EMEDICAL SOCIETY
of the
STATE OF NEW YORK

Elizabeth Dears Kent, Esq.
Senior Vice President/
Chief Legislative Counsel

DIVISION OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

CLICK HERE FOR BILL STATUS
A.128 (PAULIN)

CLICK HERE FOR BILL STATUS
S.1825 (RITCHIE)

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to
prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco products

This measure would prohibit the sale of flavored tobacco products such as cigars that are not hand-made,
chewing tobacco, snuff, and rolling paper in order to decrease the incidence of tobacco use among children.
The Medical Society of the State of New York supports this bill.

The U. S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently banned the sale of flavored cigarettes because of their
appeal to children. New York City expanded that ban to include flavored cigars and flavored
smokeless tobacco products such as snuff and chewing tobacco.

The National Cancer Institute conducted a study which shows that cigar smokers are as likely as cigarette
smokers to develop oral, throat, and esophageal cancers. According to the study, those who use smokeless
tobacco products significantly increase their risk of developing cancers of the lip, tongue, cheeks and gums.

Likelihood of addiction to tobacco increases the earlier a person begins using tobacco products. Preventing
the sale of products that appeal to children will help to prevent long-term use that leads to tobacco-related
illnesses, increased medical costs, and tobacco-related deaths.

This bill is a natural extension of the ban on flavored cigarettes and the Medical Society of the State of New
York supports it and urges that it be passed.

Respectfully submitted,

3/6/15 – Support
ELIZABETH DEARS KENT, ESQ.

BKE