

Dear Representatives,

People rely on stores like mine to be a one-stop-shop for deli, groceries, and household items especially the college kids in this particular area. I need tobacco and vape products to not only be profitable but to keep my doors open for business. If you implement this flavor ban you will be killing a majority of my tobacco sales since flavored products account for nearly 70 percent of the products I sell. As it stands now, I am in my store from open until close because I cannot afford to hire full-time help. And I know I am not alone outside of the big convenience store chains this is the reality of running a small store like this. So, if the legislature moves this proposal forward you are endangering hundreds of small businesses throughout this state and all of their employees as well!

Besides hurting small businesses, and forcing customers to cross state lines for the products they want this legislation is going to be a HUGE tax hit to the state. How do you plan on making up for all the tax revenue that will be lost? Vape products are currently taxed at 92% which is not an insignificant number, and of course, on a pack of cigarettes, the state makes the lion's share. So, we are talking about big numbers which will add to our already growing deficit.

I appreciate you taking the time to hear my concerns and urge you to reconsider this proposal.  
Sincerely,

Bhim Luitel  
Kampus Kitchen  
Burlington, VT