



## MEMORANDUM

TO: Bob Klein, Chair,  
and Members of the Board

DATE: January 23, 2018

FROM: Erika McConnell, Director

RE: Regulations Change: Distilleries

**Requested Action:** Move to adopt regulations change regarding distilleries

**Statutory Authority:** AS 04.06.100(a): "The board shall adopt regulations governing the manufacture, barter, sale, consumption, and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state that are consistent with this title and necessary to carry out the purpose of this title in a manner that will protect the public health, safety, and welfare."

**Staff Recommendation:** Adopt regulations change

**Background:** AS 04.11.170 currently allows distilleries to serve for onsite consumption a limited amount of "the distillery's product." This term is not defined.

The Department of Law drafted a definition in this proposed regulations change that it finds to be consistent with statute (as required by AS 44.62.030), and that interprets and makes specific the provisions of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e). The proposal defines "the distillery's product" as a distilled spirit made or distilled in the licensed facility, and also clarifies that a licensee may provide other non-alcoholic products (mixers and garnishes) but may not combine them with a distilled spirit.

The public comment period on this proposed regulation was open from November 20 to December 29, 2017. All comments (over 500 pages) are attached in the order in which they were received.

Register \_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_2018 COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND EC. DEV.

(Words in **boldface and underlined** indicate language being added; words [CAPITALIZED AND BRACKETED] indicate language being deleted.)

3 AAC 304.375(c) is amended to read:

(c) Flavoring ethanol or alcohol that was not **distilled** [MANUFACTURED] in the distillery does not qualify as operating a distillery for purposes of obtaining a license under AS 04.11.170.

3 AAC 304.375 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(d) For the purposes of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e), a licensee, agent, or employee of a licensee may not combine the distillery's product with any other manufactured product, but may serve separately non-alcoholic ingredients, including fruit juices, spiced and flavored mixers, garnishes, and carbonated beverages.

(e) In AS 04.11.170 and this section, "distillery's product" means a distilled spirit made or distilled on the premises of the licensed facility for

(1) bottling or barreling, and

(2) sale. (Eff. 12/16/2016, Register 220; am \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_, Register\_\_\_\_)

Authority: AS 04.06.090 AS 04.06.100 AS 04.11.170

**From:** Will Geiger  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** please allow distilleries, tasting rooms to continue to serve products  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 10:32:41 AM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities. I know the Amalga tasting room best, as I live in Juneau, and the proprietors have long been supporters of community events and non-profits. Your recent decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, as I would welcome the opportunity to talk about this issue further.

Sincerely,

Will Geiger

8306 Mendenhall Loop Road, Juneau, AK, 99801

**From:** Matthew Rogers  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** mixed drink sales at alaska distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 11:40:17 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I have been closely following the debate regarding the regulations determining Alaska distilleries' ability to sell mixed drinks on their premises. I would like to express my views regarding this issue.

As a resident of Juneau, I have personally witnessed the positive impact of the Amalga Distillery's public tasting room on the downtown Juneau business scene. They have been civic-minded and have done an excellent job of selling their product responsibly.

Distilleries should not be able to add alcoholic products to their drinks that they did not manufacture. For example, they should not be able to add a commercially available vermouth to their own gin to make a martini. HOWEVER, they absolutely should be able to use only their liquor plus any other non-alcoholic mixers, be it of their own creation or commercially available, to create a mixed drink, as long as they only sell 3 oz. of their own product and they adhere to all other rules. For example, they absolutely should be able to sell a bloody mary with their own gin and either a house-made or commercially available non-alcoholic bloody mary mix.

I feel very strongly that this a common sense solution to the problem in front of the board. The distilleries are not trying to be bars. They are serving only 2 drinks, closing by 8 pm, and not hosting music or food. They are marketing their product and adding another Alaska-made product to the market. The number of cruise ship visitors passing through Juneau alone should be enough to spread the word of some of these products around the world. This can do nothing but good for Alaska's economy and reputation. It would be short-sighted and ill conceived to hobble an industry that is thriving. Additionally, this solution would appear to fall within both the letter and intent of the law.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Matthew Rogers  
Juneau, AK



**From:** Cole Deal  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** AMCO  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 12:31:20 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities. I know the Amalga tasting room best, as I live in Juneau, and the proprietors have long been supporters of community events and non-profits. Your recent decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

- Cole Deal

**From:** Jeffrey Rogers  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regs  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 1:13:45 PM

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Please allow distilleries to serve mixed drinks instead of just shots, allow intertainment, and to have fun.

I very much appreciate the responsible drinking atmosphere that distilleries currently provide.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Rogers

**From:** Aklandex  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** [SPAM] Proposed regs  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 1:45:33 PM

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The only limits that make any sense to me is A) Limiting the amount of alcohol served per person. B) Limiting the alcohol served to alcohol produced on site.

Alex Shapiro Alaska Land Exploration, LLC 3875 Geist Rd, Suite E #278 Fairbanks, AK 99709 [www.aklandex.com](http://www.aklandex.com) Cell 907-903-7707

**From:** Isaac Thompson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** proposed 3 AAC 304 changes  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 1:52:26 PM

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the proposed changes to 3 AAC 304, specifically 3 AAC 304.375 (d):

"(d) For the purposes of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e), a licensee, agent, or employee of a licensee may not combine the distillery's product with any other manufactured product, but may serve separately non-alcoholic ingredients, including fruit juices, spiced and flavored mixers, garnishes, and carbonated beverages."

are a poor attempt by bar owners to limit the number of people which might visit a distillery, in an effort to bring more money into their own pockets.

Distilleries only serve 2 drinks per person, which is closely regulated at every distillery in Fairbanks, and are not likely to significantly detract from bar business.

Barring non-alcoholic products (regardless of manufacturer) from being mixed with alcoholic products distilled by a distillery is a poor idea and should be eliminated from the proposed changes.

**From:** Sean Owens  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Changes to distillery rules/enforcement  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 1:57:03 PM

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Hello,

I am writing you concerning the use of "Mixers" at distillery tasting rooms. I cannot understand the thought process behind stopping Alaskan Distillers from serving their wares as they are intended to be consumed. By forcing these distilleries to pour straight "Shots" of their product, you are not only limiting their ability to show how their spirits will blend, but setting a poor example by suggesting to the consumer of these spirits that they should "Shoot" this product like a child, instead of mixing it and sipping it as most responsible adults do. By forcing this regulation on them you are really hurting not only their ability to sell their product, but also sending a very poor message to the consumers of this product.

Thank you for taking the time to hear me out on this  
Sean Owens  
Soldotna, Alaska.

**From:** michael o'brien  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 1:59:08 PM

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AMCO Members,

I am writing to request that you allow distilleries in Alaska to continue to serve two mixed drinks during business hours, not just shots of alcohol. Distilleries have provided a much-needed revenue stream during Alaska's economic downturn--both in terms of jobs and tax revenue--and court a customer demographic that is not currently covered by other establishments.

As someone who frequents Ursa Major distillery here in Fairbanks, I can tell you that I have never gone there instead of going to some other bar. It's smoke free, brightly lit, and has a more community atmosphere than most, if not all bars.

I encourage you to continue to allow Ursa Major to continue to make the great contribution to the Fairbanks economy and community.

Best,

Michael O'Brien  
Fairbanks

**From:** jason ballek  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting rooms  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 2:48:59 PM

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I am in full support to allow tasting rooms to serve mixed drinks using their products. When you are trying out new products, you should be able to try them in the manner in which you would be using them. No one drinks vodka straight, it's always in a mixed drink. Allow the public to continue using the tasting rooms as they are now.

