

January 26, 2021

Sen. Katherine Klausmeier-

My Name is Ali Kazmi. My family and I have 3 stores and employ people from the local community. To learn that the state of Maryland is considering a ban on menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars Really put a damper on my spirit. This proposal would hurt all tobacco retailers.

Tobacco is an important part of my business. Flavored tobacco makes up over 60% of my business. If passed, this proposal would harm businesses like mine that operate throughout the state. A ban on these products would create a loss of revenue, jobs and would shift sales to illegal sources and surrounding states.

My family and I work hard every day, we pay taxes, have the appropriate licenses needed. This extreme measure would make it difficult for us to sustain our business. We ask that you please stand with us in opposing the flavor ban and help keep our business open.

Thank you for taking the time to read this heartfelt statement

Sincerely,

Ali Kazmi

McClean Rio Gas
7300 McClean Blvd
Baltimore, MD

Edgewood Shell
1855 Pulsaki Hwy
Edgewood, Md

Shell
6708 Harford Rd
Parkville,MD