RE: An important message from the Philadelphia Department of Public Health

Dear Tobacco Retailer:

On December 18, 2019, Mayor James F. Kenney signed Bill No. 190804 and Bill No. 180457 into law. This e-mail explains how these two new laws apply to you.

Bill No. 190804

It is now illegal to sell certain e-cigarettes and other vaping products in the City of Philadelphia, except in an establishment with an active Adults-Only Electronic Smoking Device (ESD) Establishment License issued by the Department of Public Health. Restricted vaping products include: (1) all flavored vaping products, except tobacco-flavored vaping products, and (2) all unflavored or tobacco-flavored nicotine salt-based vaping products, unless their nicotine concentration is 20 mg/ml or lower.

For a list of unrestricted vaping products and information on how to submit products to be considered for this list, please click here. To learn how to apply for an Adults-Only ESD Establishment License if you qualify, please click here.

The Department will begin issuing warnings for non-compliance on March 18, 2020. Ticketing will begin on June 18, 2020.

Bill No. 180457

It is now illegal to sell flavored cigars, cigarillos, and loose tobacco in the City of Philadelphia. The only retailers that are exempted from this rule are specialty tobacco shops, which are adults-only establishments with no food or beverage service that derive 90% or more of their revenue from tobacco sales; stores meeting these criteria may apply to the Department to continue selling these products. Click **here** for more details.

The Department will begin issuing tickets to stores that sell these flavored products on February 18, 2020.

Violation of these laws may result in fines and other penalties. Two violations in 24 months may result in the loss of your eligibility for a tobacco retailer permit in the City of Philadelphia.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Bettigole, MD, MPH
Director, Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention
Philadelphia Department of Public Health