

Joseph Dorsey

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SB177

Hello,

I would like to submit my opposition to this proposed bill. Banning all flavored tobacco products, including menthol, will certainly lead to customers purchasing these products in either bordering states or worse, the black market.

More than 6,360 licensed Maryland businesses sell tobacco products to adults 21 and older. This bill is proposing taking away nearly 56% of the cigarette category, 60% of smokeless tobacco and 41% of cigars. Banning these products would jeopardize a lot these businesses and jobs, including my own. Is that what is best during the toughest year this state has ever faced?

There is no question that prohibiting large segments of your consumer products lead to an illegal market. We have seen it before and we know it causes costly problems for our communities. These law enforcement organizations don't need a new surge in criminal activity to deal with, the costs are too great already.

Thank you for your time and please vote no to SB177.

Joseph Dorsey