested by any other means, including, but not limited
4 to, a cigarette, cigar, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff, snus, or an electronic smoking device.

5 "Tobacco product" does not include any product specifically approved by the United States Food and
6 Drug Administration for legal sale as a tobacco cessation product that is being marketed and sold solely
7 for that approved purpose."

8 The DOH defers to the Office of the Attorney General on the proposed Section 3 on Remedies.

9 Public health experts are greatly concerned that flavored tobacco products encourage children to
10 start using tobacco and have become increasingly popular. The Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids states
11 that more than 40% of United States youth (grades 6-12) who currently smoke, reported using flavored
12 little cigars or flavored cigarettes (2011 National Youth Tobacco Survey). Dr. Tom Frieden, Director of
13 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, stated that new versions of tobacco products threaten to
14 addict a new generation of kids.

15 Youth are attracted to flavored tobacco products other than cigarettes because they are cheap and
16 sweet and sold in a variety of kid-friendly flavors including apple, chocolate, grape, strawberry, cotton
17 candy, and bubble gum. Flavors can mask the natural harshness and taste of tobacco, making flavored
18 tobacco products easier to use and increasing their appeal among new users, almost all of whom are
19 under age 18. Advertising for flavored tobacco products targets youth. Using flavored product use may
20 influence the establishment of lifelong tobacco-use patterns.

21 The Family Smoking Prevention Act of 2009 bans the manufacturing of flavored cigarettes, but
22 there is no comparable federal law regulating flavored tobacco products including menthol cigarettes.
23 Many states and local governments have adopted laws to regulate the sale of flavored tobacco products,

1 including Maine, Illinois, Chicago, New York City and Providence, Rhode Island. Chicago also passed
2 a ban on sales of menthol and flavored tobacco products within 500 feet of schools in December 2013.

3 In July 2013, the Food and Drug Administration's Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory
4 Committee issued a comprehensive report that indicated that menthol cigarettes: 1) cause smoking
5 initiation among youth and young adults; 2) lead to greater addiction; and 3) increase quitting difficulty
6 as compared to non-menthol cigarettes.

7 Nationally, among cigarette smokers, menthol cigarette use is more common among 12–17 year
8 olds (56.7%) and 18–25 year olds (45%) than among older age groups (2009 Substance Abuse and
9 Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)). In Hawaii, of the students who smoked, 78% of
10 high school students and 65% of middle school students smoke menthol cigarettes. Kool and Marlboro
11 Menthol are reported to be their most preferred brands (2011 Hawaii Youth Tobacco Survey (HYTS)).

12 Hawaii's overall menthol use is higher than any other state, as menthol cigarettes are the popular
13 choice with youth, Asian American and Native Hawaiian groups (2009 SAMHSA and 2011 HYTS).
14 Banning menthol flavored tobacco products could lead to a larger impact of reducing the burden of
15 tobacco use that affects Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders, Filipinos, youth, and young adults in
16 Hawaii.

17 Flavored tobacco product use has serious consequences. Young people are much more likely to
18 use flavored tobacco products than adults; and these products are considered to be "starter" products that
19 help establish long-term smoking habits. Restricting the sales of any flavored tobacco product has the
20 potential to prevent youth from experimenting with these dangerous products and developing a life-long
21 nicotine addiction.

22 Tobacco smoking remains the single largest preventable cause of disease and premature death
23 among both men and women in the United States. Unless bold steps are taken to end the tobacco
24 epidemic, the Surgeon General estimates that 5.6 million children alive today will ultimately die early

1 from smoking. DOH supports SB2222 that bans the sales of any flavored tobacco product, including
2 menthol products and electronic smoking devices, as it is an important strategy to protect youth and
3 young adults. This measure could also reduce the tobacco-caused health burden among vulnerable
4 populations, including racial/ethnic groups.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE



ABC STORES
766 Pohukaina Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-5391
www.abcstores.com

Telephone: (808) 591-2550
Fax: (808) 591-2039
E-mail: mail@abcstores.com

TESTIMONY
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Vice Chair
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Tuesday, February 11, 2014, 9:30a
Conference Room 229
State Capitol

February 10, 2014

To: Chairs Baker and Hee, and Vice Chairs Tanibuchi and Shimabukuro and Committee Members:

ABC Stores OPPOSES Senate Bill 2222, Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

My name is Paul Kosasa, President and CEO of ABC Stores, a local company doing business in Hawaii for over 60 years, with 50+ stores statewide.

