

SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Public engagement on tobacco legislation: *An analysis of the public hearings on South Africa's Tobacco Products and Electronic Delivery Systems Control Bill*

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Table A1: Public hearings dates, locations, and attendees

| Date | Province | Municipality | Attendees who gave oral presentations / total attendees ¹ |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|---|--|
| 18–20 August 2023 | North West | Rustenburg Local Municipality City of Matlosana Local Municipality Mahikeng Local Municipality | 101 / 934 = 10.8% |
| 15–17 September 2023 | Limpopo | Makhado Local Municipality Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality Polokwane Local Municipality | 110 / 762 = 14.4% |
| 20–23 October 2023 | Mpumalanga | Mbombela Local Municipality Msukaligwa Local Municipality Emalahleni Local Municipality | 135 / 820 = 16.5% |
| 24–26 November 2023 | Gauteng | Lesedi Local Municipality West Rand District Municipality City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality | 106 / 1124 = 9.4% |
| 26–28 January 2024 | Eastern Cape | Mnquma Local Municipality Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality | 139 / 809 = 17.2% |
| 9–11 February 2024 | Western Cape | Witzenberg Local Municipality Drakenstein Local Municipality | 75 / 455 = 16.5% |
| <i>Recordings unavailable online:</i> | | | |
| 28–29 October 2023 | Free State | Moqhako Local Municipality Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality | 90 / 469 = 19.2% |
| Total: | | | 756 / 5373 = 14.1% |

¹ The total number of people who gave oral presentations is larger (n = 756) than the ones reported in our analysis (n= 606) because not all oral presentations were captured in the YouTube videos because of technical issues.

Public hearings not included in the Portfolio Committee on Health Report and unavailable online:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 – 3 November 2024 | Northern Cape | Sol Plaatje Local Municipality |
| | | Ga-Segonyana Local Municipality |
| | | Dawid Kruiper Municipality |
| 8-10 November 2024 | KwaZulu- Natal | City of Umhlathuze |
| | | Msunduzi Local Municipality |
| | | Thekwini Metropolitan Municipality |
| 31 January 2025 | Free State | Kopanong Local Municipality |
| 2 February 2025 | Western Cape | George Local Municipality |

Source: Portfolio Committee on Health. 2024. 'Provincial Public Hearings Report on the Tobacco Products and Electronic Delivery Systems Bill [B33 - 2022]'. <https://pmg.org.za/taled-committee-report/5748/>.

Notes: The Committee reported that they received 756 oral submissions from a total of 5 373 members of the public. The two hearings in January and February 2025 were not included in the Committee's report, nor in this paper. The Committee did not include them because they had not happened yet; we did not include them because the recordings are unavailable.

Table A2: URLs for the 34 YouTube videos from which data was collected

| Province | Public hearing | URL |
|--------------|------------------------------|---|
| North West | Klerksdrop | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D-bu3uBrjfQ |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jbky1bAQIWw |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sZ_k62_TpPo |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UNZ9t8HTki8 |
| | Mahikeng | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j0CUUi6wH6Q |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MCE2vPAfwHw |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5xk4zwRf_0 |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHip5XzUW0Q |
| | Rustenberg | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cN4NcFamV6o |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_NYQw1dGfw |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch=X_NYQw1dGfw |
| | | |
| Limpopo | Makhado Local Municipality | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhnanmwMMpQ |
| | PoloKwane | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPAHEm-XI84&t=2685s |
| | Tzaneen Greater Municipality | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-q-5iR700Xk&t=434s |
| Mpumalanga | Emalahleni | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pU_beqYVdw |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHUojBe8tzw&t=14s |
| | Ermelo | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ikYwXCrDsKw |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zeP5G9MSlj8 |
| | Mbombela | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DY6SvMrL1mw |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZuO0LjCYxg |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UIPrM5O8th0&t=5s |
| Gauteng | Lesedi | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ouWqMAUGnok |
| | Tshwane | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCNYlae6kEA |
| | West Rand Region | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltkXLtK5xAk |
| Eastern Cape | Butterworth | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vGU2bWFTNqU |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vXUmi_PwDD8 |
| | East London | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwuY6nvJBh4 |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMPA_foWNVk |
| Western Cape | Queenstown | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUaVVoA6nwc |
| | Ceres | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=53bHrQLzdw0 |
| | | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6UWi8ekOa7U |
| | Paarl | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UV0s5NczQFA |

