From: Ng Lin Jie <[redacted]>
Sent: Tuesday, 6 February 2018 11:46 AM
To: MOH Tobacco Control (MOH) <Tobacco_Control@moh.gov.sg>
Subject: Brilliant suggestion on tobacco issue

Dear relevant authorities,

I'm writing in upon seeing the straits time article that we could provide feedback and suggestion on the tobacco issue.

My suggestion is simple, Singapore should build an airtight smoking chambers all around our Island, and designate it as the only place where people are allowed to smoke by law.

Before you write my suggestion off, due to cost constraint, let me explain to you why my idea is very feasible and in the long run, highly profitable as well.

Firstly, after building the chambers, and implementing that smoking is only allowed in there by law and not anywhere else including the public's own homes, the government should ban the sale of tobacco products all over Singapore. Thereafter, the government can become the sole monopoly of tobacco product in Singapore, as the only place citizen could buy tobacco product and smoke would be inside these Chambers, smoking at any other places would be deem illegal and be punished harshly. Tobacco product sold in these Chambers would only be sold by per stick basis. This also reduces the chance for contraband cigarettes to be sold in Singapore.

Secondly, it is possible for the tobacco company to fund for the building and maintenance of these Chambers as well. How could we make them fund the project is, allowing tobacco companies to advertise and promote their products, however, only inside these chambers free from the public eyes. To further entice these companies, we could agree with them, if they build a certain number of chambers for us, we would allow them free advertising and promotions for a period of 5 years in a certain number of Chambers. Note: Promote here means, sending their sale staff to these chambers.

Thirdly, data could now be collected on the smokers in Singapore, as to enter these chambers, one need to scan their NRIC, somewhat like MRT gantry. This is to ensure the government is able to collect data on the smoking population in Singapore and also to ensure those that enter are of legal age. These data are very valuable as it really identifies the smokers, hence, insurance and

government welfare could act accordingly in the forms of higher premiums, lower priority for treatments. Also, from these data, the government could also better identify smokers whom are reducing/ stop their consumption and hence, could better allocate their resources to extend their reach to help those whom are really serious on quitting. It also acts as a barrier for some youth from smoking as their friends could no longer offer them a stick to try

Fourthly, poster on the consequences on smoking could be place outside, along the walls of these chambers, with the most powerful ones, the goriest, the one with the most powerful message right at the entrance of the chambers. MOH staff/ volunteer could also be station outside the chamber to share the negative effects of smoking, particularly, trying to pull the youngsters away from, “the dark-side”.

Lastly, in doing so, it protects the general public form inhaling second-hand smoke, hence, better health for all and less medical spending are needed. It is also easier for NEA/ police officers do their jobs in catching the offenders, as it reduces the grey areas of the law as smoking anywhere but these chambers is flouting the law, no more excuses like, “it’s raining” and etc.

I understand that many provision shops depend on selling tobacco products for their survival. Hence, to limit the impact, we could allow them to run and maintain these chambers.

In conclusion, in building these chambers, the pros outweigh the cons. there are many pros that could have happen, as explained earlier. From what I see, the only con is the cost from running these chambers and building it. If I am a minister, I would had implemented this already.

Thank you for your kind attention and hope to see my idea being implemented.

Best regards,

Lin Jie