We are greatly concerned with the potential impact that a state ban on flavored tobacco products could have on Hawaii's retailers and small businesses. We understand that the proposed restrictions will seek to ban smokeless tobacco products and cigars with flavors.

An important argument against the ban on flavored smokeless tobacco and cigars is that implementation of the measure in Hawaii could inadvertently harm many of the state's retailers and small business owners. If flavored smokeless tobacco and cigars become unobtainable through lawful retailers, some adult consumers may seek out flavored tobacco products through unregulated or black market channels. This could further exacerbate the negative impact that retailers could face from this measure to ban flavored tobacco products.

We agree that tobacco products are a health concern and illegal for minors to use them. There are effective laws in already in effect that properly enforce this and statistics show that educational programs for children do prevent tobacco use.

Retailers in Hawaii have already done their part to reduce underage access to tobacco, and positive trends in the reduction of youth tobacco use have resulted. We should stick with the policies already in place, and allow the appropriate federal regulators to determine whether stricter standards for flavored smokeless tobacco and cigars are warranted.

Further restricting tobacco products that Hawaii's retailers can legally sell could only hurt our businesses.

As a member of Hawaii's business community, I kindly ask you to OPPOSE the proposed flavor ban on tobacco products for these reasons.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

PAUL KOSASA
President & CEO

Travel Resort Retail



LATE

385 Hukilike Street, Suite 202
Kahului, HI. 96732
Phone: (808) 270-2870 Fax: (808) 270-2871

February 10, 2014

Honorable Senators Baker, Galuteria, Keith-Agaran,
Ruderman, & Shimabukuro

The proposed flavor ban on smokeless tobacco and cigars in the State of Hawaii for all intents and purposes would do more harm to tobacco retailers like Minit Stop Stores than it would ever accomplish in stopping youth access to tobacco in any form. Over the past 5 to 7 years I believe most if not all retailers have been very accommodating to the general public and the State of Hawaii to ensure we do not give or promote access to tobacco products to anyone under the age of (18) years.

We've restricted the promotion and sale of tobacco to the rear of the stores transaction area by eliminating counter displays and floor displays of tobacco products. Most signs advertising tobacco is placed within or on the tobacco display in the store. We card everyone who comes into the store and we ask if they are old enough to buy tobacco products. We do not give away free samples and we do not entice any individual under (18) years of age to buy tobacco with free goods or prizes that would be attractive to individuals under age (18).

We support restricting the sale or the enticement of the sale of tobacco products to individuals under the age of (18) by vigorously following all of the rules and guidelines put forth by our Federal Government through the FDA and by the State of Hawaii and this has resulted in Hawaii retailers being 96% compliant with all requisite laws barring the sale of tobacco products to minors not to mention one of the lowest rates of tobacco use per capita when compared to the other (50) States in our union.

The folks who buy tobacco from responsible retailers like Minit Stop want to use tobacco products and want it in versions that can be chewed, smoked, flavored or delivered electronically, knowing full well they are of age and not infringing on the right or choice of folks who don't use tobacco products.

To ban access to flavored tobacco products to the responsible consumers who want buy it and to responsible retailers who want to sell it is an affront to all of us and not very conducive or fair to the partnership the State of Hawaii has forged with responsible retailers that restrict the sale of tobacco products to those under (18) years of age. Makes one think this partnership is one sided with no consideration to the responsible folks who partake in tobacco usage and the responsible retailers who sell it.

Once that partnership erodes all the State of Hawaii will have is the Wild West of the internet and the Black Market to contend with in the sale of tobacco products in the State. I ask that you oppose SB2222 in fairness to responsible adults who want flavored tobacco products and responsible retailers who want sell it.

Sincerely,
Kim A. Robello
Merchandising Manager
Minit Stop Stores

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha

I am Layla Fidel and I am a youth advocate against any tobacco products in our communities. I would like to ask for your support of SB2222, which discusses the discontinuation of sale of flavored tobacco products and menthol.

I feel that flavored tobacco products and menthol attract youth and young adults like myself. If there were a ban of these products, it would obviously decrease the accessibility, which would make the communities much safer. Banning these products would safeguard people like my younger brother, niece, or even contemporaries against smoking related health risks.

I kindly ask for your support for SB2222.

Mahalo,

Layla Fidel

Aiea, Hawai'i

fidell@seattleu.edu

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Xitlaly Sierra and I am a young advocate against tobacco in our communities. I am asking for your support of SB 2222 regarding the discontinuation of sale of flavored tobacco products and menthol.

I believe that these products are especially targeted to youth and young adults. Banning the sale of such products would decrease the appeal to start using tobacco among the younger generations and aid in the prevention of smoking related health risks in the future.

I am asking for your strong support by passing SB 2222.

Sincerely,

Xitlaly Sierra

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

Sierra.ella6@gmail.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Che Sabol and I am in support of SB 2222 prohibiting the offerings for sale, or distribution of any flavored tobacco products in Hawaii.

These kinds of flavors make tobacco products especially appealing to kids, and can lead to a lifetime of tobacco addiction. I have a young daughter and I want to protect her from tobacco companies.

Please pass SB 2222.

Mahalo,

Che Sabol

Honolulu, Hawaii

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Teyah Robinson and I am a young advocate against tobacco in our communities. I am asking for your support of SB 2222 regarding the discontinuation of sale of flavored tobacco products and menthol.

I believe that these products are especially targeted to youth and young adults. Banning the sale of such products would decrease the appeal to start using tobacco among the younger generations and aid in the prevention of smoking related health risks in the future.

I am asking for your strong support by passing SB 2222.

Sincerely,

Teyah Robinson

Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

Teyah_robinson@hotmail.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Tyler Wong and I am in very strong support of SB 2222.

Flavored tobacco is used by tobacco companies to attract new, younger users to try their products with sweet, attractive flavors. Packaging for these products usually looks like candy and if I didn't have the knowledge I have now because of my involvement with REAL: Hawaii Youth Movement Exposing the Tobacco Industry, I could probably mistaken it for a non-tobacco product. Moreover, I don't think many tobacco users are interested in using these products, and I hope to see less of these products that continue to trick the youth of society.

Please pass SB 2222 today to protect Hawaii from tobacco industry deception.

Mahalo,

Tyler Wong

Pearl City, Hawaii

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha Legislators,

My name is Lourdes Misa Mena, a 16 year old junior at Baldwin High School. I am part of REAL and I strongly support the banning of flavored tobacco products in Hawaii.

I would like to bring to your attention the dangers of flavored tobacco products. Flavored tobacco products are marketed at the eye-level of children, who should not be looking, buying, or using these products. Colorful packaging and flavors appeal as candy to youth and must be stopped to protect children of future tobacco use.

I strongly oppose the sales of such products in Hawaii. Please pass SB 2222 right now to help protect Hawaii's youth.

Thank you for your consideration and time,

Lourdes Misa Mena
Kahului, Maui
lulualejandra@gmail.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

I am writing for your support to ban the sale of flavored tobacco. These flavored products draw in excitement from young children. The names can even be catchy, which catches young people's eyes. Also, the placement of the flavored tobacco products are in the view of children and are sometimes placed near children's candy. It has been a long time strategy of Big Tobacco companies to advertise flashy and colorful ads to bring in new users since the long-term users are dying.