Table A3: Identified organisation represented at the public hearings

| Name of organisation | Desktop verified | In support of the Bill ² |
|---|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| African Centre for Tobacco Industry Monitoring and Policy | Yes | 3 Yes |
| Research at University of Pretoria | | |
| African Harm Reduction Alliance | Yes | 2 No |
| African National Congress | Yes | 6 Yes; 2 No |
| African Transformation Movement | Yes | 3 No; 1 unclear |
| African Youth Development Fund ³ | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Agricultural Rural Development | No | 1 unclear |
| Amathole Rapid Response Team | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Black Business Council | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Black Empowerment Forum | Yes | 1 No |
| Black Tobacco Farmers Association | Yes | 2 No |
| BRICS Association ⁴ | No | 1 Yes |
| British American Tobacco | Yes | 11 No |
| Building Young Leaders | No | 1 Yes |
| Business Unity South Africa | Yes | 1 No |
| Cambridge - Local Community Media Forum | No | 1 Yes |
| Cancer Association of South Africa | Yes | 16 Yes |
| Cancer Organisation ⁵ | No | 4 Yes |
| Cape Peninsula Informal Traders Forum | No | 1 No |
| Casino Association of South Africa | Yes | 1 No |
| Community Police Forum (by region) | No | 1 Yes; 1 No |
| Democratic Alliance | Yes | 4 Yes; 5 No; 2 unclear |
| Development Forum | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Disability Organisation | No | 1 No |
| Eastern Cape AIDS Council | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Eastern Cape Legal Forum | Yes | 1 No |
| Economic Freedom Fighters | Yes | 1 No; 2 Yes; 1 unclear |
| Expose South Africa | No | 1 Yes |
| Gauteng Traders Association | No | 1 No |
| Hawkers Association | No | 2 No |
| Health Forum (by region) | No | 3 Yes |
| Health Professions Council of South Africa ⁶ | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Heart and Stroke Foundation | Yes | 1 Yes |
| International Revelation Congress | Yes | 1 Yes |
| International Tobacco Growers Association | Yes | 1 No |
| Japan Tobacco International | Yes | 1 No |
| Kayamandi Women and Children's Development Project | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Lesedi Black Business Forum | Yes | 1 No |
| Limpopo Tobacco Processors | Yes | 6 No |

² 'Yes' means that participants were in support of the Bill even though they might have recommended some changes. 'No' means that participants were not in support of the Bill. 'Unclear' means that participants did not explicitly state whether they are in support of or against the Bill.

³ Also affiliated with the South African Tobacco Free Youth Forum.

⁴ This could be the SA BRICS Youth Association, SA BRICS Think Tank, or the SA BRICS Business Council.

⁵ Not specified which cancer organisations.

⁶ Also affiliated with South African Medical Research Council.

| | | |
|---|-----|-------------|
| MTP ⁷ | No | 1 No |
| National Council Against Smoking | Yes | 7 Yes |
| NKA | No | 3 No |
| Nu Vape | Yes | 1 No |
| PCO ⁸ | No | 1 Yes |
| People's Health Forum | Yes | 1 Yes |
| People's Health Movement | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Philip Morris | Yes | 1 No |
| Portfolio for Gender and Disability | No | 1 Yes |
| Protect Our Next Campaign | Yes | 11 Yes |
| Provincial Leadership of Student Command | No | 1 Yes |
| Radio Workshop | Yes | 1 No |
| Research Unit on the Economics of Excisable Products at University of Cape Town | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Rising Stars Generation | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Side Five | No | 5 Yes |
| Siegwerk Druckfarben AG & Co. KGaA | Yes | 1 No |
| Soboko Community Forum | No | 1 Yes |
| Social Development Men's Forum | Yes | 1 Yes |
| South Africa Informal Traders Alliance | Yes | 3 No |
| South African Allied Workers' Union | Yes | 1 No |
| South African Federation of Trade Unions | Yes | 1 Yes |
| South African Medical Research Council | Yes | 19 Yes |
| South African National Aids Council Men's Sector | Yes | 1 Yes |
| South African Spaza & Tuck Shop Association | Yes | 4 No |
| South African Tobacco Free Youth Forum | Yes | 34 Yes |
| South African Tobacco Transformation Alliance | Yes | 1 No |
| South African Young Communist League | Yes | 1 Yes; 1 No |
| South African Youth Conference | No | 1 No |
| Southern Africa Youth Forum | Yes | 1 Yes |
| Support Network | Yes | 1 No |
| Tax Justice South Africa | Yes | 1 unclear |
| Taxi Association | No | 1 Yes |
| Tobacco Control Company | No | 1 Yes |
| Tobacco Producers Development | No | 1 unclear |
| TPT Company | No | 1 No |
| Trader Association | No | 1 No |
| Tsoga Foundation | No | 1 No |
| Turn the Tide | Yes | 1 Yes |
| University of Pretoria | Yes | 1 Yes |
| University of Western Cape | Yes | 1 No |
| Vapour Products Association of South Africa | Yes | 1 No |
| Western Cape Informal Traders Coalition | Yes | 1 No |
| Young Communist League of South Africa ⁹ | Yes | 2 Yes |
| Youth Crime Prevention Desk ¹⁰ | Yes | 4 Yes |

