



Hello,

Imagine a premium tobacco shop where:

- The word "tobacco" could be deemed illegal and not allowed in retail tobacco shops' names!
- Customers may not be allowed in humidors or to physically handle tobacco products!
- Shop windows may have to be blacked-out!
- Premium cigars may be required to be selected and sold from catalogs with only black and white photos!
- Premium tobacco products may have graphic images of diseases on them!

These are ALL things that HAVE happened in parts of Europe and even closer to home-- in Canada. The very way you sell your tobacco products is in jeopardy.

Because of this threat, the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) needs to hear from you! The agency is currently asking for the public's opinion and comments to help the agency develop its regulations to police and oversee the U.S. tobacco industry. While cigars and pipe tobacco are not currently included in the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act, they may ultimately be brought under FDA regulation.

We call on all of you to tell the FDA such intervention and control is oppressive, anti-small business, and just anti-American!

Submit your comment today! It's easy and only takes a few minutes to participate and protect your passion for cigars and pipe tobacco-- to Protect Your Liberty! Share with your friends and family!

To submit your personal comment to the FDA, please select and copy (or cut and paste) the following URL from this note to your Internet browser address bar: (see below for suggested talking points and instructions):

<http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#submitComment?R=0900006480a34db4>

The public comment period closes Monday December 28, 2009 at 4pm EDT.

Thank you for your support.

Chris McCalla
IPCPR Legislative Director

Instructions: please use the following suggestions as a guide for your own personal comment to FDA. Please keep your note polite and concise; no profanity or derogatory comments!

Suggested Talking Points:

- Congress recognized the fact that cigars and pipe tobacco do not pose the same public health concerns as the tobacco products outlined for regulation. FDA needs to recognize this important distinction as it implements the Tobacco Act.
- Flavored cigarillos are manufactured and marketed to only adults as they are premium cigar tobacco and should remain as a legal adult choice product.
- Kids don't smoke tobacco pipes; pipe smoking is an adult activity; there has not been a single study that has indicated any issue with kids smoking tobacco pipes.
- Cigar and pipe consumers have the right to purchase and enjoy flavored premium products just as they have the right to purchase and consume flavored alcoholic spirits and other flavored alcoholic products.
- Because of their artisan nature, origin, and construction, cigars are far different from cigarettes and are not consumed in the same way.
- Cigars are a mature, adult social experience.
- As most cigar and pipe tobacco businesses are owned and operated by small business owners and their families, further regulation will prove burdensome and overwhelming.
- Simply because a product is flavored does not mean it is intended for or marketed to children.
- For centuries, pipe tobacco has been flavored to create a wide variety of taste profiles enjoyed by adults.