I had a close friend's grandma die from pneumonia, which she got often because she smoked two packs a day since she was 18. Her nana was still smoking while she was on an oxygen machine. She was told by her doctor that if she tried to quit smoking, her body would react badly that she would have more health problems. She smoked so much her body was so used to the toxins that it would crumble without it.

Imagine if your toddler, niece, or nephew was smoking at age 6 or 7 with a cherry flavored cigar. So, please ban the sale of flavored tobacco.

Sincerely,
Christina Limonez
Kihei, Maui
climonez@hawaii.edu

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Hugo A. Lau, and I am a student at University of Hawaii, Maui College. I live in Paia, Hawaii on the island of Maui. I am in strong support of SB 2222.

I am a current student in Human Biology where I discovered the Big Tobacco companies are creating flavored tobacco and marketing to children. The idea of advertising flavored tobacco to minors in hopes of gaining customers for tobacco is the reason for this testimony. I support the bill to make selling flavored tobacco illegal in Hawaii. In New York, a similar bill was passed to outlaw flavored tobacco and I believe it should be done in Hawaii as well.

I personally do not smoke but once was a smoker years back. It is a horrible habit that left me feeling sick and many times short of breath. I am sad to see my friends smoke because of the addicting nature of nicotine and watch them struggle with their addiction. I do not wish to see children today pick up smoking tobacco because they associate tobacco with candy, such as the flavored tobacco implies.

The tobacco companies wish to gain new customers because their old customers are dying off. The risks of smoking outweigh the pleasure it gives to addicts, and I don't wish to perpetuate this any longer.

We live in Hawaii, which is a very healthy minded community. We have laws prohibiting smoking within 20 feet of an entrance. I believe the people of Hawaii would agree and appreciate a bill that prevents future tobacco sale.

Mahalo,
Hugo A. Lau
Paia, Maui
hugo@risingsunsolar.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha Legislators,

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. My name is Robin Louise Forbes Miel, and I am writing to support the bill to ban flavored tobacco.

I have always been interested in the corruption in the tobacco companies because of how I have seen tobacco have a huge negative and fatal impact on people I care about. I am currently taking Human Biology at UH Maui and I have discovered even more about how detrimental tobacco will be to your health. I live in Haiku, Hawaii, and I strongly feel that flavored tobacco is evil because it will entice boys and girls to become addicted to something very fatal.

As a surfer and runner, I can directly feel the strength and endurance of my lungs on a daily basis. I fear for my peers and younger people that may have their lungs or respiration compromised. What a valuable and healthy aspect of your life to compromise. Something so serious shouldn't be compared to something as simple as candy! How deceiving and evil to label poison with a fruity flavor and market poison to our youth! Evil!

Please think for a moment about the importance of health and about how much you appreciate breathing fresh air, smelling flowers or the ocean, laughing or talking....simple little things we forget to appreciate that we can compromise or loose so easily. Please don't let these companies with lots of money advertise and market poison "candy" to our kids and grandkids.

Mahalo nui loa,
Robin Louise Forbes Miel
Haiku, Maui
robinforbesmiel@gmail.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha Legislators,

Aloha, my name is Marcus Vegas and I am support SB 2222 to discontinue flavored tobacco in Hawaii.

I am a second year university student at UH Maui taking the A Bit program. I am also a 5 year Marine who served in the Iraq war. Finally I am a 20 year resident of Maui that loves the beauty, natural wonders, and fresh air of our island.

I am against flavored tobacco because I have seen the effect of non-flavored tobacco such as cigarettes and cigars. During my time in the Marine Corps, all of us recruits start even, almost like a new beginning. Clean of any toxins such as tobacco and alcohol. But once we are released and allowed to go our own ways in the Corps, it is our choice to keep clean or taint our chances of this new beginning. I have seen our top ranked squad leader, the shining star of our Platoon, go from a fit and powerful Marine to a down, depressed, full of hate individual. And where did it start? The "Smoke Pit."