⁷ Could be Manoj Tobacco Process.

⁸ Could be the Parliamentary Constituency Office of a specific political party.

⁹ Also affiliated with the South African Tobacco Free Youth Forum.

¹⁰ These three are also affiliated with the South African Tobacco Free Youth Forum.

| | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-------|
| Youth Dialogue Inde Media | Yes | 2 Yes |
| Youth in Action | Yes | 1 Yes |

Table A3 lists the 85 organisations that participants reported working for, representing, or being affiliated with. We attempted to analyse how many of these stated organisations were in favour of and how many against the Bill. This was not possible for a few reasons: In many cases throughout the hearings, it was difficult to ascertain whether someone was an official representative demonstrating an official stance representative of the entire organisation or someone who worked within the organisation demonstrating their own opinion on the Bill using their organisation's name.

Some participants said they were 'with' a political organisation (e.g., the Democratic Alliance) but did not represent consistent rhetoric towards the Bill, and we could not ascertain participants' exact relationship to an organisation. In addition, we were unable to verify many of these organisations using desktop research (documented in the second column). Some have no digital presence. In other cases, it may be that the organisation's name was not captured accurately or individuals simply did not state if they were affiliated with any organisation. There was one report of a participant being paid to oppose the Bill, and in such instances, they may have purposely not disclosed the organisation's name (25).

Prominent among the supporters of the Bill was the South African Tobacco Free Youth Forum, which made 34 contributions across all recorded hearings. The Protect Our Next Campaign, a citizen initiative that champions support for the Bill, contributed 11 times, while the Cancer Association of SA (CANSAs) contributed 16 times. The South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) made at least 19 contributions.

Numerous other organisations voiced their opposition. British American Tobacco (BAT), contributed 11 times. Other major tobacco companies, such as Limpopo Tobacco Processors (LTP), and Japan Tobacco International, also participated. Besides the tobacco manufacturers, many industry representatives, trade organisations, and other entities opposed the Bill, including the Black Business Council and Black Empowerment Forum, and the South African Spaza and Tuck Shop Association (SASTA).

