

February 25th, 2025

Dear Chairman and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 918. While I understand the intent to regulate electronic smoking devices, this bill raises several serious concerns.

First, SB 918 disproportionately favors large tobacco companies by imposing burdensome certification requirements that could be difficult for small businesses to meet, potentially driving them out of the market. This could lead to a concentration of power in the hands of a few large corporations, stifling competition and consumer choice.

Additionally, the bill gives excessive power to the Attorney General to regulate these businesses, without clear guidelines or oversight, raising concerns about overreach and inconsistent enforcement. The lack of clarity in the bill makes it difficult for businesses to understand their obligations, creating uncertainty in an already complex regulatory environment.

Finally, SB 918 poses the risk of product bans and could result in the closure of small vape shops, which are crucial to the local economy and provide alternatives to traditional tobacco products. This bill will harm both businesses and consumers without effectively addressing the root issues of public health.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to reconsider this bill and its potential negative consequences for small businesses and consumers alike.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Adi Shemi