The "Smoke Pit" is a place where Marines can go to take a break and light up a cig or cigar and talk story. At first it seems like social interaction and cigarettes, but then you start to see a change in their demeanor, a little more angry, a little more lazy, and a little less appealing. Gradually these fine Marines turn from good to bad, and find their way into trouble. Smoking is not just a product but a culture and with it usually brings trouble.

So to break this down to our current youth scale, we are now making tobacco seem like it is a tasty treat. This makes our future generation think it is fun and cool to use tobacco. What this so called innocent habit will eventually transform into is the dark counter culture of murky bars and tobacco ridden scene of trouble and health risks.

It is already known that tobacco is a huge cause of lung cancer and so many other health problems. So by teaching our kids that it is cool to use tobacco, it's like giving our children a bomb with a short fuse which we could call life and at the end of it is the eventual death that will rot this life away from your loved ones.

Thank you for your support in helping ban the sale of flavored tobacco.

Sincerely,
Marcus Vegas
Waiehu, Maui
flynhi2005@gmail.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Cynthia M. Razo. I live in Wailuku, Maui. As a Hawaii resident and student in a Human Biology course, I wish to support and provide testimony in regard to the State of Hawaii's bill to ban the sale of flavored tobacco products.

We know that lung cancer is one of the most preventable diseases in America. Allowing the sale of flavored tobacco is meant to attract new users, more than likely young people who will soon be addicted to the carcinogenic properties found in tobacco and flavored tobacco products.

Our state is known for its healthy lifestyle, and we should make every effort to continue with that tradition. Therefore, I wish to support the banning the sale of flavored tobacco.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this extremely important issue.

Mahalo,
Cynthia Razo
Wailuku, Maui
razo@hawaii.edu

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Angela Young, and I am a resident of Wailuku, Hawaii. I am writing in support of this bill proposing the discontinuation of the sale of flavored tobacco products.

The negative effects of tobacco products have been widely documented, and I oppose any product attempting to make tobacco more appealing. I am especially disturbed by these companies' blatant attempts at soliciting children with flavors they already have positive associations with. Bubble gum, other candy, and other "kid friendly" favors covering up tobacco's effects are hideous.

Both my grandparents and father passed away due to long term effects of tobacco use. We should do everything in our power to discourage future generations from following that path.

Please take this statement into consideration with rendering your vote on this bill.

Sincerely,
Angela M. Young
Wailuku, Hawaii
golfmalia@aol.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

My name is Latesha Purdy. I am a resident of Wailuku, Maui, and I am writing in support of the bill to ban flavored tobacco.

I am currently enrolled in a Human Biology class at UHMC and have become all the more convinced of tobacco's detrimental effects on the body's respiratory system. Looking at pictures of the cilia in healthy airways versus a smoker's airway is convincing in and of itself. Continued smoking leads to frequent infections because pathogens remain in the respiratory tract. It's just gross and sad, especially since this is a preventable disease.

The tobacco industry has taken it a step further with its "flavored tobacco". Obviously the market for sweet tobacco will appeal to younger generations, as if there weren't already enough things we need to teach our kids to say "no" to. I'm asking you to not let this be another.

Thank you for your time,

Latesha Purdy
Wailuku, Maui
lateshapurdy@gmail.com

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

I am writing in support of the bill that bans flavored tobacco products.

I request that you also support this bill because you as legislators are our voice. As a mother of a pre-teenager kid and two other kids, I am very aware of the danger of these products. These are the “startup” points to consume tobacco products, and we have the knowledge on how dangerous and deadly these products are for our health.

I had the sadness of losing an uncle of lung cancer, and he died because he was a smoker. It was very sad to see him die when he didn't want to, and all because of tobacco.

