



OFFICE OF THE BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

ERIC L. ADAMS
President

May 20, 2019

Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Honorable Corey Johnson
Speaker of the New York City Council
City Hall
New York, NY 10017

Re: Letter from borough presidents in support of Intro 1345 and Intro 1362

Dear Mayor de Blasio and Speaker Johnson:

New York City is facing a resurgence of nicotine addiction that threatens to hook the next generation of our city's young people and dramatically increase their risk of life-threatening illnesses. The proliferation of flavored tobacco products for sale in New York City is a direct cause of this increased risk. For this reason, we strongly support the passage of Intro 1345 and Intro 1362, legislation that will restrict the availability of flavored tobacco and directly reduce the potential for lifetime addiction.

Most children and teenagers don't know that flavored e-cigarettes are high in nicotine. Four out of five kids who have used tobacco started with a flavored product. Those numbers suggest that most underage users might never have tried e-cigarettes if tobacco tasted like tobacco. Flavors are hooking kids on a drug known to be as addictive as heroin. Modern devices can have up to six times the nicotine concentration of first generation of e-cigarettes, instigating a serious health crisis for our young people.

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We join with the many advocates of the Flavors Hook Kids NYC campaign, including the NAACP, New York Communities for Change, and all of the major public health groups in our city, and encourage the swift passage of Intro 1345 and Intro 1362, which aim to restrict the availability of these flavored products.

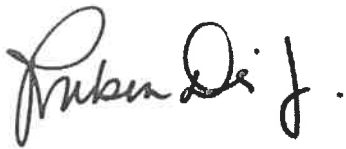
Sincerely,



Eric L. Adams
Brooklyn Borough President



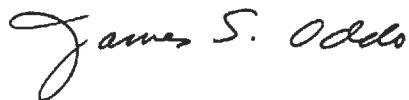
Gale A. Brewer
Manhattan Borough President



Ruben Diaz Jr.
Bronx Borough President



Melinda Katz
Queens Borough President



James S. Oddo
Staten Island Borough President

ELA/ra