
From: R. Fresow (esigbond) [roel@esigbond.nl]
Sent: 08 July 2013 19:02
To: Roel Fresow
Subject: URGENT: concerns the TPD voting on wednesday
Importance: High

Dear member of the European Parliament,

On Wednesday, you will vote on the final report on the new Tobacco Products Directive that the European Parliament ENVI Committee will send to plenary. By allowing electronic cigarettes to develop as a tobacco product, you could be saving millions of lives. But regulating them as medicines would do precisely the opposite, denying current users access to products that work and forcing them back to tobacco, which will kill at least half of them.

Therefore the Dutch electronic cigarette industry urges you to safeguard and properly regulate the position of electronic cigarettes as a viable alternatives for smokers of conventional cigarettes in the European Union. I call on you to oppose any amendment to Ms McAvan's draft report that seeks to regulate electronic cigarettes as medicinal products. They do not qualify for this product category and would lead to a *de facto* ban of electronic cigarettes across the EU. Consolidated amendment 57 seeks to qualify electronic cigarettes as medicines and needs to be opposed.

In the Netherlands Supreme Court already ruled against the State that electronic cigarettes cannot be regulated as a medicine by law. This means that electronic cigarettes will stay unregulated in our country when you vote for amendment 57.

Instead I urge you to support consolidated amendment 58, which seeks to establish a strict yet pragmatic regulatory framework for electronic cigarettes and ensuring a high level of quality and safety while providing current smokers with the choice for a less harmful alternative.

I remain at your disposal for any additional information or clarification you should wish.

Best regards,

Roel N.G.M. Fresow, M.Sc., MD
Chairman Esigbond