My kid is almost 12 years old. I consider him a preteen and he is very curious about all of this. He is already asking me about flavored tobacco products. He really does not understand how dangerous that could be for him. He sees it as candy. I don't want him to be a tobacco products consumer. Please support the bill that bans the sale of tobacco flavored products.

Thank you,

Maria Eugenia Cara
Haiku, Maui
marukairuz@yahoo.com.ar

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha.

I am Brandalyn Massey. I am a mom of two children, a 6 year old and 16 year old. I'm a resident of Haliimaile in Maui County. I'm a full time student at University of Hawaii Maui Campus, where I am studying Human Biology 100.

I strongly support the bill to ban the sale of all tobacco products. I ask you as our elected officials to support to ban of flavored tobacco as well. I will also ask the families in my community and surrounding communities to support this bill.

I am a recovered smoker. I have been nicotine-free for 3 years and am much healthier and happier for it. Being a mother, I know my children are exposed to tobacco at stores as well as other tobacco users. Peer pressure is hard enough as it is on our children, but flavored and colorful tobaccos make it look fun and tasty like candy.

My grandmother died from cancer. It originated in her lungs and eventually metastasized everywhere. She died a slow and painful death. She was a smoker. We have enough environmental health concerns that cannot be as easily controlled as these designer tobacco products.

Please help safe guard our youth by supporting the bill to ban then tobacco products!

Sincerely,
Brandalyn Massey
Haliimaile, Maui
bm3@hawaii.edu

LATE

To: Senator Rosalyn Baker, Chair
Senator Brian Taniguchi Vice Chair
Committees Members
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

Senator Clayton Hee Chair
Senator Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Committee Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Re: Strong Support for SB 2222 – Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
February 11th, 2014 at 9:30am
Conference Room 229

Aloha Senators:

I am speaking out in strong support of SB 2222.

Looking back at my history as a former smoker, I am in awe of Big Tobacco's complex marketing plans to collect my participation in tobacco consumption. By moving this bill forward, we as a State are speaking out against the sinister marketing tactics used to create young smokers.

By removing other flavored tobacco products like skoal, cigarillos, and snus, we are minimizing Big Tobacco's ability to market a dangerous substance as if it is as harmless as candy. The presentation of these items are both created and marketed for youth. These Other Tobacco Products (OTPs) are created and marketed by the same Big Tobacco companies that sell cigarettes – Philip Morris, RJ Reynolds, and Lorillard are the consistent players. These companies are making efforts to circumvent the intention of laws already in place.

The induction of SB 2222 is the result of youth and young adults who are asking you, our elected officials, to protect their generation from this aggressive targeting by the tobacco industry. Hawaii would follow Rhode Island, New York City, and many counties in the state of Florida who have already made the sale of these products illegal.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Blaine Tolentino

