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ROLLING PAPERS

Amended 4/12/22

Rolling Papers not made out of tobacco are regulated by MGL Ch. 270, Section 6A. If rolling papers are made from tobacco, they are blunt wraps, NOT rolling papers. The new state tobacco sales law permits cities and towns to regulate rolling papers and increases the minimum sales age to 21.

The amended state tobacco sales law restricts the sale of flavored tobacco and flavored “Tobacco Products Flavor Enhancers” to only Smoking Bars for on-site consumption only. The definition of “Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancers” is as follows:

"Any product designed, manufactured, produced, marketed or sold to produce a characterizing flavor when added to any tobacco product."

The question becomes whether flavored rolling papers are now categorized as flavor enhancers and are banned from sale outside of Smoking Bars for on-site consumption only.

Issues that have arisen:

- Some hemp wrap rolling paper manufacturers have complained that their products are not flavor enhancers and have made indications that they would seek legal redress if considered so.
- Boston has determined that flavored rolling papers are covered pursuant to state law.
- Cities and towns may now completely ban rolling papers or may just ban flavored versions in line with the state law’s flavored tobacco/vape sales restriction policy.

How to amend your regulation to regulate rolling papers:

Add this definition: Sheets, rolls, tubes, cones, or leaves, which do not contain tobacco, which are used for rolling cigarettes either by hand or with a roll-your-own machine. When rolling a cigarette, the filler may be tobacco, cannabis or other commonly smoked herbs

- Option A: to ban rolling papers add this language as a new policy: The sale of rolling papers is prohibited in [city/town].
- Option B: to ban only flavored rolling papers add this language to the flavor enhancer definition: A rolling paper with a characterizing flavor shall be considered a Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancer.