

Good Afternoon.

My name is Ashok Kumar Singla and I live at 11718 Gunners Drive Germantown, Maryland 20876.

I urge you to oppose this proposal to ban the sale of flavor based tobacco products. This proposal is a terrible idea because around 50% of cigarette sales, if not more, are centered around flavor based tobacco products. Banning this would drop sales for all retailers considerably. With the rise of state taxes as well as minimum wage, including paying rent and other utilities as well as employees, banning the sale of these would strangle small business owners and force them to live paycheck to paycheck even after working 12 + hours a day. For all small business owners, every single sale is important as they are extremely hard working and dedicate most if not all of their day to their business. Banning this product will drop sales and make it even harder for them to make an honest living as their customers will look to cross state lines and buy these same cigarettes in neighboring states.

I urge you to please vote against this proposal as it will make it difficult for all of us to make a living after dedicating so much of our time to our business. Thank you.