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kawika Freitas	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: We live in the land of the Free. This bill slowly erodes away that freedom. Its aimed at e-cigs and until the DOH can prove its harmful why ban it. We do not put people in jail because we think they did something. They need to be proven guilty. Some e-cigs may be harmful some may not. I am much happier with the e-cig guys then the real smokers.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amber Corrales	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is my testimony: Ecigs saved my life. I started smoking at age 10. Our babysitter made us so we wouldn't tell on her for smoking. She was the tough girl in our town and we didn't dare risk social suicide by crossing her. I am a teacher and at the end of last school year, I would go sit on the lanai and smoke ten cigarettes before school, one after the other, rather than breathing air, due to the stress of re-writing my curriculum to align with Common Core, redoing my pacing guide, leading May Day because my grade level was staffed by a bunch of useless and non-committed teach For America children, and blowing off my personal life so I could work all of these unpaid overtime 12-15 hour days for all of March, April, and May. When I finally got off the couch from overwhelming exhaustion that I go through each June, I got an ecig because the pain in my chest was so great. I quit! Thirty years of smoking, and I quit! I couldn't have done it without Volcano ecigs. They are a Hawaii company so let's give them a chance! I m sure tobacco companies are freaking out and states are losing tax income, but taxing and banning will not save lives. I oppose banning and taxing flavored ecigs. Please allow people to free themselves from certain death.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
danyl pang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I believe offering a variety of flavors for e-cigarette users to purchase helps to move traditional cigarette smokers to "vaping". My fiancé was a traditional cigarette smoker for at least three years, before trying e-cigarettes. She sampled a vast amount of different flavor before finding one that she truly liked. She has been "vaping" that flavor for over a year now and hasn't returned to cigarettes since. She once tried a regular tobacco cigarette after switching to vaping, and her exact words "this is disgusting... how could I smoke this before!" E-Cigarette flavors come in a variety of (IF ANY) nicotine levels. I have noticed that a majority of regular users prefer 0-3mg of nicotine. the average cigarette contains anywhere from 1-21mg of nicotine. ridiculous. My whole point is that to ban flavors would hinder a critical pivoting point in attracting smokers away from cigarettes and living a healthier life style.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Sarabia	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, my name is Joseph Sarabia and I am highly upset with multiple bills involving electronic cigarette use and taxes. They are 10* healthier than cigarettes and whether you believe it or not I am proof that they work as well as even better than smomking, patch, or gum alternative. I chose electronic over the rest because it is the most effective for me and the option of choosing flavors that taste nothing like a cigarette are only a positive. In my opinion more people should use the electronic method because it results in higher success levels as well as healthier for the PUBLIC! Consider what other people's lives are like and how they want to focus on their health before taking something positive away without knowing facts or using one yourself. I challenge you to try it because after you'll see the healthier method as well as no negative side effects. Mahalo and please consider the "already" Vaping community. Once again my name is Joseph Sarabia and I oppose all bills involving electronic cigarettes.

They are only dissatisfied with how many people have stopped smoking cigarettes because the government isn't making there "tax" money like previous years. So my understanding is they're trying to raise taxes and put bans only so people will go back to using regular Tobacco cigarettes, in order for them to make their "money." That is selfish and degrading of them to do. My life is not what they can control so why stop me from using a healthier method than traditional cigarettes. I believe Hawaii should reevaluate what they're doing and understand the unhappy consequences the community will face. Consider the community of Hawaii not just your "wallet."

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nicholas Winters	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Senate bill 2222 is unfair. It is based on fear mongering and not unbiased science. The FDA hasn't come forward to ban these things. The legislature should wait for the FDA evidence, if any, about these products.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Charlene Dierking	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aren't parents responsible for their children's welfare and not the government? Aren't the vendors that sell these products demand proof of age? These are legal products, similar to alcohol. Good or bad, leave these choices to adults. Most of us are responsible, you know.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lena-Ann Quijano	Vaping Dragon	Oppose	Yes

Comments: Banning flavored e liquid will FORCE people back to cigarettes. Ban cigarettes for a cleaner, nicer smelling environment. No more unsightly cigarette butts lying around parks, playgrounds, beaches and side walks. E cigarettes have NO rubbish to leave behind!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/11/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Oakwood Hirata	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: I oakwood hirata wish to oppose for bill sb2222. I also wish to give a verbal testimony at the hearing. Thank you Oakwood Hirata

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ryan Oswald	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kevin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

SB2222

Submitted on: 2/10/2014

Testimony for CPN/JDL on Feb 11, 2014 09:30AM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anthony Orozco	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

LATE

Senator Baker, Chair

Senator Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Members, Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Senator Hee, Chair

Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Re: Support for SB 2222: Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hrg: February 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm 229

SB 2222 will prohibit the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of any flavored tobacco product, including menthol products and electronic smoking devices, within the State. Hawai'i should stop the sale and distribution of these products to reduce tobacco use and protect our keiki.

