

Office of the Commissioner
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL



ROBERT D. MANFRED, JR.
Commissioner of Baseball

September 24, 2018

Via Electronic Mail
(Original by Overnight Mail)

The Honorable Ellen Cohen, Mayor Pro-Tem
Chair, Quality of Life Committee
900 Bagby Street, City Hall Annex
Houston, Texas 77002

Re: Smokeless Tobacco

Dear Mayor Pro-Tem Cohen:

I would like to take this opportunity to communicate Major League Baseball's support for the proposed ordinance relating to the prohibition of the use of smokeless tobacco in professional baseball stadiums in the City of Houston that will be heard in the Quality of Life Committee on September 26, 2018.

Major League Baseball strongly believes that children should not use or be exposed to smokeless tobacco. In that spirit, Major League Baseball has long supported a ban of smokeless tobacco at the Major League level. We have been proud of the progress toward this important goal in recent years, and we hope that the Houston City Council will continue this momentum, as so many other cities throughout our game have done.

We fully support the smokeless tobacco regulations recently passed by other state and city governments, and have publicly stated this position. The current restrictions in place in fifteen Major League Baseball stadiums will assist in the accomplishment of our goal of a complete ban of smokeless tobacco at all levels of professional baseball.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if there is any assistance that Major League Baseball can provide you or the Houston City Council in their consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert D. Manfred, Jr." in a cursive style.

Robert D. Manfred, Jr.

cc: Houston City Council Members