**From:** Erin Tilly  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Cease your persecution of small business owners IMMEDIATELY  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 3:28:46 PM

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Erin Tilly. I am an active voter and small business owner in Fairbanks, Alaska. I am writing today to express how absolutely APPALLED I am at the treatment microdistillery and microbrewery tasting rooms are receiving at the hands of the AMCO board. These business owners represent the gold standard of Alaskan ingenuity. They have created their own small businesses. They use local ingredients. They rent and purchase local spaces. They hire local workers. They support local artists. They create beautiful, safe, and welcoming community spaces, all the while FOLLOWING THE RULES SET OUT BY THE LEGISLATURE. And the AMCO board, in their utter hubris, then decides, after these businesses have been operating successfully and safely for SEVERAL years now, to completely pull the rug out from under them! The AMCO board baldly and cavalierly proposes to ruin the livelihood of dozens of small business owners, to steal jobs from hardworking Alaskans, to cut what little profit a farmer can make in the frigid north for what? Some antiquated ideal that suggests that having alcohol and enjoyment in the same location may lead to sin? Is this Fairbanks Alaska or that stifling town from the movie Footloose? I DEMAND that the AMCO board immediately cease and desist this ridiculous line of persecution. Forcing tasting rooms to serve shots of liquor only will immediately shutter their businesses, and likely bankrupt the proprietors. Making them jump through the ridiculous hoop of serving liquor and mixers separately is wasteful, does their products a disservice and is an absolute example of government for the sake of government, NOT government in service of the people. It does nothing to help public safety and damages the business owners ability to sell their products. And finally, tasting rooms must be allowed to experiment with product not immediately available for sale, or again the heavy hand of government overreach will quash the entrepreneurial will of the private sector.

I insist the AMCO board follow the law AS IT WAS WRITTEN and leave these hardworking Alaskans to nurture their businesses that bring growth and joy to our state.

Erin R Tilly



**From:** Julie Esdale  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** proposed regulations on distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 3:59:42 PM

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Dear AMCO Board,

I do not support the proposed regulations on distillery tasting rooms being put forth by AMCO Director Erika McConnell and Assistant Attorney General Harriet Milks. I am a supporter of distilleries, breweries, local bars, and restaurants. I understand the pressures on businesses with liquor licenses and the additional competition if broad liberties are given to tasting rooms. I support the 2 drink restriction but I believe that the proposed restriction preventing "mixing" and "fun" at distilleries and breweries is not in the best interest of culture, commerce, or promoting small businesses and employment opportunities. It does not promote public safety and makes it look like big business has more sway and lobby power than the citizens of the state.

Thank you for considering this comment,  
Julie Esdale

**From:** Emily Potter  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** public comment  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 5:43:44 PM

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November 20, 2017

To whom it may concern,

I would like to express my sadness, disappointment, and anger towards the new changes regarding distillery licenses and the mixing of ingredients together with their products: cocktails. I do hope that public comment will be genuinely listened to and taken into consideration before making decisions that will greatly impact myself and the community.

As a person that does not enjoy the bar environment, the opening of the local distilleries in Fairbanks was an exciting addition. I do not want to spend my evenings around people that have consumed excessive amounts of alcohol and are no longer able to control their behavior. Being able to go to a distillery and have 1 to 2 cocktails is something I enjoy.

Another thing that I find wonderful about the distilleries is the family atmosphere. I have 2 young children and it is hard to find entertainment in Fairbanks in the cold winter months. It has become a weekly tradition to meet up with the grandparents for a cocktail before going to dinner. This is not something we would be able to do at a bar. We as a family are able to enjoy a drink while our children visit with family and friends.

I am a person that does not drink beer and I rarely drink alcoholic beverages. I am a light drinker and usually only consume 1 of my 2 allotted cocktails. That being said; attending First Friday events, enjoying time with friends and family, and supporting local business in Fairbanks mean a lot to me. I find it very upsetting there is a possibility this could all be coming to an end.

While I am not clear as to why these changes are being pursued, I feel that the board should reconsider. Mixing the distilled alcohol with ingredients to make a variety of cocktails allows people like myself who are not avid drinkers to experience and enjoy the alcohol. It also seems much safer to be providing hard alcohol as a mixed beverage vs a shot that people will consume quickly and then get in their car and drive away. I would assume that distilleries in other states allow mixing of cocktails so why is it an issue in Alaska?

I again urge you to please reconsider this decision.

Sincerely,

Emily Potter  
448 Snowy Owl Ln  
Fairbanks, AK 99712  
eapotter13@gmail.com

907-378-4149

**From:** Laurie Hueffer  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery tasting rooms  
**Date:** Monday, November 20, 2017 6:59:07 PM

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I am writing as an Alaskan in support of Alaskan small business. In particular, I am writing in favor of allowing distillery tasting rooms to mix ingredients together with their products, and not just serve straight shots.

I believe distilleries and breweries are important small businesses in our community and regardless of competition that bar owners may dislike, distilleries and breweries should be allowed to serve patrons a restricted number of drinks (mixed included) and provide a safe, relaxed, social atmosphere for their clientele.

In this difficult economic era, your role should be to encourage all level of business and not over-regulate.

Thank you for your time,  
Laurie Hueffer  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

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Laurie Hueffer  
[l.hueffer@gmail.com](mailto:l.hueffer@gmail.com)

**From:** Nancy Spencer  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries Support  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 8:33:04 AM

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I "DO NOT" support the proposed regulation package that Director McConnell is trying to put forth. Mixing drinks in the tasting rooms is a great thing.

Nancy Spencer

**From:** Mike K  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** I do not support proposed regulation regarding tasting rooms  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 11:22:26 AM

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Dear Director McConnell,

I do not support the regulation of tasting rooms you have put forth. I like the idea of going to a place where I can have a cocktail and people are not getting drunk as in a normal bar. Further these tasting rooms provide just and inject money into our local economy as much of the ingredients are sourced locally. Please consider the positive effects these establishments are having on our economy.

Sincerely  
Mike Knoche

**From:** Jill Weitz  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support Alaska's 10 distilleries"  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 12:31:03 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities. I know the Amalga tasting room best, as I live in Juneau, and the proprietors have long been supporters of community events and non-profits. In fact, I manage a conservation campaign, and we have held collaborative meetings and events at this space - for no service fee - because Amalga believes in community collaboration. Your recent decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, as I would welcome the opportunity to talk about this issue further.

Sincerely,

--

Jill Weitz  
Juneau, AK  
(907)957.9504

**From:** Brianne Mecum  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comments: re AAMC regulations regarding the operation of distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 12:56:07 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. The State should be encouraging ways to increase the growth of these types of businesses -- locally owned and operated establishments -- not hindering them. Our state is currently in a severe budget crisis so we now, more than ever, need to encourage small business growth and opportunities.

Your recent misinterpretation of the law to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

I have been to a few of these establishments and know some of the individuals personally. I can't speak for all of them, obviously, but of the folks that run these businesses that I know personally, I can say without a doubt, that these individuals, and their businesses, are great assets to their communities. In many cases, these individuals are active in their communities and the success of their businesses often results in these individuals giving back to their communities -- either through action, participation, financial or, as is often the case, all of the above. I encourage you to find a way to make this situation work. Others before you have interpreted this law without issue, so your misinterpretation also has me concerned that you are being lobbied by outside forces that wish to close or hinder these establishments. All of this make me, and many others, question your ability to fairly and effectively enforce the regulations set in front you.

Thank you for considering my comments, as well as the comments of many other Alaskans that want to see local businesses flourish and continue to support our economy well into the future.

Sincerely,  
Brianne Mecum  
4024 Ridge Way  
Juneau, AK 99801



**From:** Shayna Rohwer  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 12:57:46 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

I'm writing to encourage you to support allowing distilleries to distribute drinks from their tasting rooms. I live in Juneau where, as part of a young family, I feel like this town is consistently struggling to attract and keep the younger demographic. And now, I'm troubled to see businesses run by bright young entrepreneurs like the Amalga Distillery potentially being shuttered due to regulations. This business, more than other bars and distribution areas, is run in a thoughtful and controlled manner. I hope that the control office and distilleries can come to a mutually beneficial agreement. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time,

Shayna Rohwer  
Juneau, Alaska  
(907)209-7722

**From:** Geoffrey Bacon  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposal to adopt regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 7:06:04 PM

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Members of the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Board,

I am apposed to this proposed regulation. It would reduce the viability of several distilleries that are developing new products for sale and export. It would enact regulation that are contrary to the state intent of the laws allowing distilleries to serve their product.

