

"Years ago people used to smoke in the theater, on the bus, and in planes, but then laws changed that, and Israelis are able to follow those laws today. So it's not an 'Israeli culture'

restaurants anymore. But that same law is also for pubs, which is the most problematic one to enforce. They can't say it's Israeli, because in England the pub scene is much stronger than in

The Israel Cancer Association continues to lobby the Knesset for stricter law enforcement, and

"We're trying to find ways to encourage [abiding by the law] but we really need the Israeli state

avoidable leading cause of death in the world, and it kills 10,000 people a year in Israel, 1,500

"More people die in Israel a year from smoking than car accidents, terror attacks, and AIDS combined," she said. "It's a number that's unbelievable, and one that we put on ourselves."

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and government to pressure local authorities to enforce it," she said. "Smoking is the most

recently successfully appealed to the prime minister to raise the tax on cigarettes in order to discourage smoking. The group has carried out public media campaigns and outreach, but

thing," she said. "Since this law passed two years ago, people almost don't smoke in

Israel; everyone goes to the pub and the law is enforced because the authorities take it

Froelich Velcer holds steadfast to the claim that the only thing standing in the way of

smoke-free bars in Israel are the people whose job it is to uphold it.

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of which are from second-hand smoke."

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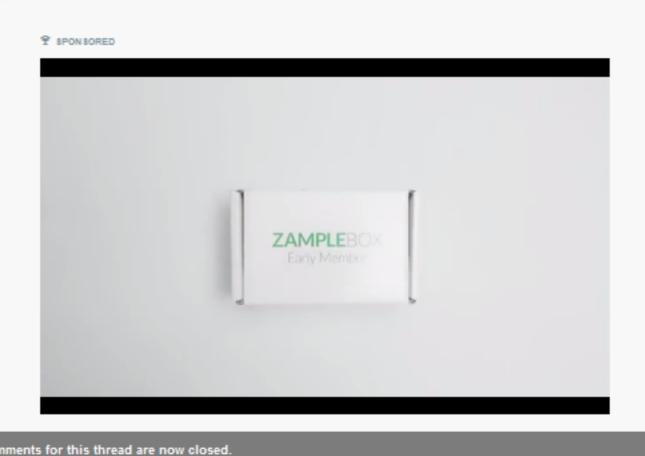
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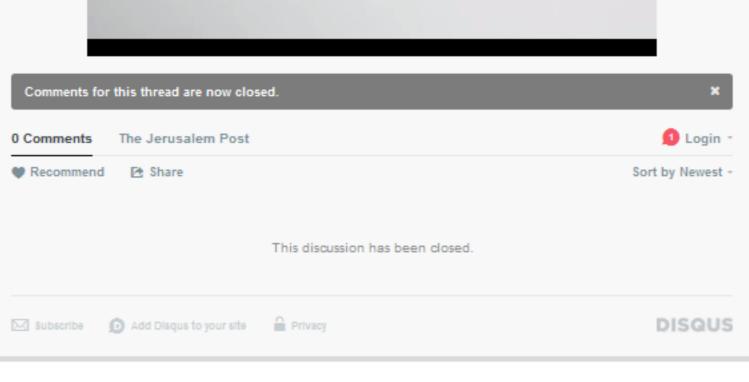
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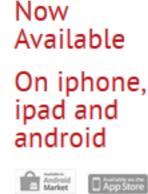
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