

January 26, 2021

Senator J.B. Jennings

My name is Bidur Ghimire-

As a business owner of 5 stores in Maryland and employ close to 25 people from our local communities. I was shocked and disappointed to hear about the proposed ban on menthol cigarettes, flavored cigars and smokeless products. Adults 21+ Should have the right to purchase products of their choice at their local convenience store. I ask that you please oppose S.B. 177.

Being a Proud Marylander, my business adds to the State's economy. I am licensed, pay my taxes, and provide services to thousands of Marylanders. Banning these products would impact my revenue, lead to potential layoffs of many of my employees, decrease the number of Marylanders that I service and could ultimately force my small businesses to close. Not only will I be impacted, so will the state of Maryland! By banning the sale of these products, will allow for revenue to go to boarding states. We cannot afford this to happen!

In closing, I urge you to partner with the small business owners of Maryland and oppose S.B. 177.

Regards,

Bidur Ghimire

Forrest Hill Exxon

Rockspring Shell

Macphial Exxon

Constant Friendship Exxon

Town center Sunoco