

Communication from Public

Name: Jacob Motta on Behalf of Dr. Kimberly Willard

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Comments for Public Posting: Good morning, Madam President and Councilmembers. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today on Item #27. My name is Dr. Kimberly Willard, I am a pediatrician with Kaiser Permanente and practice at our East LA Medical Offices. On behalf of our over 2,700 physicians and almost 21,000 employees that serve 1.3 million Angelenos, Kaiser Permanente's strongly SUPPORTS a comprehensive ban on the sale of flavored tobacco. Flavored tobacco is a "starter" product for youth that addict our children early and for a lifetime. Nicotine in any form can harm adolescent brain development, which impacts attention, memory, and learning. Additionally, the FDA has found menthol cigarettes are actually MORE addictive and HARDER to quit. Flavored tobacco is a threat to Public Health and therefore Kaiser Permanente urges you to end the sale of flavored tobacco, including menthol and e-cigarettes, in the City of Los Angeles to protect a new generation from a lifetime of addiction. Thank you