These establishments are not supplanting the role of bars. They are not sources of social ills, such as public intoxication.

I urge this body to not enact these changes to the Alaska Administrative Code, and further take active steps to affirm the ability of Distilleries to sell their products the way most people would enjoy them, in cocktails.

Thank you,

Geoffrey Bacon

2835 Chief William Dr. Unit 2  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** Jon Hays  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 8:42:28 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I wish to write to you and ask for your support of Alaska's 10 distilleries and their efforts to continue producing quality Alaskan products by allowing them to continue serving drinks in their tasting rooms. Of the two distilleries I have frequented—Ursa Major and Amalga— I can attest to the immeasurable services they provide in their communities.

I am most familiar with the Amalga tasting room, and the proprietors are long-time supporters of community events and non-profits. The decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." I humbly ask for you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

Many thanks for your time,

Jon Hays

**From:** Callie Conerton  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support local distilleries and allow them to serve cocktails.  
**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2017 10:56:59 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities.

I live in downtown Juneau and enjoy the services that Amalga has provided. I enjoy being able to go to a clean establishment where there is a limit to the amount consumed and it is more about the craft of the drink and the contents rather than the continuous rate of consumption that many bars focus on. I go to a distillery when I want to try a new type of drink or see the alcohol featured with different flavors and blends that I might not think of otherwise. It is a local business with local owners who have created a new space for the community to gather in a positive light. It is not a bar but a place to try a new drink with a friend after work, and perhaps purchase a bottle for you to take home with you.

Your recent decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

Please don't detour Alaskans from finding new avenues of business and exploration.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, as I would welcome the opportunity to talk about this issue further.

Sincerely,

Callie Conerton  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Demian Schane  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Permit Alaska distilleries to serve mixed, alcoholic drinks  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 3:29:32 AM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office:

I urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities.

Your recent decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. If any regulation is appropriate, it would be a 2- or 3-drink limit (as I've experienced when visiting distilleries in other states, e.g., Virginia). A complete ban would stymie boutique distilleries in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Demian Schane  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Andrea Bond  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery law change comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 7:52:25 AM

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I do not see these regulation changes as beneficial to anyone. Distilleries should be able to serve people their spirits mixed with other products (juice, fruit, seltzer, etc). This is the best way for a person to taste the product as they would be using it at home. Not a whole lot of people can get an idea of how the liquor will taste just from drinking it straight. This is just another example of over-regulation destroying something the community loves. People love going to the tasting rooms. They serve high-quality spirits, and use high-quality ingredients in their cocktails. There is a drink limit, so folks are not becoming inebriated; just hanging out, having a good time sampling the local wares and gathering new drink ideas. What's the harm in that? Why change regulations specifically to shut this down? Anyone can schlep into a bar if they want well drinks with bottom-shelf liquor and high-fructose corn syrup with artificial flavorings. Lots of Alaskans want something better. We want the ambiance, camaraderie, and quality (of both the drinks and company).

Thanks for reading

Andria Bond

**From:** Amanda Triplett  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Support  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 3:45:09 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms.

I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities. I know the Amalga tasting room best, as I live in Juneau, and the proprietors have long been supporters of community events and non-profits. This is also a key business in the downtown Juneau area.

Your recent decision to no-longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed."

Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, as I would welcome the opportunity to talk about this issue further.

Sincerely,

Amanda Triplett

8908 Birch Lane

Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Jeff Whiteside  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on AAC 304.375  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2017 10:55:45 PM

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RE: Public Comment on AAC 304.375

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in opposition of the proposed amendment to AAC 304.375(c) and 304.375(d). In this particular case, the board seems to have forgotten the very nature of which it is proposing to regulate.

I am opposed to the amendment as it is far too broad and subject to interpretation. As written, it could be used to prohibit the craft distilling process itself by preventing infusions that are necessary to create certain tastes or flavors that may be desirable. An example might be a flavored vodka, where flavoring agents are commonly infused post-distillation and would clearly be prohibited by this amendment. Must the distillery take on the impossible task of “manufacturing” the oak tree that is used to create the barrel that will be used to impart flavor into a whiskey? Going even further, it could be used against natural infusion of carbon dioxide or oxygen caused by the act of pouring liquids, by simple fact that these can also be considered manufactured elements by some interpretations. We must be careful in the letter of the law.

If the board looks at the industry that it is regulating, it should be obvious that American’s usually prefer to mix distilled beverages with other products to produce a more satisfying, tasteful and overall less impactful beverage. This is extremely commonplace around the world and in every instance practiced, it is performed by a trained person with specific tools designed for the job. It is an unnecessary burden to expect customers of these establishments to take on this role. It also subjects the situation to unintended consequences, such as a customer that “spikes” their drink (or that of others) with any number of undesirable things. These untrained persons may also accidentally drop their “mix” as they are not used to performing this task, creating a public safety hazard and placing an unreasonable burden on business owners. It only makes sense to allow professionals to control the entire process, end to end, to make a consistent product without unnecessary risks.

In the end, this is a poorly crafted amendment that was created at the behest of one interest to put down another’s interest. This is not the purpose of the alcohol control board, nor the intent of law. If the board allows this amendment through as written, I shudder to think how it could be used. It should be opposed by all members of the board.

Sincerely,

Jeff Whiteside  
P.O. Box 74907  
Fairbanks, AK 99707  
[jeff@jeffwhiteside.com](mailto:jeff@jeffwhiteside.com)



**From:** Chris Miller  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries serving mixed drinks  
**Date:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 9:05:13 AM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office,

Along with Alaska State Representatives Drummond, Tuck, Kawasaki, and Kreiss-Tompkins, and with Alaska State Senators Bishop, Egan, Gardner, and Micciche, I am writing to urge you to support Alaska's 10 distilleries' efforts to continue to produce value-added Alaskan products by serving drinks in their respective tasting rooms. I've been to two of these 10 distilleries—Chilkoot and Amalga—and can assure you they are contributing immeasurable services to their respective communities. I know the Amalga tasting room best, as I live in Juneau, and the proprietors have long been supporters of community events and non-profits. Your recent decision to no longer allow distilleries to serve drinks jeopardizes their operation, and has a chilling effect on other local young entrepreneurs hoping to make our community a better place. As the aforementioned elected officials put in their August 2017 letter, "Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed." Again, I urge you to reverse this decision and allow distilleries to serve their products.

Sincerely,

Chris Miller  
2400 Douglas Highway, unit 1  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Guy Archibald  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Rules  
**Date:** Thursday, November 23, 2017 9:16:31 AM

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Please do not put idiotic restrictions on our new business's ability to make a profit. They already have committed to limiting consumption to 2 drinks and close early. These businesses are not contributing to any alcohol-related issues and are incredibly responsible.

The distillery in my area makes incredible devils club and spruce tip juices that are locally harvested and sustainable creating even more jobs.

Allow them to serve mixed drinks

--

Guy Archibald  
907 209-2720

**From:** Mary Burtness  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** comment on proposed changes  
**Date:** Monday, November 27, 2017 3:02:55 PM

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I want to go on record in support of distillery tasting rooms *being allowed to mix ingredients together with their products*.

It is the mission of your board to safeguard the community, not stifle small Alaska businesses. It would seem much less safe to allow just sampling straight up alcohol. As it is now, these businesses are providing a place to enjoy their local product in addition to other products made or grown in Alaska. I have been to several places and they are very diligent about not serving more than two drinks, so the customers are not consuming like a bar, which makes it even more safe.

Please do not pass these regulations.

Mary C. Burtness

**From:** Dylan Stuart  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Bizarre Distillery Rule Change  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 29, 2017 11:19:47 PM

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Dear AMCO,

I support the way distillery's are today. Taking away the privilege for them to sample their crafts as they are intended to be tasted, is a step backwards for Alaska.

Please keep the rule as it is,  
Dylan Stuart  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Lyni Borland  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** AS 04.11.17  
**Date:** Thursday, November 30, 2017 11:14:15 AM

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I am writing to comment on the recent interpretation of the current regs governing the operation of distilleries, requiring them to cease adding soda or other non alcoholic beverages to their products. It is my belief that this requirement would effectively put most, if not all of the distilleries in Alaska out of business. Without the ability to properly showcase their products, the cottage distillery business will soon be extinct.

