

McDonald, David S

From: Debby <debbyandbernie@eastlink.ca>
Sent: October-27-14 3:26 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 60

My name is Debby Sterling from New Glasgow, NS and I oppose Bill 60.

I feel very strongly that our government officials have forgotten who elected them and their sole responsibility in office. First of all, **WE** elected you in good faith to represent **US** as constituents. You do not work for your party, you are simple a member of. You do not work for your leader, you are simply affiliated with him. You work for us and it is your sole responsibility to uphold our wishes and take care of our best interests. In case a refresher is needed, that was your oath to us, the electors, when you ran and stepped into office. It's not about what your opinions are, it's about what we ask you to do as **OUR** representatives. If you don't agree with this and have a problem upholding **YOUR RESPONSIBILITY** to **US**, then perhaps **SERVING** (please take note of the accepted terminology for the position you hold – Service) in office is not for you and you should immediately step aside so someone who has **OUR** best interests in mind, can fill your position.

To further offer some insight into this issue you are trying desperately to push through, it would be more credible if you actually had the facts correct.

1. The e-cig is not a tobacco product even though you have decide to label it as such. It does not and has not contained any tobacco products whatsoever. The issue of not allowing young people to have access to tobacco products is not something I disagree with but can we please try and not act so naïve. Young people will experiment with most things in life, it's part of the learning process so trying to use that angle to justify controlling a product that is virtually saving people is completely ridiculous. Responsible people do not hand things over to young people to try just for the sake of doing so.
2. In no way can this be considered smoking. Smoking indicates ignition and a flame and that is not the case with the e-cigarette. It is comprised of vapor only.
3. The ridiculous statement made about banning flavors is probably the most ludicrous statement to date. Did anyone in office take the time to actually gather facts about this product and if they indeed say they did, was the material read and understood? If it was read and it was in fact understood, I think maybe you have missed the fact that by making that statement, you have made a fool of yourself in doing so.
4. Life is not always about everyone liking or approving everything, that is why Canada has been and supposedly remains a democracy. It's about making choices to improve our lives and health and welfare if **WE** choose to do so. It's not for me to say something is not appropriate for you to do and it is not your right to make that judgment for my life. I can most certainly tell you as a person born with chronic bronchitis and who suffered most of my life with this affliction, the e-cigarette in no way, aids or irritates my bronchitis and that is fact which my physician can substantiate without problem.
5. The subject of government and officials being concerned about **OUR** health is really a mask you wear to avoid saying "We are not realizing any profits from the sales of e-cigarettes" so let's be grown ups and simply admit the truth. I know and so does the population at large know that once government gets their claws in the retail of the e-cigarette and start realizing some apparently deserving profits

(and I say that will complete sarcasm), all this will simply go away and nothing more will be said because what you really want from all this is your hand in the cookie jar.

6. And, my favorite by far is making the ridiculous statement about working so hard to maintain a smoke-free environment for us. Well, if that is truly a concern for you, please answer one simple question – Why have you made it possible at all for vendors to sell tobacco products if you strive so steadfastly to make our lives healthier? Would that have anything whatsoever to do with the hefty taxes you as a government realize from sales of such products? I agree young people should not smoke, I also agree about young people not having any access to alcohol or drugs, however, having said that, young people will get a hold of this stuff and they will try it because they are human. So, moving forward, shall we encourage our children to smoke cigarettes and ingest the unidentified chemicals manufactured in them and die of unthinkable diseases or do we simply allow them (if they are curious and are going to experiment anyway) to try something that is not going to kill them and riddle them with disease and suffering later in life. Gee, I'm not sure that is such a difficult question to answer, is it? Putting such a negative stigma on something that has and is daily improving the lives of many, many people seems very counterproductive to add any validity to your claim of trying to advocate a healthier environment for people.