Flavored tobacco products target kids with candy and sweet flavors like cherry, citrus, vanilla, cocoa, and mint. Many youth are tempted by these flavored smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and little cigars. Tobacco use is extremely addictive and not easy to quit. By stopping our kids from even trying these products, we are protecting them from a potential life-long addiction.

Please pass SB 2222 and save the next generation from starting the path of tobacco use. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Roxine Iijima
45-610 Hinamoe Loop
Kaneohe, HI 96744

LATE

Senator Baker, Chair
Senator Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Senator Hee, Chair
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Re: Support for SB 2222: Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
Hrg: February 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm 229

SB 2222 will prohibit the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of any flavored tobacco product, including menthol products and electronic smoking devices, within the State. Hawai'i should stop the sale and distribution of these products to reduce tobacco use and protect our keiki.

Flavored tobacco products target kids with candy and sweet flavors like cherry, citrus, vanilla, cocoa, and mint. Many youth are tempted by these flavored smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and little cigars. Tobacco use is extremely addictive and not easy to quit. By stopping our kids from even trying these products, we are protecting them from a potential life-long addiction.

Please pass SB 2222 and save the next generation from starting the path of tobacco use. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Barbara Caballes
94-309 Kahuahale Street
Waipahu, HI 96797

LATE

Senator Baker, Chair
Senator Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Senator Hee, Chair
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Re: Support for SB 2222: Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
Hrg: February 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm 229

SB 2222 will prohibit the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of any flavored tobacco product, including menthol products and electronic smoking devices, within the State. Hawai'i should stop the sale and distribution of these products to reduce tobacco use and protect our keiki.

Flavored tobacco products target kids with candy and sweet flavors like cherry, citrus, vanilla, cocoa, and mint. Many youth are tempted by these flavored smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and little cigars. Tobacco use is extremely addictive and not easy to quit. By stopping our kids from even trying these products, we are protecting them from a potential life-long addiction.

Please pass SB 2222 and save the next generation from starting the path of tobacco use. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Mario Reyes
4133 Puaole St
Lihue, HI 96766

LATE

Senator Baker, Chair

Senator Taniguchi, Vice Chair

Members, Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Senator Hee, Chair

Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Re: Support for SB 2222: Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products

Hrg: February 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm 229

SB 2222 will prohibit the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of any flavored tobacco product, including menthol products and electronic smoking devices, within the State. Hawai'i should stop the sale and distribution of these products to reduce tobacco use and protect our keiki.

Flavored tobacco products target kids with candy and sweet flavors like cherry, citrus, vanilla, cocoa, and mint. Many youth are tempted by these flavored smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and little cigars. Tobacco use is extremely addictive and not easy to quit. By stopping our kids from even trying these products, we are protecting them from a potential life-long addiction.

Please pass SB 2222 and save the next generation from starting the path of tobacco use. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Jayson O'Donnell
3311 Campbell Ave
Honolulu, HI 96815

LATE

Senator Baker, Chair
Senator Taniguchi, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Commerce & Consumer Protection

Senator Hee, Chair
Senator Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor

Re: Support for SB 2222: Relating to Flavored Tobacco Products
Hrg: February 11, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in Rm 229

SB 2222 will prohibit the sale, offering for sale, or distribution of any flavored tobacco product, including menthol products and electronic smoking devices, within the State. Hawai'i should stop the sale and distribution of these products to reduce tobacco use and protect our keiki.

Flavored tobacco products target kids with candy and sweet flavors like cherry, citrus, vanilla, cocoa, and mint. Many youth are tempted by these flavored smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, and little cigars. Tobacco use is extremely addictive and not easy to quit. By stopping our kids from even trying these products, we are protecting them from a potential life-long addiction.

Please pass SB 2222 and save the next generation from starting the path of tobacco use. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Michelle Kwock
100 N. Beretania St.
Honolulu, HI 96817