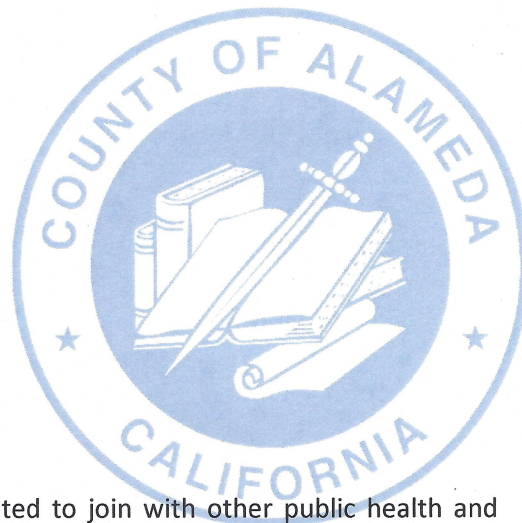


September 13, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
Washington, D.C.



Dear Mr. President:

The Alameda County Public Health Commission last night voted to join with other public health and medical professionals and organizations in urging the US Trade Representative dealing in the current Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations to adopt the Malaysian proposal concerning tobacco products.

Corporate interests are important but should be weighed against public interest, which we believe are paramount. Too many people here in the United States and worldwide suffer and die from the poison of tobacco products. No agreement should negate the efforts of local or national communities to limit or control the dissemination of disease, including the conditions that tobacco produces. Too many times, corporations have used provisions of Free Trade Agreements to challenge public health provisions in the name of profit; we are hoping that the TPP will not open the door to further such legal actions at the cost of human sickness and lives.

Thank you for giving your serious consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Laurence J Platt, MD, MPH
Chair, Tobacco Use Prevention Subcommittee,
Alameda County Public Health Commission

CC:

Center for Policy Analysis on Trade and Health
Health Officers Association of California
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Representative Barbara Lee
Senator Barbara Boxer
Senator Diane Feinstein
State Senator Ellen Corbet
State Senator Loni Hancock
Assembly Member Rob Bonta
Assembly Member Nancy Skinner
Assembly Member Joan Buchanan
Assembly Member Bill Quirk