

MOTION

HEALTH, MENTAL HEALTH AND EDUCATION

The City has recently taken several actions regarding the sale and use of tobacco products. On March 4, 2014, the City Council approved an Ordinance to enact additional restrictions on electronic cigarettes (C.F. 13-1204-S1). On August 18, 2015, the City Council approved an ordinance which, among other provisions, increases administrative penalties for violations of a Tobacco Retailer's Permit, requires retailers with a suspended permit to visibly post a notice of suspension at each customer entrance, and require retailers without a valid tobacco permit to remove all advertising that promotes the sale of tobacco products or tobacco paraphernalia. (C.F. 13-1204-S3).

The City has also adopted regulations on the way tobacco purchases are handled at the point of sale. Customers who wish to purchase tobacco products may not reach for the item on their own and are required to obtain the assistance of a salesperson in order to purchase these items. While retail displays of tobacco products are allowed, several countries (such as the United Kingdom and Ireland) have prohibited the retail display of tobacco products out of concern that children are more likely to smoke if they are exposed to in-store tobacco marketing at the point of sale. Under these laws, retailers are required to keep the products out of sight of customers, under the counter, or in cabinets.

The City has made great strides by enacting additional restrictions on the use and sale of tobacco products to ensure that young people do not develop a lifelong tobacco habit. The City must continue to take leadership of this critical public health issue by adopting additional regulations to ensure the continued protection of City residents from the negative health effects of tobacco. Therefore, the City Council should request the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance to prohibit the retail display of all tobacco products within the City.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested to prepare and present an ordinance to prohibit the retail display of all tobacco products within visual range of customers at the point of sale.

PRESENTED BY:

  
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

BMR

  
AUG 28 2015