

Email subject: Constituent support - Vote AYE on AB 1690! Support smoking waste pollution prevention!

Email body:

Dear [Assemblymember [Name]],

As your constituent, I respectfully urge you to vote AYE on AB 1690 (Luz Rivas): Smoking Waste Pollution Prevention Act. This measure will reduce pollution from non-health protective cigarette/cigar filters and disposable, all-in-one non-rechargeable vaping devices.

Filtered cigarettes cause pollution in our communities, and they are unnecessary because they don't protect smokers' health. Since 1964, the U.S. Surgeon General judged cigarette filters to be useless in reducing harm to the average smoker. Over 90% of cigarette filters are made of plastic and 75% of smokers report disposing of them on the ground or out of a car window. Filters persist in the environment for decades and break down into microplastics that accumulate environmentally and biologically. Less than 9% of Californians smoke cigarettes, but cigarette filters represent 34% of total litter collected in the State. Meanwhile, single-use vaping devices are "disposable" by design, but because they contain a battery and toxic materials, they must be treated as hazardous waste at end-of-life after they've been used – but few vapers know how to dispose of these items properly, so these items often end up in the regular waste stream.

AB 1690 will help transition California away from single-use smoking products that don't protect public health and will help reduce pollution from these items.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this necessary proposed law.

Sincerely,

[Name]