

# RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the African American Advisory Committee of Tempe to address topics of interest and importance to the African American community of Tempe;

WHEREAS, tobacco use remains a significant public health problem and impediment to health equity and is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S;

WHEREAS, the growing market for flavored tobacco products is undermining the nation's overall progress in reducing youth tobacco use;

WHEREAS, the tobacco industry for decades has targeted communities of color through sponsorship of community and music events, targeted magazine advertising, discounted pricing and retail establishments heavily concentrated in minority neighborhoods, and other retail promotions;

WHEREAS, 85 percent of all African American smokers smoke menthol cigarettes compared to 25 percent of white smokers, with most starting to smoke during their youth;

WHEREAS, seven out of ten African-American youth smokers smoke menthol cigarettes;

WHEREAS, the Tempe City Council is considering an ordinance to end the sale of some flavored tobacco products, most notably e-cigarettes that come in over 15,000 flavors including kid-friendly flavors like cotton candy and gummy bear;

WHEREAS, an ordinance that fails to include all flavored tobacco products will allow the continuing targeting kids with remaining flavored tobacco products such as menthol cigarettes, cigars sold in over 250 flavors such as Banana Smash, Chocolate Brownie and Cherry Dynamite, flavored tobacco pouches, flavored chew tobacco, and other flavored products;

WHEREAS, an ordinance that includes all flavored tobacco products, particularly those that have historically targeted African-American youth smokers and have thus contributing to higher rates of tobacco use in communities of color, is a matter of social justice that would address long standing health inequities;

WHEREAS, healthcare, public health, education, public safety, and youth service organizations such as the Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and Drug Use, Tempe Union High School District, Tempe Elementary School District, Tempe Firefighters, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American Lung Association, American Heart Association, Arizona School Nurses Organization, Maricopa County Medical Society and nearly 50 other organizations as well as parents and students have endorsed a comprehensive ordinance to end the sale of all flavored tobacco products in Tempe that includes all tobacco and nicotine products with no exemptions;

Whereas, in response to the long history of by the tobacco industry targeting communities and youth of color, social justice and advocacy organizations such as the NAACP East Valley Branch, National Coalition of 100 Black Women Phoenix Metro Chapter, Arizona Alliance of Black School Educators, Urban League of Greater Phoenix, African American Christian Clergy Coalition, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Black Nurses Association, OIC – Phoenix, and Black Mothers Forum have endorsed a comprehensive ordinance to end the sale of all flavored tobacco and nicotine products in Tempe with no exemptions;

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AFRICAN AMERICAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

That it hereby urges the City Council of the City of Tempe to enact a comprehensive ordinance to end the sale of all flavored tobacco and nicotine products within the City of Tempe, making no exemptions,

Be It Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the City Clerk of the City of Tempe.