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**CAVALIER JOHNSON**  
ALDERMAN, 2ND DISTRICT

# FDA crackdown on flavored tobacco products can turn the tide

Statement by Alderman Cavalier Johnson  
November 16, 2018

I commend the Food and Drug Administration for its plans to impose greater restrictions on flavored tobacco products and e-cigarettes and for the agency recognizing the effect these products have on children. Study after study has pointed to millions of people under the age of 18 using these products that are inherently harmful.

These restrictions will reduce the likelihood that a new generation gets hooked on tobacco products which in the past have caused cancer and financial difficulty for far too many Americans and especially for African Americans.

Public policy can inspire cultural change. That is a reason I co-sponsored a series of city ordinances last spring that targeted e-cigarettes. In addition to restricting e-cigarette access to children locally, it also helps changes the culture surrounding these goods.

This latest move by the federal government sends a clear message about the harmful nature of these products despite initial beliefs they were somewhat innocuous.

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