

**Abel, Pamela**

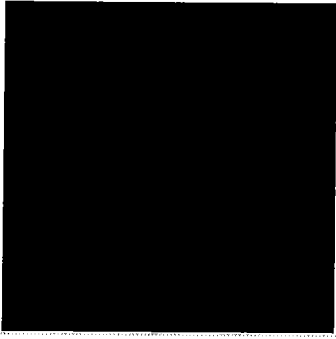
---

**From:** Matthew Abraham [muskydawg@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 24, 2014 4:14 PM  
**To:** Wallner, David; Gnam, Emily; jllewis@me.com; Clausius, Joseph; Leopold, Madelyn; Clear, Mark; Ragland, Nancy; Health; Cynda Solberg; jerry.halvorson@gmail.com; Wilcox, Judy; Edgar, Mark; Phair, Matthew; Lasky, Pat; Sieling, Renae; psoglin@cityofmadison.com; Subeck, Lisa; Zellers, Ledell; Cnare, Lauren; Verveer, Michael; Bidar-Sielaff, Shiva; Rummel, Marsha; King, J Steven; Resnick, Scott; Skidmore, Paul; Cheeks, Maurice; Schmidt, Christopher; Palm, Lawrence; Dailey, Lucas; Strasser, John; Ahrens, David; Demarb, Denise; Clausius, Joseph; Weier, Anita; Clear, Mark; Phair, Matthew  
**Subject:** Attention regarding e-cigarette usage ban

Hello,

My name is Matthew Abraham. I will keep this as brief as possible and thank you in advance for your time and attention to my letter. This is in regards to the proposed e-cigarette usage ban in Madison. I am opposed to this ban for many reasons, and will discuss a few of them here. I am a Sheboygan resident, and life long Wisconsin resident who frequents the Madison area for retail expenditures and outdoor recreation.

1. I am an e-cigarette success story. I was a heavy smoker for 23 years and was able to quit cold turkey with e-cigarette use. Over the last 18 months I have strictly used an e-cigarette with no tobacco use. During that time I have lowered my nicotine level significantly to reduce my addiction to that chemical. I have personally become healthier, my asthma has went from uncontrollable to non-existent. I have lost weight. Regained lung functions, sense of smell and taste. I have saved money to afford a new vehicle. Lowered my health risk for heart disease, cancer, and lung disease. I thank the availability, affordability, and legal use of e-cigarettes for this.
2. I work at a store that sells e-cigarettes. On a daily basis I see thousands of customers who share the same success story as I have personally witnessed. Banning e-cigarette usage in public will make it harder for these thousands of people to keep off a cigarette. On the business side I see the sales tax revenue that e-cigarettes creates. The jobs that this creates. Banning e-cigarette use in public, and in vape shops will drive these small, locally owned businesses out of business. The company I work for had to close a store in a town that banned e-cigarettes. Nine employees lost their job that day, and thousands of customers at that store lost a local business to purchase their supplies from. Forcing money out of the local community.
3. By banning the use of e-cigarettes who smoking is prohibited you send a message to smokers that e-cigarette usage is no better or healthier than smoking. By allowing use of e-cigarettes in public areas you promote that it is healthier than smoking, and encourages smokers to make the switch. There is no foul odor from vapor and it does not smell anything like a cigarette. It also does not stain walls like cigarette smoke. Although some e-cigarettes resemble a cigarette in appearance, many do not. Beyond the presence of nicotine there is nothing in an e-cigarette that is related to anything in a cigarette. It should not be treated like one.
4. Please visit [CASAA - The Consumer Advocates for Smoke-free Alternatives Association](#) for more information regarding the health benefits of e-cigarettes and research documents from the studies done.



CASAA - The Consumer  
Advocates for Smoke-free  
Alternat...

Check out <http://casaa.org>! Non-profit organization promoting tobacco harm reduction policies, educating the public about innovative products such as electronic cig...

View on [www.casaa.org](http://www.casaa.org)

Preview by Yahoo

Thank you again for your time.  
Best regards,  
Matthew Abraham