Table A4: Arguments made in opposition of the Bill

| Categories/Identifiers | Frequency | Percentage | Key points |
|--|------------|-------------|--|
| Economic | 222 | 41.6% | <i>by 129 men, 61 women</i> |
| Individual economic effects | 104 | 19.5% | Potential job loss; negative impact on family support; difficulties for small traders; concerns about government job provision |
| Macro-economic effects | 82 | 15.4% | Negative impact on overall economy; fewer jobs; lower wages, increased crime, tobacco industry collapse; loss of tax revenue; taxpayer money could be spent better |
| Youth employment and community resources | 15 | 2.8% | SA faces skills gap problem; tobacco industry provides opportunities for youth (educated and uneducated); tobacco supports communities through funding and resources; potential loss of community benefits |
| Disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations | 21 | 3.9% | Harm to poor and marginalised groups who rely on tobacco industry; financial loss for tobacco workers' minimal impact on wealthy companies |
| Health | 58 | 10.8% | <i>by 31 men, 26 women</i> |
| Lack of harm reduction options | 32 | 6.0% | Electronic delivery systems (EDS) assist in cessation of cigarettes; EDS reduce harm; lower health costs; provide information on risks; allow medical access; Bill will hinder these benefits and restrict medical information |
| Overstated effects | 7 | 1.3% | Exaggerated or false health risks related to tobacco |
| Economic consequences leading to health issues | 6 | 1.1% | Negative economic consequences will cause health problems from hunger, depression, crime, drug use, and abuse |
| Benefits of consumption | 13 | 2.4% | Tobacco use provides health benefits for mental disorders and stress relief; tobacco used as a coping mechanism |
| Traditional | 29 | 5.4% | <i>by 18 men, 11 women</i> |
| Undermines Tradition | 29 | 5.4% | Infringement on traditional practices; destruction/criminalisation of cultural identity |
| Society | 85 | 15.9% | <i>by 52 men, 33 women</i> |
| Increases societal problems | 13 | 2.4% | Inequality, crime, unemployment will increase |
| Inhibits personal freedoms | 72 | 13.5% | Smokers' freedoms will be restricted; the legislation is labelled as draconian; will criminalise smokers; can be used as a tool to further police and criminalise Black communities who smoke the most |
| Illicit Trade | 74 | 13.9% | <i>by 54 men, 18 women</i> |
| Increase in illicit trade (cost and accessibility) | 55 | 10.3% | Legal cigarettes will become expensive and hard to buy; preference for cheaper illicit cigarettes; plain packaging facilitates counterfeiting; health risks from harmful substances |
| Economic and social detriment | 19 | 3.6% | The lack of a solution to combat illicit trade will destroy the legal tobacco industry leading to job losses and reduced tax revenue; greater need to focus on curbing illicit trade |
| Electronic delivery systems | 65 | 12.2% | <i>by 35 men, 20 women</i> |
| Lack of differentiation, harm reduction | 65 | 12.2% | The bill treats vaping and smoking as the same despite different health impacts and risks; nicotine is not necessarily toxic as the Bill claims; calls for risk-proportionate regulation |
| Environmental | 1 | 0.2% | <i>by 1 man, 0 women</i> |
| No environmental harm | 1 | 0.2% | No wood curing or evidence of green tobacco sickness or soil depletion in SA |
| Total | 534 | 100% | |

Table A5: Arguments made in support of the Bill

| Categories/Identifiers | Frequency | Percentage | Key Points |
|---|------------|-------------|---|
| Economic | 80 | 13.5% | <i>by 30 men, 40 women</i> |
| Burden of smoking | 42 | 7.1% | Tobacco places a financial burden on economy; smoking-related illnesses cause higher health care costs; reduced productivity; workplace issues; economic benefits of reducing smoking outweigh tax revenue |
| Economic transition and job stability | 28 | 4.7% | The Bill will not harm jobs; tobacco industry is shrinking already; wealth disparity in the industry does not make it viable for poor people as a means of employment; growth of sustainable industries will increase |
| Burden on healthcare system | 10 | 1.7% | Fewer smokers; reduced strain on healthcare system; improved resource allocation to treat patients |
| Health | 275 | 46.5% | <i>by 91 men, 128 women</i> |
| Health hazards of smoking | 131 | 22.1% | Reduction in smoking-related diseases and deaths; prevention of health problems from second- and third-hand smoke; reduced tobacco-related crime and health issues among tobacco industry workers |
| Protection of children and future generations | 144 | 24.3% | Preventing children from smoking; addressing health and mental issues in young smokers; ensuring a healthier future generation |
| Traditional | 6 | 1.0% | <i>by 4 men, 2 women</i> |
| Does not hurt tradition | 6 | 1.0% | Preservation of tradition; regulation is respectful of tradition |
| Society | 141 | 23.8% | <i>by 40 men, 84 women</i> |
| Prevention of drug use | 37 | 6.3% | Gateway effect from smoking into harder drugs and substances; societal harm from drug addiction; increased crime and violence in impoverished communities as side effect from increased drug use |
| Educational and regulatory provisions | 59 | 10.0% | Measures like plain packaging and advertising bans educate people on the harmful effects of smoking and prevent youth from smoking, provides support for those who are quitting |
| Economic and social impact of addiction | 26 | 4.4% | Prioritisation of smoking over essential needs; poor Black communities who smoke more are disproportionately affected by the negative effects; Bill will limit the tobacco industry's influence on children to start them smoking |
| Non-smokers' rights | 19 | 3.2% | Ensuring fundamental rights to health and a healthy environment; protection of clean air |
| Illicit Trade | 10 | 1.7% | <i>by 6 men, 2 women</i> |
| Existing illicit trade dynamics | 8 | 1.4% | Illicit trade already exists, Bill will not worsen it; local producers and manufacturers are to blame; top executives benefit the most; small role of foreigners |
| Curative measures | 2 | 0.3% | Illicit trade can be curtailed by track and trace system, stronger enforcement, better regulatory frameworks, and increased penalties; not passing the Bill will not solve illicit trade |
| Electronic delivery systems | 67 | 11.3% | <i>by 24 men, 37 women</i> |
| Health concerns and gateway | 26 | 4.4% | Imperfect information about health risks and potential harm from vaping; gateway to smoking |
| Targeting and impact on youth | 30 | 5.1% | Marketing strategies are used by big tobacco and vaping industry to appeal to the youth and recruit new smokers; ease of addiction for children |
| Need for regulation | 11 | 1.9% | Lack of regulation on EDS; Bill aims to regulate unchecked use; necessity of proper oversight |
| Environmental | 13 | 2.2% | <i>by 5 men, 8 women</i> |
| Reducing tobacco production | 13 | 2.2% | Harmful impact of tobacco production and use on the environment; reduction of soil in tobacco farming; water pollution; deforestation; promotion of biodiversity and natural resources; opportunity for sustainable practices |
| Total | 592 | 100% | |

