

CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

April 11, 2022

The Honorable Luz Rivas California State Assembly, 39th District State Capitol, Room Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1690 (Luz Rivas) – Tobacco and cannabis products: single-use components.

City of Beverly Hills – OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED

Dear Assemblymember Rivas,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to inform you of our respectful OPPOSITION to your AB 1690 UNLESS AMENDED to prohibit the sale of all tobacco products in California. As drafted, AB 1690 would prohibit the sale and distribution of a cigarette utilizing a single-use filter, and attachable and single-use plastic device meant to facilitate manual manipulation or filtration of a tobacco product, or a single-use electronic cigarette or vaporizer device.

In November 2018, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a report showing that more than 3.6 million middle and high school students were using e-cigarettes. By 2018, 1 in 5 high school students were using e-cigarettes and 1 in 20 middle school students were doing the same. With the recent surge in youth tobacco usage and associated public health risks, California needs to take action in.

The City of Beverly Hills has been at the forefront of the fight against the negative health impacts of tobacco use. To protect and promote public health, the City of Beverly Hills regulates smoking in accordance with both state and local regulations. On October 3, 2017, the City Council approved an ordinance prohibiting smoking in all multi-unit housing in the City. This ordinance also prohibited smoking in the public right of way.

Beverly Hills then passed an ordinance prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products in 2018. This was followed by the adoption of an ordinance in 2019 to prohibit the sale of all tobacco

products in the City effective January 1, 2021. Under this ordinance, all businesses were prohibited from selling tobacco products with the exception of hotels, three existing cigar lounges, and those businesses who applied for and received a tobacco hardship exemption. It should be noted, our hotels may only sell to guests via a concierge style service.

While we understand your intention with this bill is to combat the waste pollution cigarettes have posed on our environment, we believe the state needs to take our City's approach in order to improve the health of the residents of this state by prohibiting the sale of all tobacco products. Banning the sale of all tobacco products not only gets these hazardous polluting products out of our environment and ecosystem, but it also ensures that the State of California is taking action to halt tobacco usage.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills will have to respectfully OPPOSE your AB 1690 UNLESS IT IS AMENDED. Thank you for authoring this important piece of legislation. For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills must respectfully OPPOSE your AB 1445.

Sincerely,

Lili Bósse

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

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Cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 26th District

The Honorable Richard Bloom, Assemblymember, 50th District

Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange