

**City of Palo Alto**  
*Office of the Mayor and City Council*

Via hand delivery

January 22, 2019

Senator Jerry Hill  
State Capitol, Room 5035  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Re: Support for SB 38 (Hill): Flavored tobacco products, as introduced; and SB 39: Age verification for Tobacco Delivery (Hill), as introduced*

Dear Senator Hill:

On behalf of the City of Palo Alto, we are pleased to support SB 38, which would prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products in retail stores and vending machines, and SB 39, which will impose new age verification requirements for tobacco products sold online or via the mail. We believe these bills will go a long way towards reversing the disturbing increase in tobacco use among minors, and in curtailing the use of tobacco products in general.

As you know, in 2018 the City of Palo Alto received an "A" grade from the American Lung Association in its *State of Tobacco Control* report<sup>1</sup>. This grade is based on our City's ordinances restricting the sale of flavored tobacco, mandating point-of-sale signage noting strict age verification for tobacco purchases, and establishing a permit program for tobacco retailers. Our City also banned smoking, including from e-cigarettes, in certain public spaces and in multi-unit housing, and we offer free "no smoking" window decals to property managers and owners.

As a healthy city, we share your concerns about the direct and second-hand effects of tobacco on minors and adults. As such, we are happy to support SB 38 and 39.

Yours,



Eric Filseth  
Mayor, City of Palo Alto

Cc: Palo Alto City Council  
Ed Shikada, Palo Alto City Manager

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<sup>1</sup> Available at <https://www.lung.org/local-content/california/documents/state-of-tobacco-control/2018/2018-sotc-california-full.pdf>; last accessed on January 18, 2019.

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