Table A6: Select quotes from respondents

| Main arguments | Against or in support of Bill | Quotes |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Economic effect | | A member of the National Informal Traders Association of South Africa in Butterworth, Eastern Cape said: <i>“I strongly reject the bill...because the tobacco we sell in our stands puts bread on the table for our families... We, as informal traders, employ people to sell in different places, and their incomes come from the selling of tobacco...”</i> (#516). |
| | Against | BAT worker in Heidelberg said: <i>“The reduction of legal cigarette demand directly impacts the entire Lesedi community. Our workforce, once over a thousand strong, is now 273. We used to have 2000 contractors... now its 700... BAT commissioned a study where we assessed the full economic impact of this bill... Our factory directly and indirectly supports more than 3800 jobs and more than 31 000 jobs across the value chain of SA. Our factory contributed more than R42 million to the Lesedi municipality alone. This number is likely to decline because illicit trade is declining our share of the market...The economic health of thousands in Lesedi will be affected.”</i> (#183). |
| | In support | A volunteer at the Cancer Association of South Africa (CANSA) in Gauteng said: <i>“The tobacco industry is very quick to point out that it contributes about R12 billion in taxes to the country’s GDP, but the question that I have is this: At what cost? The very same tobacco industry costs the economy R42 billion in tobacco-related illnesses, loss of productivity, as well as premature deaths. How then can we say that the tobacco industry is beneficial to society?”</i> (#213). |
| Health considerations | | A member of the Gugulethu Health Forum in the Western Cape said: <i>“...my father died of gangrene caused from tobacco... and as a result [of his smoking] I live with a pump, everywhere I go, I must have my pump with me which a result of being a second-hand smoker, so I support this bill”</i> (#454). |
| | In support | A specialist family physician at Ceres District Hospital, Western Cape said: <i>“... we suffer at the district hospitals with multiple tobacco-related admissions. We see children with chronic respiratory tract infections and young individuals who die at 30 and 40, due to chronic lung disease. For adults, smoking is a risk factor for all cancers, all cardiovascular disease, and chronic illnesses....Our respiratory rooms are flooded with smoking patients that require oxygen.”</i> (#415). |
| | | A life skills program facilitator at schools in Rustenburg said: <i>“Taking control of tobacco means taking control of our health and our future ... we want to create a smoke-free generation. According to research, 12% of young people aged 15-24</i> |

