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IMPORTANT NOTICE

Please be advised that the Los Angeles City Council passed an ordinance that expands the definition of tobacco products in Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) section 46.90(c) to include any product that contains nicotine derived from tobacco or synthetic nicotine. Effective January 22, 2014, a City Tobacco Retailer's Permit will be required to sell any product that meets the new tobacco products definition.

**New Definition of Tobacco Product Effective January 22, 2014
Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 46.90(c)**

"Tobacco product" shall mean any substance containing tobacco leaf, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, snuff, chewing tobacco, dipping tobacco, bidis or beedies, hookah tobacco or any other preparation of tobacco. **"Tobacco product" shall also include any product or formulation of matter containing nicotine derived from tobacco, or synthetic nicotine,** that is manufactured, sold, offered for sale, or otherwise distributed with the expectation that the product or matter will be introduced into the human body. "Tobacco product" does not include any cessation product specifically approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use in treating nicotine or tobacco dependence.

Retailers who sell products (**including electronic cigarettes**) that fall under the tobacco products definition above must have a valid Tobacco Retailer's Permit. Selling tobacco products in the City of Los Angeles without a valid Permit is a misdemeanor violation of LAMC section 46.91(a) and is punishable by up to six months in county jail and a fine of \$1,000.

Furthermore, self-service displays of tobacco products and the mobile vending of tobacco products are prohibited in the City of Los Angeles.

For further information, please contact the Tobacco Enforcement Program at (213) 978-7970 or tep@lacity.org.