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## **NHMA Nevada Chapter and 12 Organizations Issue Joint Letter in Response to Delayed Proposed Menthol Cigarette Rule**

WASHINGTON - The [National Hispanic Medical Association](https://www.nhmamd.org)'s Nevada Chapter, in conjunction with 12 other organizations, submitted on April 8 [a joint letter](#) urging President Biden to take action on the [delay of the FDA menthol rule](#). In a recent meeting with the White House, Nevada Chapter Co-Chair Dr. Jose Cucalon Calderon declared, "Black and Hispanic children have a higher menthol initiation rate than their white counterparts, with reported greater advertising density around schools where Hispanic and 'economically disadvantaged' children attend."

The scientific evidence supporting the removal of menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars in the U.S. market is irrefutable, and the further delay announced on April 26 by Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra will continue to have detrimental impacts on Black and Brown communities.

The direct consumption of menthol cigarettes and flavored cigars is exacerbating the amount of preventable diseases such as CVD, Type 2 Diabetes, and is a large controllable risk factor of certain types of cancers, all of which have worse outcomes among Latinos and Blacks when compared to other communities. "Eliminating menthol cigarettes would prevent over 650,000 deaths by 2060, with a large number of them including both Black and Latino lives."

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***About the National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA):** Established in 1994 in Washington, DC, NHMA is the premier non-profit membership association representing the interests of 50,000 licensed Hispanic physicians in the United States. The mission of NHMA is to empower Hispanic physician leaders to improve the health of Hispanics in the United States.*