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------|---|
| | | <i>currently use tobacco products and 90% of adults started using tobacco products under the age of 18. ...It is not normal for young people to consume these products and if this Bill is passed, it will also speak to that” (#20).</i> |
| Traditional values | Against | <i>A concerned community member of Makhado stated: “your Bill says that we cannot perform our rituals as Africans when we use tobacco leaf to perform our rituals. Is that what you are saying to our people? This is directly infringing on our rights as human beings and directly infringes our basic human rights and fundamental rights, rights to religious practices” (#105).</i> |
| | In support | <i>A scientist at the SAMRC noted: “Snuff plays a very important role in African traditional healing. Our traditional healers, when they use snuff, use it correctly. We have discovered that there are those who are using this tobacco product in a manner that is inappropriate and that puts them at risk... This Bill is not against the use of traditional snuff in a traditional manner. Rather, it will protect people who use it in the proper manner.” (#278).</i> |
| Societal implications | Against | <i>A district councillor of Heidelberg said: “The freedom that a free society, open society, and democracy is supposed to have on a daily basis is going to be severely hampered if the Bill is passed” (#177).</i> <i>A participant in the Tshwane municipality said: “Making smoking a crime will stigmatise people who smoke. Shaming people who smoke does not help them stop smoking. It pressures them to hide the fact that they are smoking instead of finding ways to stop the smoking... It is better that you put us in jail, just like in apartheid. In Covid times, people were strictly prohibited from smoking and drinking, but we, as Black people, continued” (#245).</i> |
| | In support | <i>A masters student who works at the SAMRC in Klerksdorp said: “colourful packages of hookah flavours, electronic cigarettes, and LED lights are used to get attention for these products... the youth are the attracted audience... cigarettes and other tobacco products are placed next to sweets and chips ... these products should be removed from eye level placement ... let's protect our children, our youth, and preserve the future.” (#73)</i> <i>A grandmother of the Gugulethu Health Forum said: “Tobacco brings a lot of poverty. Most of our people are addicted to cigarettes. They spend more money on tobacco instead of buying food... even when their families are hungry... The government gives us R350 to help support us, but I heard over the radio that men who receive the 350... use the money to buy cigarettes. Tobacco is robbing families’ food and is robbing the country.” (#440).</i> |
| Illicit trade | Against | <i>A tobacco industry representative from Rustenburg stated: “How do we impose a Bill like this in a market where 65-70% of the market is illegal? The illicit operators and cigarette mafia bosses in the illegal industry are loving this Bill, because it gives them another opportunity not to comply, make even more money, and sell even more cigarettes. The legal value chain is shrinking and shrinking. In the end, you have a market where consumption is increasing and the legal industry that provides</i> |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------|--|
| | | <i>jobs, taxes, and income is gone. We have very good legislation on tobacco at the moment. The current act is not even enforced. How do we implement new legislation which is ten times more draconian, when a department is not interested or willing, or has the knowledge to enforce their own legislation, and think we are going to reduce consumption” (#39).</i> |
| | In support | <i>A member of the South African Tobacco Free Youth Forum claimed: “Illicit cigarettes are flooding our community through the same legal industry that claims they are losing profits because of illicit cigarettes. ...The tobacco industry underdeclared their production. They produce more than what they declare to the authorities, and these cigarettes are sold in SA without paying excise duties and VAT... We also identify ‘Ghost Exports’... this means that manufacturers declare some products for export, which exempts them from excise duties and VAT. These products are diverted back to SA and do not pay tax; they are illicit cigarettes” (#326).</i> |
| Electronic Delivery Systems | Against | <i>An ophthalmologist and harm reduction advocate from eMalahleni stated that he encourages existing smokers to quit, but for those who struggle to quit: “it is our ethical duty as medical practitioners to point patients to less harmful alternatives. A Bill that does not make the differentiation is not only promoting misinformation, but it is promoting harm to those we know that if they stay on combustibles, one in two of them will be killed by the product” (#391).</i> |
| Environmental impacts | In support | <i>According to the South Africa Tobacco Free Youth Forum: “Tobacco farming has a wide range of negative impacts on the environment. Tobacco farming requires large amounts of water. Curing tobacco leaves leads to large-scale deforestation: 600 million trees are cut down to make 6 trillion cigarettes every year globally...This releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and contributes to global climate change” (#405). It was argued that resources currently used to grow tobacco could be better utilised to address food insecurity and promote sustainable land development.</i> |