

Benjamin K. Chu, M.D., M.P.H., M.A.C.P., Chair
President, Southern California Region
Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals
Pasadena, CA

Susan Curry, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Dean, College of Public Health
Distinguished Professor, Health Management and Policy
University of Iowa
Iowa City, IA

Lawrence G. Wasden, Treasurer
Attorney General of Idaho
Boise, ID

Donald K. Boswell
President and CEO
Western New York Public Broadcasting Association
Buffalo, NY

Jonathan E. Fielding
Director Health Officer,
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Professor of Health Services and Pediatrics
Schools of Public Health and Medicine
University of California, Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

Tom Miller
Attorney General of Iowa
Des Moines, IA

Charles K. Scott
Wyoming State Senator
Casper, WY

Leticia Van de Putte
Texas State Senator
San Antonio, TX

Cass Wheeler
Chief Executive Officer Emeritus
American Heart Association
Dallas, TX

Lee Storrow (Youth Board Liaison)
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC

Cheryl G. Heaton, Dr. P.H. Ex-Officio
President and CEO
Legacy

January 28, 2011

Caryn Cohen, M.S.
Office of Science
Center for Tobacco Products
Food and Drug Administration
9200 Corporate Blvd
Rockville, MD 20850

RE: New information on the lower rate of smoking cessation among adult menthol users and on the public support for a proposed ban on mentholated cigarettes.

Dear Ms. Cohen:

We respectfully provide the following new information to the TPSAC regarding two items:

1. Submission from Stephenie Foster on November 19th 2010, entitled "Tobacco Products Scientific Advisory Committee's Consideration of the Impact of the Use of Menthol in Cigarettes on the Public Health and the presentation to TPSAC of same document on January 10th 2011 by Ellen Vargyas -- With respect to the knowledge synthesis argument for the banning of menthol to protect public health, the following paper summarized that adult menthol smokers, especially African Americans, have greater interest in stopping smoking but more difficult with cessations. The paper has been accepted in the peer reviewed American Journal of Public Health and is therefore now in press. The paper is cited on page 8 of the abovementioned document as follows:

"A second study of 65,510 adults found that past-year quit attempts were significantly increased in menthol compared to non-menthol smokers, but quit rates were significantly lower among those who smoke menthol cigarettes as compared to non-menthol cigarettes, controlling for demographics, state-level tobacco control policies, and nicotine dependence. The likelihood of quitting was about 3.5% lower for those quit in the last year and about 6% lower for those who quit within the last 5

years. This study also showed a significant decrease in longer-term cessation among African American menthol smokers and young adult (18-24) menthol smokers compared to non-menthol smokers.” Citation is: Levy D, Blackman K, Tauras JA, Chaloupka FJ, Villanti AC, Niaura RS, Vallone DM, Abrams DB (2010).et al. An examination of quit rates of menthol and non-menthol smokers using the 2003 and 2006/7 Tobacco Use Supplement to the Current Population Survey. *American Journal of Public Health, in press*”

2. The presentation by Jonathan Winickoff of the American Academy of Pediatrics, made on January 10th regarding the public perceptions of support for a proposed menthol ban, has been accepted for publication and is therefore now peer reviewed, pending minor revision. The citation is as follows:- Winickoff, JP., McMillen, R., Vallone, D., Pearson, J., Tanski, S., Dempsey, J., Heaton, CG., Klein, J., Abrams DB. Attitudes about Banning Menthol in Cigarettes: Results from a Nationally Representative Survey. *American Journal of Public Health, accepted, pending minor revision.*

Sincerely,



Caroline Joyce
Assistant Vice President, Government Affairs