To The Legislation Dept,

- If the cities get permission to take decisions to pass the regulations related to tobacco products whether to sell or not then it will be a major impact on the Tobacco industry. It will be a big impact on all the retailers in Rhode Island. Almost 1500 retailers in 39 cities & towns will be affected. As some of the stores will be getting advantages & some of them will be losing overall sales within the business. In fact, the cities will be losing revenues & it will be also impacted by the state's revenue.

- For small business owners it will be a big impact & the small business owners can be out of the business. I am a small business owner & I do have my local adult customers who get their tobacco products & other products from my store as it's convenient for them at one-stop purchase. If they don't get their tobacco products within my store & if they have to go to a different city or town to get their tobacco products then I will lose entire sales. So I will be losing that customer & also my store sales. It will be an impact on my store revenues.

- Local Health Dept. Should not be making decisions about such things as the state has wider visions & resources. They do have more resources & information from
the Federal government. It should be the state policy & regulations which city has to follow it. As the state having more resources about the Tobacco industry so they can handle it properly. The policy & regulations should be uniform across the entire state. It will be easy for the law & enforcement Dept if it's uniform across the state. Eventually, it will lead to bans & could destroy overall business & led to black markets & the state will lose revenues.

There should be no reason that one city is having different regulations than a neighboring city.

- It will be a really bad impact overall for all retail businesses if these ordinances get passed.

So kindly please try to consider the point of a small business owner how they can survive & please don't pass these bill. (5633)