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our Contacts Needed to Oppose Tobacco Ban Legislation

Presently under consideration in the US Congress is legislation (H.R. 2339) which would ban menthol cigarettes, as well as flavored dip and cigars.

If passed, this legislation would ban legal products purchased by adult smokers and harm businesses. For convenience stores, tobacco products make up approximately 34% of average in-store sales. Menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars and dip are an important part of that category. Youth use of these traditional tobacco products is at historic lows. More can be done to prevent youth access to tobacco products, but banning menthol cigarettes, flavored cigars and dip would create unintended consequences.

We have already contacted targeted members of the Virginia delegation on this important issue and we urge you to the same. If you live in the Districts of Congresswomen Spanberger (Richmond area) Luria (Virginia Beach area), Scott (Newport News area) or McEachin (Richmond area) we request that you contact them today with your opposition.

You can contact them at the following links:

Spanberger
Luria
McEachin
Scott

Games of Chance or Games of Skill? Legislation Coming in 2020

No matter what you call them, there are now in excess of 4,500 of these mini-slot machines

operating in Virginia. As we have reported, these machines have been under increased scrutiny from the Virginia Lottery, as well as House and Senate money committees. It is now a certainty that there will be legislation in the 2020 session to regulate these machines, which are currently untaxed.

The question is whether legislators will try to: differentiate what is a skill game and what is not; if the issue will be addressed in a comprehensive gaming/casino/sports betting bill; or if there will be efforts to ban them outright.

Following are two articles from last week that address the issue.

[Article 1](#)

[Article 2](#)

Save the Date

Southeast Petro-Food Marketing Expo
March 4-5, 2020
Myrtle Beach Convention Center