



SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS



CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
EDWIN M. LEE, MAYOR

January 26, 2016

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
City Hall Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

BOS File No. 151179 [Health Code - Banning the Sale of Tobacco Products to Persons Aged 18-20] Ordinance amending the Health Code to prohibit tobacco retailers from selling tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco and electronic cigarettes, to persons aged 18, 19, or 20.

Small Business Commission Recommendation: **Approval**

Dear Ms. Calvillo,

On January 11, 2016, the Small Business Commission voted unanimously to recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve BOS File No. 151179.

The Small Business Commission supports amending the legal age from 18 to 21 to purchase tobacco products as a health policy objective that is benefits all in improving the quality of life for San Franciscans. The change in the age limit will make it bit easier for businesses to identify Californians eligible to purchase tobacco products as California legal ID's are significantly different for individuals over or under 21. It must be understood that this is not the case for all state issued ID's in the U.S.

The Small Business Commission appreciates the Department of Public Health's commitment made at the meeting, to allow for a 12 month period of outreach and education before any violations and penalties are applied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Regina Dick-Endrizzi'.

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

cc: Andrea Ausberry, Land Use and Transportation Committee
Scott Wiener, Board of Supervisor
Nicole Elliott, Mayor's Office