

From: Thomas McGrath [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2015 9:43 AM
To: Rep. Paul Seaton
Subject: HB40: Use of Electronic Cigarettes as Smoking

Dear Representative Seaton:

I encourage you to pass HB40 out of your committee. As you know, in Anchorage, as in most places smoking is not allowed in work places which includes restaurants and bars. E-cigarettes should be included, as banned products, in the same places as other smoking materials.

I have a business associate that owns several E-cigarette businesses. He claims that all of his materials come from reputable suppliers and do not contain unknown products but he admits that most of these types of businesses get their products from China and have no idea what chemicals the products contain. Possibly putting carcinogens in the air should not be allowed if at all possible. One way to limit risk of the unknown in this area is to not allow it.

I was a smoker for a several years but quit smoking in September of 1981. I thought I was safe but several years ago I developed bladder cancer. After several surgeries and a lot of treatments I am now cancer free but routinely get tested to make sure that the cancer has not returned. This will be a lifelong look in the rear view mirror for me. I was told by Doctors at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN that they are pretty sure that my cancer was caused by smoking or exposure to second hand smoke. They also said that if smoking ended today at least 80% of cancer would not happen. We can't all be experts in every area but it is generally agreed upon that the Mayo clinic is the world leader in this area.

Starting years ago, before current laws were in place my wife and I avoided places where smoking took place. We do not allow cigarette or other smoking, including E-cigarette smoking in our sphere of influence and will not go where these devices or substances are used.

I encourage you to pass HB40 so that I and others will not have to worry about being assaulted by substances that may injure.

Thank You

Tom McGrath