It is my opinion that the board should opt to support responsibly operated new businesses in Alaska, not hinder them as this interpretation surely will.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lyni Borland  
Homer, Alaska

**From:** Andra  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** AMCO Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Sunday, December 03, 2017 9:47:52 PM

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As a member of the public I do not support these regulations nor the boards current direction regarding the management of distilleries

The same amount of alcohol is consumed no matter if it's mixed or straight . What you are proposing is people throw back two shots of liquor straight and have them drive to their next outing. Your logic is reprehensible and just plain dumb. What authority does the board have to regulate how something is tasted? What industry wouldn't present its product in the best way possible? Isn't that part of being succesful-to provide the public what they want and how they want it?

I am a public servant working for the State of Alaska too. I uphold fairness and neutrality towards the public I serve on a daily basis. Ms. McConnell's actions are not in the public's best interest; instead they are a shameful manifestation of her personal opinions and cleary a personal agenda against industries the public support and approved. Her words and actions are not about protecting the public's well being-its about her wanting to end small businesses she doesn't like. When someone goes so far as wanting to regulate fun and the way someone chooses to spend their personal time and money it's about what they don't personally agree with. It's an abuse of her position as a member of this board.

The distillery industry was operating just fine before the boards overreach. The board is wasting an enormous amount of time, effort and money to undermine small industries that produce revenue for the State in a safe and responsible manner.

Andra Rozentals  
Sent from my Samsung Galaxy Tab® S

**From:** Jen Reid  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Port Chilkoot Distillery  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 5:52:47 PM

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Although I don't get there often I would like to share that the Port Chilkoot Distillery is a very responsible business that adds a lot to the flavor of our small, rural town of Haines. We citizens need a place like this where we can enjoy a quality, locally crafted beverage without the rowdiness of the local bars. It is a destination for a quiet rendezvous or a meeting place for an event. The staff do a great job of keeping things local. Please support our small businesses as we do in the community.

Thank you.

Jen Reid

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Dustin Craney  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 6:02:28 PM

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Hello,

I'm a resident of Haines Alaska. I support the ability of Alaskan distilleries to continue operating as they had been for the past few years before this discussion began. I support a re-write of the regulations to make sure that it's clear that distilleries can continue to showcase their products by serving them in the way they are most commonly consumed.

I don't believe distilleries have much of a conflict with local liquor licenses. The difference in hours, menu, and entertainment make these two type of establishments very different from a customer standpoint.

I believe a tasting room at a distillery should provide an environment to sample the product of the distillery as it is intended to be used. To me, this means a mixed drink using whatever ingredients the distillery staff think up. I've personally (as have others I've witnessed) been introduced to new drinks by the distillery staff which resulted in me purchasing distillery products to bring home and to make those things myself. It's the best way to showcase their product, and a completely different situation then when going to a bar.

Defining the rule such that patrons can only sample shots of hard alcohol, or must mix drinks on their own does not create more business for liquor license holders, does not showcase the product as distillery tap rooms are intended, and does not follow the best practices of distilleries all over the country.

Please consider clarifying the regulations so that distillery tasting rooms can continue to mix cocktails and showcase their products in the most effective way while providing good customer service to locals and tourists alike.

Thank you,  
Dustin Craney  
Haines, AK



**From:** Libby Jacobson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for tasting rooms  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 6:09:05 PM

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Hello,

My name is Libby Jacobson and I am from Haines Alaska. I am a student in California and when I come home for the summers and winter break, the distillery is my go to social hub. The distillery attracts a different crowd than our bars do, and I enjoy the upbeat setting our “Grundgy” bars don’t have. The tasting room is an AMAZING addition to this wonderful business and I would be absolutely devastated if I couldn’t get their local spirits mixed up into a delicious sample in this setting. Why ruin a great thing???

Libby

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Libby Jacobson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support for tasting rooms  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 6:09:05 PM

---

Hello,

My name is Libby Jacobson and I am from Haines Alaska. I am a student in California and when I come home for the summers and winter break, the distillery is my go to social hub. The distillery attracts a different crowd than our bars do, and I enjoy the upbeat setting our “Grundgy” bars don’t have. The tasting room is an AMAZING addition to this wonderful business and I would be absolutely devastated if I couldn’t get their local spirits mixed up into a delicious sample in this setting. Why ruin a great thing???

Libby

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Hannah Bochart  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Prohibition  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 06, 2017 6:14:28 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am a long time Alaskan resident and registered voter. I have recently become concerned about the proposed ban on allowing Alaska distilleries from providing mixed drinks to their clientele. The proposed law seems shortsighted and potentially harmful to local business. One of Alaska's biggest struggles is providing a functioning and unique economy for its citizens. Distilleries prove to be a singular and popular experience for both tourists and locals and are a boon to local economies. Restricting their ability to draw in business by forcing them to provide straight alcohol only runs the risk of having a negative impact on our economy. The point of distilleries are to demonstrate how consumers would use them in their favorite cocktails. Without the opportunity to sample spirits in their proper context deprives customers of making an informed choice. And asking customers to mix their own cocktails is absurd and will unquestionably lead to a decline in business.

Distilleries already function under several restrictions that prevent them being any competition to local bars. Having a 3oz limit puts them squarely in the context of a sampling space only. Furthermore, forcing tasting rooms to provide spirits in shot form only eliminates customers with sensitive palates or low alcohol tolerances.

Likewise, preventing said businesses from hosting First Friday art events, or as it was put "fun," etc, does nothing but hamper community events. I have heard no clear argument as to why this proposal is even in place. Community events do nothing but boost the market for local artists and creators. Again, a boost for our often struggling economies.

Alaska would do well to look at successful business models from the lower 48. Distilleries have been a staple there and operate under much looser guidelines than Alaska ever has. Belatedly changing the letter of the law to punish an already successful business model smacks of antiquated ideals and only serves to hold Alaska back from being a 21st century state.

In conclusion, our economy, at the local and state level, is already in jeopardy, and retroactively implementing restrictive and nonsensical laws upon local business people is counterintuitive to Alaska's prosperity.

I hope you will take time to read this letter and consider its points.

Sincerely,

Hannah Bochart of Haines, AK

**From:** Brook  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco@ced.org)  
**Subject:** Let our Distilleries Flourish  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:37:00 AM

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Hello,

I am a born and raised Alaskan. I want to weigh in on the regulation of our craft distilleries. I noticed that when a craft distillery opened up in my home town it gave people hope. A beautiful small business began flourishing in my small town. It became a gathering place for locals as well as a small beacon that our economy is not as broken as it sometimes feels in rural Alaska. Allowing the distillery's to provide mixed beverages shows off their product and encourages use of natural plants and berries found in abundance in Alaska. This waterfalls into other opportunities and inspires people to create wild syrups and bitters.

I have not once seen the tasting room in my home town become out of control as I have many of the bars. Without question they have always respected the limit imposed by the Alcohol Control Board. Tasting rooms are not at odds with the general public in anyway. They create a quiet, enjoyable, friendly and most important, a safe environment for customers to partake in an alcoholic beverage. If we want to consider limiting alcohol in the state maybe we should start with changing our bar closing time. Allowing our tasting rooms to serve their beverages with mixers keeps our distilleries up to par with the many others across the nation. I urge you not to take away a budding economic opportunity. Do not revoke the right of distilleries to create the best distillery experience that they aim for.

Thank you for your time,  
Brook Cinocco

**From:** Stephanie Plieness  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 11:03:48 AM  
**Attachments:** [5170E3B4-BE80-4C52-8E77-ECD20141A087f981.png](#)

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

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*Stephanie Plieness*  
Account Manager  
Thompson & Co. Public Relations  
**Anchorage** | Houston | New York City

P. 907.561.4488  
C. 561.329.5934  
[thompsonpr.com](http://thompsonpr.com)



**From:** Brad Fleming  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 11:09:41 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Brad Fleming

2632 W. 66th Street

Anchorage AK. 99502



Brad Fleming  
920 254 6778

**From:** Patricia Sharp  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:38:45 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely, Patricia Sharp

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Breanna Walker  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:44:42 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Breanna Walker



**From:** Debbie Driscoll  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:47:28 PM

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**RE:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. Specifically, I am against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is my understanding that it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. This proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am opposed to the proposed regulation changes as I believe the limitations created will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most.

I urge the ABC Board not to adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Thank you for your time.

Debbie Driscoll

Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Leah Krafft  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:50:29 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

Amalga distillery has created a wonderful and welcoming space for Juneau - it's been such a great addition to Downtown Juneau. I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Leah Krafft

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Jill Taylor  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco.regs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 3:56:40 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Jill Taylor

115 Gastineau Avenue

Juneau Alaska

**From:** Jonathan Wood  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:02:57 PM

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**I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."**

**The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.**

**I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.**

**Sincerely,**

**Jonathan Wood  
Juneau, AK**

**From:** Cheryl Weston  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:04:22 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—  
I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Thank you ,  
Cheryl Weston

**From:** Audrey Buma  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:20:44 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

Please continue to allow the distilleries to serve drinks. It is a great place to go and has a positive impact on the downtown community in Juneau.

Sincerely,

Audrey Buma  
Juneau resident

**From:** Kaia Rongstad  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:24:21 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am **not** in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Kaia Rongstad

**From:** Laurel Shoop  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:38:24 PM

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To whom it may concern,

**I DO NOT SUPPORT the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304.375** of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. At what point does the sugar that was added to the wort become part of the product? Will you disallow sugar to be added the product post distillation? Are you regulating sugar? Water? Ice cubes?

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides NO BENEFIT to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small business, and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to NOT adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Laurel Shoop



**From:** Laurel Shoop  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 4:38:24 PM

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To whom it may concern,

**I DO NOT SUPPORT the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304.375** of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. At what point does the sugar that was added to the wort become part of the product? Will you disallow sugar to be added the product post distillation? Are you regulating sugar? Water? Ice cubes?

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides NO BENEFIT to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small business, and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to NOT adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Laurel Shoop

**From:** Tom Meiners  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 5:06:48 PM

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Dear Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am vehemently opposed to the ABC boards proposed regulation changes to 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically upset and disturbed by proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distiller can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery "product".

These regulations appear designed to stifle the success of new alaskan businesses who are 100% compliant with the law as it currently stands. The mixing of alcohol with non alcoholic products does not change the amount of alcohol that it consumed, it simply shows off characteristics of the distilleries products and creates a taste for a well mixed cocktail.

These regulations are against the will of the alaskan people and enacting them will have negative consequences on not only the distilleries, but the neighboring restaurants, shops, and bars.

The only way I can possibly understand these regulations is if their goal is to make distillery tasting rooms a less enjoyable experience, to keep people out of them, to keep people from coming into the downtown areas that many of these tasting rooms are located in and spending their money throughout the local community, or maybe just to drive creative new entrepreneurs out of the state. Are we not in a statewide recession? Shouldn't we be encouraging businesses like this to thrive? Instead we are enacting new laws that force these young businesses to completely change their business plans, plans which currently follow the letter of the law.

Young distilleries like Amalga have people excited. They are distilling and crafting beverages using distinctly local ingredients, making delicious things entirely from scratch, introducing people to flavors and combinations that they previously were unfamiliar with. It is truly new and exciting work that is being done in Alaska, by Alaskans. This work bolsters all businesses in the downtown area of Juneau. It is part of a grassroots effort by Alaskans to update and modernize food culture in town and the city is starving for it. Stifling this business out of jealousy doesn't mean that it will allow bars to make it up. On the contrary, these new regulations will hurt the neighboring establishments and hurt the downtown economy on the whole.

I urge you not to support the proposed new regulations.

-Tom Meiners  
805 Goldbelt  
Juneau AK 99801

**From:** Randy Brannan  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 6:02:37 PM

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## Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Randy Brannan

**From:** Will Geiger  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 6:03:22 PM

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As a lifetime resident of Juneau, I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Will Geiger

**From:** Rachelle Smith  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 7:04:39 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Rachelle Smith  
907.209.7993

**From:** Monica Hampton  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 8:31:25 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Monica Hampton

**From:** Dave Nuetzel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 8:55:23 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Dave Nuetzel

Sitka, AK

**From:** Christal Higdon  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:04:35 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Christal Higdon

Juneau, AK

Sent on the go!



**From:** Juneau Jester  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Distillery  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:34:06 PM

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Please use common sense when it comes to a micro-distillery like AMALGA...

They provide income to downtown Juneau which has been losing jobs, and are strictly regulated whereby they are only allowed to serve two drinks and not have any entertainment on the premises. In fact, I believe they are actually a feeder business to the other local bars and restaurants in town to booster the downtown economy of Juneau and are being hamstrung by loopholes in the law that make no sense whatsoever.

I have been a small business owner in Juneau for 15 years, and I believe that regulations that stop the intrapreneurially based spirit because of regulation that is dated and not well thought out will only hurt our downtown businesses and good people like Brandon and Maura will simply leave town and start up shop somewhere else, and they will take the jobs with them...leaving us locals with less options and a bitter taste in our mouth from how this matter is being handled.

Capt. Jeff Polizzotto  
907.321.7077

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Lisa Daugherty  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Atlin Daugherty](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:40:52 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Daugherty

**From:** Laura  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS. \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 9:57:28 PM

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**To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board**

**Please do not take measures to destroy yet another small business that keeps our Alaskan community spirit alive and well.**

**The distillery in Haines is not just a place to have a drink; families, friends and visitors to Haines gather here. It is an asset to our community and something Haines can boast about. It is a place visitors to Haines can't believe our small, isolated community has. Our distillery is something very special! Alaska needs these gems - businesses built on wild ideas and incredible hard work.**

**The limitations that will be placed on Alaskan distilleries by the possible implementation of these new measures will not only stifle their growth but the growth of many other surrounding, small businesses. It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients, which, in Haines, is largely supplied by another small business, again built on hard work and a wild idea!**

**I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code and I am specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."**

**Please come and visit Haines and truly listen to the people who have built these businesses. Get to know us, perhaps, over a drink. I know this great distillery...**

**Sincerely,**

**Laura Rogers**

**From:** Andy Passic  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamcoregs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Tasting Rooms  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 10:15:07 PM

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My wife and I visited Amalga's tasting room in Juneau this summer. I'm in the Coast Guard and have been to Juneau for work during each summer for the majority of the last 10 years. I was blown away by the entrepreneurs at Amalga and all that they accomplished in such a short time. We each had one of their signature cocktails and despite not being fans of gin, thoroughly enjoyed them. I left Juneau impressed by some of the new businesses downtown, more so than any other trip I'd taken. Amalga embodies the Alaskan spirit. Please fix Alaskan's liquor and tasting room regs to allow them to continue business as they were doing this summer.

Thank you,  
Andy Passic  
Homer, AK

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Andy Passic  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco@ced.org)  
**Subject:** Tasting Rooms  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 10:15:07 PM

---

My wife and I visited Amalga's tasting room in Juneau this summer. I'm in the Coast Guard and have been to Juneau for work during each summer for the majority of the last 10 years. I was blown away by the entrepreneurs at Amalga and all that they accomplished in such a short time. We each had one of their signature cocktails and despite not being fans of gin, thoroughly enjoyed them. I left Juneau impressed by some of the new businesses downtown, more so than any other trip I'd taken. Amalga embodies the Alaskan spirit. Please fix Alaskan's liquor and tasting room regs to allow them to continue business as they were doing this summer.

Thank you,  
Andy Passic  
Homer, AK

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Alisa Marie  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 10:46:47 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Alisa Beske

**From:** Kathryn K Bausler  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** I support Alaska's Craft Distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 07, 2017 11:18:40 PM

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Hello,

I understand prohibiting distilleries from serving distilled spirits along with non-alcoholic ingredients is under consideration by the ABC board. This proposal is anti-small business and anti-economic development.

Craft distilleries are a healthy addition to Alaska's diversifying economy. Patrons may start an evening "out on the town" at a distillery and then move on to bars and restaurants nearby. That means more revenue for both businesses and the city or town where they are based.

And, in a state rife with the negative effects of over-alcohol consumption, distilleries encourage tasting and consuming of alcohol in moderation.

The growth of distilleries in our state is a win win for both business owners AND towns and cities. Please don't make it lose, lose for Alaska and Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Bausler  
Douglas, Alaska

**From:** Lisbet Norris  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 12:38:26 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, **it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.**

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I'm a small business owner myself, and I am not in favor of the attempt to limit the wonderful craft distillery industry here in Alaska. These businesses are not taking any business away from the bars!! I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Lisbet Norris  
Lead Guide, Co-Founder  
Arctic Dog Adventure Co.  
(907) 841-4694  
[www.arcticdogco.com](http://www.arcticdogco.com)  
@arcticdogco



**From:** alaskamanuel@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment regarding 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 6:29:17 AM

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To whom it may concern,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code.

It seems ridiculous to me that the abc board should regulate non alcoholic beverages. Or that the addition of such mixers at a distillery somehow creates more competition for bars!

There are already enough restrictions on distillery and brewery tasting rooms to effectively make them unable to compete with bars. Not that the abc boards role is that of creating a non competitive market for bars!

In my opinion, in a tasting room, a person should be able to sample a product in the fashion they would at home, should they also decide to buy a bottle.

Kind regards  
Manuel Rogers

**From:** Andria Bond  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 7:10:16 AM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Yours Truly,

Andrea Bond

**From:** Leslee  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Restrictions on distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 7:17:17 AM

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Please do not implement new restrictions on distilleries that prevent them from serving mixed drinks. The alcohol limit is still observed and controlled so that should be enough.

**From:** Kim Huffington  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Cc:** [huffingtonmk@aol.com](mailto:huffingtonmk@aol.com)  
**Subject:** Prohibition was repealed!  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 7:43:48 AM

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Alaska has many other important issues to deal with regarding alcohol. Please shift your attention to working with your counterparts to prevent underage drinking and driving under the influence. Craft distilleries do not contribute to either of these issues. By handcuffing their ability to mix their products you are limiting their livelihood.

And not allowing events? I can't even!

Please support our local companies and thus our communities by lifting your ban on mixed drinks in distilleries...and shouldn't we want to laugh and have fun in 2018? 2017 has certainly been a depressing one so help start 2018 on the right foot.

Kim Huffington  
207 Snowy Owl Lane  
Fairbanks AK 99712  
907-374-3252

Sent from my iPad

**From:** mj.meiners1@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 7:54:08 AM

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Dear Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

Here's the main thing, and if you read nothing else, I hope you read this- **it is not in your power to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients**. You'd find yourself opening the flood gates if you erroneously decide that this is your jurisdiction. This is an egregious overreach on your part, and I strongly suggest you stay within the realm where you belong.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit isn't changing. The 3oz of alcohol still remains. I'd be happy to explain why it is that when you add other things like syrup or soda to the 3 oz of alcohol, the total ozs grow, but it's still only 3 oz of alcohol, if you'd like.

Furthermore, just because you're seeing business drop at the other shady bars downtown, doesn't mean that you need to fault the small business down the street. This is what competition looks like. It's a sore loser move to regulate your competition into the ground.

I am publicly voicing my strong opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Maggie Meiners

**From:** Brian Buma  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 8:21:50 AM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

Please stop this unnecessary infringement on business rights, overreach by the state government, and truly strange decision given the current and ongoing success of these small businesses in Alaska.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the AAC, specifically the proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit remains the same, and there is only benefits to the community in that small businesses are currently thriving - a change would be detrimental to the overall employment and enjoyment of the community. I have two small children and I'm saying these businesses are improving downtown!

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry (a rapidly growing economic segment nationwide, and one in which Alaska could actually compete quite well given the niche), small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Brian Buma

Juneau, Alaska (downtown resident)

**From:** Carl Reese  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco.regs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Non-alcoholic ingredients at distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 9:11:40 AM

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Thank you for considering my comments and please do not ban the use of non-alcohol ingredients at distilleries. I would like you to consider your mission statement to:

*“Enforce alcohol and marijuana commerce laws and provide clear, consistent standards for licensure to protect the public from harm.”*

How does it cause harm for an adult Alaskan to have a mixed drink at distillery? I can have a serving of gin and the state thinks there is no harm. I agree that there is not harm. However, I question how is there a harm to the public if the gin is mixed with tonic water? Regulations banning a gin and tonic, or any mixed drink at a distillery, are in no way in the public interest and are clearly punitive to distilleries trying to operate businesses in the state.

Banning a mixed drink at an establishment that is legally allowed to sell distilled spirits is arbitrary and capricious and an overreach of state jurisdiction. Furthermore, banning distilleries from mixing drinks dampens business, harms the public interest, and squashes individual freedom. It is not in the mission statement of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board to meddle in how I drink my booze. I am 55 years old and I am tired to the state treating adult Alaskans and business owners like we are children. I don't mean to sound rude but it just seems silly that we are even having a conversation about whether it's okay to mix tomato juice with vodka at an establishment where it's legal to sell vodka.

Thank you for considering my comments and please continue to allow distilleries to serve drinks mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients.

--

Carl Reese,  
6748 Gray Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 723-9323

**From:** Courtney Wendel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamcoregs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** I support Alaska's craft distilleries such as Amalga  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 9:44:02 AM

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Good morning,

Though I understand the concern that without regulation craft distilleries might start mixing alcoholic drinks in the same fashion that bars do, but I feel that this regulation is over-reaching in prohibiting distilleries from serving drinks mixed with their product and **non-alcoholic ingredients**. I agree that bars should be the ones mixing alcohols from the liquor store, but this regulation limits much more than that. I support distilleries such as Amalga mixing their gin with non-alcoholic ingredients such as grapefruit juice, lime, soda, or other ingredients that can be purchased in a grocery store. I do not see how mixing their product with non-alcoholic mixers infringes upon bars, as it only goes to show customers the many ways their product can be enjoyed. By allowing distilleries to make mixed drinks, they are opening up their customer base to people who like sweet drinks, people who like tart drinks, people who like strong drinks, and people who might have a low alcohol tolerance but still want to enjoy adult beverages just the same. What my dad prefers to drink is the opposite of what I like to drink, and allowing distilleries such as Amalga to mix their gin with other mixers for us allows us all to enjoy their product. This increases Amalga's sales, strengthens our local economy, and allows all types of drinkers to come together over a common gin.

I do not see how this regulation is supportive of generating new businesses opportunity and growing our local economies, supporting current businesses, or fostering creativity and ingenuity in our locals to fill niche markets. Alaska is a great state and we have great people with great ideas; this regulation stifles that greatness with no logical reason as to why. Again I support bars mixing alcohols and distilleries mixing their product with non-alcoholic ingredients, but that is NOT what this regulation does, and therefore I will actively fight against it in support of distilleries such as Amalga.

Respectfully,

Courtney Wendel

PS, I hope you will see by the number of comments and people reacting on social media that distilleries such as Amalga also create a sense of community that may or may not have an economic dollar value but is nonetheless culturally important. Weather it be a community of people who just love gin, people who support their friends in the community, or those like myself who support locals who had an idea, did their research, financially committed to it, invested the infrastructure in our community and kept it local, and made their dreams happen. I would hope that our regulations would strive to support the latter as well.



**From:** Hannah Wilson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Distillery Restrictions  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 12:13:34 PM

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To the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

Please do not change the laws regarding the products served at Alaskan distilleries. Not only would this unfairly affect small business owners throughout the state who are providing jobs and high quality local products to their communities, it would also have a negative impact on what has become an important community gathering place, particularly in Juneau.

Because distilleries are not open late or able to serve more than two, relatively low alcohol drinks, they fill a niche different from bars. They create a space where people can gather without being surrounded by others who maybe be unpleasantly inebriated, and create local pride with their excellent locally made products. The Amalga Distillery in Juneau has quickly become a much-loved community space because of it's open and welcoming atmosphere, and changing tasting room laws would absolutely damage that.

Do not punish popular local businesses. Allow Alaskan distilleries to continue operating as they currently do.

Sincerely,

Hannah Wilson

Juneau

**From:** Blake Hass  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 12:42:11 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

My biggest issue with the proposed changes is how the law is interpreted. Though my background is not in law or politics, I do know that laws are written to explicitly prohibit something. This law seems to be interpreted as what you explicitly can do, not the former; which seems very unconstitutional to this "average Joe".

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Blake Hass

**From:** Anya Goropashnaya  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 1:35:16 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Anna Goropashnaya

**From:** Caleb Wylie  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 2:01:29 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Caleb Wylie

Douglas, AK

**From:** Lauren Verrelli  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 3:25:18 PM

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Dear Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

It's a shame you're even considering trying to put a dark cloud over community gathering spaces, alter young, new, adventurous LOCAL business plans and all around hurt economic growth within our Alaskan communities. You must never have experienced the community these distilleries create--they're inviting, warm, fun, creative, instagramable, community centered, relaxing, exciting, eye-opening, all in all, they're somewhere you look forward to spending time at. Its bonus you get to drink their locally crafted liquor and mixers. They're like works of art.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight.

Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. The government is overstepping all around the country right now, it has no right in regulating the non-alcoholic ingredients in my drink.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written. Our world is in a dark place right now, and honestly, my two drinks at Amalga bring a little light to what is happening around. Please do not take my drink away from me.

Sincerely,  
Lauren Verrelli

Juneau, AK

**From:** Naomi Davidson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 3:44:37 PM

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I am writing to urge you to Support Alaska's Tasting rooms - as they are today and oppose any of the proposed changes. I do not support the proposed changes, especially as they define what a distillery can serve and is considered "product". The proposed changes will have a direct negative impact on new small businesses, the section Alaska needs to grow to encourage people to stay here - especially as our state budget continues to be a mess. It also will have longer range unintended consequences of preventing any new entrepreneur from choosing Alaska as a place to begin their business. If there are too many controls and barriers to serving quality product, then those businesses will not call Alaska their home.

I am in favor of the consumption limit of 3 oz. at a distillery, regardless of the mixing, but the proposed changes which would limit this - to the extent that they cannot even include a lime wedge with a beverage - is of absolute no benefit to the public. Nor does it do a disservice to bars that may feel threatened by the success of Alaska's new distilleries and tasting rooms. The purpose of a tasting room is to serve and highlight high quality spirits. This intent is not aligned nor is it competition to a bar, and it's a mistake to think it is.

Further, I question the authority of the ABC board to extend their authority to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Thank you,  
Naomi Davidson  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Joshua Lindgren  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery tap rooms  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 3:46:04 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I'm writing to express my deep concern about the way the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board has been treating distillery tap rooms in Alaska. Any regulation that stops these tap rooms from serving mixed drinks is anti-competitive and bad for consumers. Furthermore, these regulations put Alaska at a disadvantage in the quickly growing and highly lucrative American craft distilling industry. Distilleries in other states benefit from successful tap rooms to spread awareness about their products, and to financially support these small companies as they try to grow. As long as Alaska enforces these regressive, anti-business policies, other states, as well as foreign liquor markets, will continue to dominate one of the biggest growth sectors in the beverage industry. I hope you will consider loosening restrictions on the use of mixers in tap rooms.

Best Regards,  
Josh Lindgren

**From:** Kristen Gallo  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Save our awesome industry!  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 4:06:31 PM

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To the control board:

Please continue to allow for AK distilleries to continue to showcase their awesome products! There are a few reasons this is important in my humble opinion.

1. Distilleries of AK are great for the tourist industry as well as an export for our great state.
2. Distilleries only serve limited amounts of alcohol, and are open limited hours, they do not take business from other established bars.
3. It's also a great way to bring our community together!

Please support local Distilleries as a strong part of Alaska's economy and community.

Sincerely,

Kristen Olive

Fairbanks, AK

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Starr Parmley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Distillery Advisory—Interpretation of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e). Regulation Proposals by SOA-CCED-AMCO  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 4:33:08 PM

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Vice Chair Ganley and Members of the ABC Board:

The addition of a more stringent definition of distillery product strikes me as overreach into a private enterprise that is providing a strongly desired service to the public in addition to out of state travelers. I believe there is an opportunity that has been presented to the board that will steer the future of an entire industry that is growing quickly. Placing hasty definitions in place to "fix an issue" would not serve the best interest of my community and your customers; the citizens of Alaska and our flourishing tourism industry. I strongly recommend that the members of your board do not blindly follow the direction of the executive branch, but rather exercise sound judgment in the face of an audience of your peers.

Many responsible Alaskans, such as myself, frequent tasting rooms to not drink straight hard alcohol, but to drink two beverages responsibly at an establishment that does not stay open past 8pm. The addition of other flavors produced by any means on site should remain as an option to our businesses. I can speak for my friend and peer group, which encompasses state executives as well as local professionals and entrepreneurs of similar stature, in stating that we are not likely to continue frequenting an establishment that only serves hard alcohol. Further, the demographic and clientele that visit many distilleries cannot be accessed by an Alaskan "bar" because the same regulations inherent in a tasting room contribute to the upscale and boutique nature of the business.

Finally, our local distillery in Juneau is a hub of social activity that provides much needed business competition to the one additional upscale bar. While the impacts of your decision may not be your charge, I encourage you to consider the ramifications of your actions and what those decisions will mean for the future of an entire Alaskan industry. Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me with questions at your leisure. (c) 942-3849

Respectfully,  
Captain Starr Parmley, MS-QSM, CFI, CFII, PMP  
Professional Entrepreneur  
Business Owner - Sail Alaska LLC  
Commercial Pilot - USCG Search & Rescue  
Commercial Master - S/Y PROVIDENZA  
Wildland Firefighter - FFT2  
Program Manager - SOA  
Alaskan - Kodiak/Juneau

9491 Vintage Blvd, Juneau, AK

**From:** Jesse Krebs  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304, To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 9:32:53 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Jesse

**From:** Pamela Garcia  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery  
**Date:** Friday, December 08, 2017 11:05:31 PM

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I do Not support distilleries being able to act like bars. They go into business as if they're going to be a distillery, but most of their income is derived from operating like a Bar rather than distributing their alcohol out the door for resale.

Their "tasting" rooms are not really tasting rooms as they are selling mixed drinks made mostly from ingredients that they are not producing.

They are in direct competition with bars that have actually paid for a hard alcohol license.

I request that restrictions be put on distilleries. Distill alcohol and sell it wholesale. Currently they are taking advantage of the lack of oversight from the State Alcohol Board and are garnering support from locals that are unaware of the details.

Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Daniel F Kirkwood  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 6:45:53 AM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

It seems to me that the distilled spirit is an element of the distillery's product. The presentation of their product, through atmosphere and non-alcoholic ingredients seems to place an arbitrary limit on our innovative small businesses with no benefit to the public.

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Dan Kirkwood

Juneau Alaska

--

Daniel F. Kirkwood  
[dfkirkwood@gmail.com](mailto:dfkirkwood@gmail.com)

**From:** coleman stanford  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 6:47:33 AM

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**Subject line:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

**From:** Kathy McCasland  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting rooms  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 1:53:20 PM

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I totally support the tasting rooms. We have young people creating awesome opportunities for people to taste drinks. It is so unfair that they were okay to serve and now they are under attack. Please support our locals offering a tasting room. I approve this tasting room  
Sent from my iPad. Kathy

**From:** Kayla Harmon  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Support for distillery tasting rooms  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 2:32:52 PM

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My name is Kayla Harmon. I am a 4th generation Alaskan that is in support of tasting rooms at breweries and distilleries. They provide great atmosphere and are a positive asset to my community and the greater Alaskan community.

They should absolutely be allowed to mix their product with other ingredients. It inspires the customer that purchases their product to make it at home. This seems archaic and regressive with national industry norms.

Please add me to the LONG list of Alaskans that support these businesses without cruel restrictions. They make our city great! They generate tax dollars!! They employ locals!!!

cheers,

Kayla Harmon  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Maren Balke  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 4:20:22 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Maren



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)



**From:** Nolan Davis  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 4:57:34 PM

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ABC Board,

Seriously?? Your proposition is blatant governmental overreach.

How can you seriously regulate non alcoholic ingredients? Ridiculous.

Amalga Distillery, in Juneau, is widely popular and full everyday after work with professional types, like myself. I do NOT, and my colleagues, do NOT want to go to a bar after work to socialize. The distillery provides a classy, respectable atmosphere not found elsewhere in Juneau. These establishments are abundant in every city in the rest of the USA and is something that honorable professionals have been wanting in Alaska's capital. The legal limit for the tasting room and the mandatory closing time does NOT put this establishment in competition with bars.

Do NOT over regulate this industry to the dismay of our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nolan Davis DDS

**From:** Jeannette Cook  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Saturday, December 09, 2017 5:15:56 PM

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Hello,

I am an above-21 year old resident of Juneau Alaska for several years and registered voter.

I am writing in opposition to recent efforts to restrict distilleries from activities that have long been acceptable under the state law governing distilleries.

First, as a resident of Juneau and patron of many bars and the distillery, it is obvious that Juneau's distillery is very different in form and function from the bars in town that are more traditionally regulated under liquor licenses. The limits to time and number of drinks are highly adequate in limiting the contribution of alcohol in the community in general, thus to my understanding does not interfere with the intents of the separate licensing and regulatory statutes. I also know from the hand stamps and requests to leave at closing time, that the Juneau distillery strictly and respectfully complies with the rules that are explicitly stated. They built their business under full acceptance of those rules and are not seeking any change to the fair expectation of these rules.

Everything else is irrelevant to the Alcohol Control Board. It is not your job to limit community gathering spaces. It is not your job to regulate competition among individual business owners, protect bar owners from reasonable business environment, and DEFINITELY not your job to regulate sale of sodas, fruit, and ice.

Leave the distilleries alone; or at most, thank them for their contribution to local industry and production. Thank them for a unique role in local economies if they happen to also provide brightly lit, early-closing, beautifully-designed tasting rooms that AREN'T associated with over-intoxication, and the personal and public health and safety problems that go along with it. It's not a bar. It's not breaking your rules. People like it. Do your job.

Thank you,  
Jeannette Cook, MD

**From:** Larri Spengler  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 10, 2017 9:56:32 AM

---

Greetings:

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Larri Spengler

Larri Irene Spengler  
4545 Thane Road  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
907-586-9768 (phone/fax)  
[lspengler@ak.net](mailto:lspengler@ak.net)

**From:** Lydia Steele  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** In support of our State's craft distilleries  
**Date:** Sunday, December 10, 2017 12:04:33 PM

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I'm writing to you to declare my support for Alaska's craft distilleries to continue serving the products that locals and tourists alike have grown to love and enjoy. These establishments have several regulations they already must follow that distinguish them as different from a bar. The public enjoys the friendly atmospheres of craft distilleries and the opportunity to taste finely crafted products in a responsible manner.

As a nurse, I can tell you with certainty that establishments with a two-serving limit of house-made products are not where our State's public health and substance abuse crises are arising from, but they could become a part of the problem if you deem it that craft distilleries should serve only straight spirits and turn them into in-and-out establishments. Even the possibility of a "mix-it-yourself" alternative is an infection control risk to the public. The decision for craft distilleries to serve only straight spirits would not only be irresponsible and reckless, but it would be a major loss for the communities of Alaska who enjoy meeting friends and coworkers in these lovely "sipping" establishments. Furthermore, craft distillery owners who invested their time, money, and effort to deliver their dream to communities and tried their hardest to do this in compliance with Alaska's ABC regulations are now facing murky futures for themselves and we risk losing these entrepreneurs to other states that are more liberal in this regard.

Please consider these comments when you make your decision.

Lydia Steele

**From:** burly\_girl84  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery friend  
**Date:** Sunday, December 10, 2017 1:30:14 PM

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I support the distilleries in Alaska and would like to see them continue to thrive. I believe the distilleries should be allowed to sell mixed drinks. Thank you.

Kimberly Robson

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Megan Behnke  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 10, 2017 3:55:02 PM

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Greetings:

I do not support the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I am especially against subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Megan Behnke

[megan.i.behnke@gmail.com](mailto:megan.i.behnke@gmail.com)

**From:** Steve Behnke  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment: opposing regulatory changes to 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 10, 2017 7:49:24 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I oppose the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I don't think proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product" makes sense.

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Adopting the proposed changes would unfairly limit distilleries and provide no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

These limitations would stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Steve Behnke  
4545; Thane Rd.  
Juneau, Ak 99801

(907) 586-9768

**From:** Kaila Buerger  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 10, 2017 8:05:12 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

This legislation also directly impacts myself, as I am the owner of a new small business in Juneau, Alaska called Alaska Probiotics. My business brews and kegs Kombucha (a very healthy, fermented tea that is naturally carbonated). Kombucha is a very popular beverage to have on tap in states across the West Coast. Kombucha is enjoyed as a healthy alternative to soda (2-6 grams sugar per 12 ounce verses 40-50), a mechanism to improve health and probiotic counts, and makes a wonderful, healthy mixer when paired with artisan alcohol, such as Amalga Gin. My goal is to work with small businesses in Alaska to improve our local economy. Amalga is extremely supportive of small business and it would be a shame to take away the opportunity for lucrative community venues that promote positive alcoholic consumption.

Sincerely,

Kaila Buerger

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** josh chevalier  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 11, 2017 8:04:35 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely

Joshua chevalier

Sent via the Samsung GALAXY S® 5, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** [Fowler, Micaela R \(CED\)](#)  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Distillery legislation  
**Date:** Monday, December 11, 2017 3:37:33 PM

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Micaela Fowler  
Special Assistant  
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development  
907.465.2503(w)/907.209.3070(c)  
[micaela.fowler@alaska.gov](mailto:micaela.fowler@alaska.gov)

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**From:** maryanneandjim [mailto:maryanneandjim@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 11, 2017 3:25 PM  
**To:** Fowler, Micaela R (CED) <micaela.fowler@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Distillery legislation

For Director McConnell

I am very concerned by the proposed legislation curtailing the operation of local distilleries. It is an obvious effort to restrict them to the point they can't stay in business. My experience with these establishments is that they are very well run and the clientele is not what you would find in the many bars of this area. What other businesses have been so unfairly attacked by debilitating legislation of this sort? None that I'm aware of. Please see that this prejudicial legislation does not get enacted. Thank you! Jim Allan

**From:** Logan MacDonald  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 7:04:09 AM

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To the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Logan MacDonald

Fairbanks, Ak

**From:** Rick Driscoll  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 9:35:34 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Rick Driscoll

25120 Amalga Harbor Rd

Juneau AK 99801

**From:** Reservations by Randa  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:13:08 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304

Thank you.  
Randa Szymanski  
Haines, Alaska

**From:** rob weller  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 11:17:01 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

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Rob Weller

**From:** Sockeye Cycle Co  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 12, 2017 3:44:02 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

Many of our customers who come to Haines on vacation visit our neighborhood Port Chilkoot distillery to taste their products. I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Thom Ely  
President

Sockeye Cycle Co  
POB 829  
Haines, AK 99827  
907-766-2869  
[sockeye@cyclealaska.com](mailto:sockeye@cyclealaska.com)

**From:** Putt Clark  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulation  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:58:19 AM

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Given all of the valid concerns all parties have on this matter (both bar owners and distillery owners), I believe the laws as they currently stand are antiquated. Distilleries are the new kid on the block, so the laws haven't caught up with the trend yet.

Personally, I really support the distillery business. Ursa Major, for example, provides a well lit, reasonable hours venue that feels much safer than the average bar. For us, we found it perfect to go to Ursa Major, have a drink, then progress to the Blue Loon for dinner (and a glass of wine or two). The two businesses complement each other.

Rather than bar owners trying to shut down distilleries, they should all try to work together for a common solution. The only way that might happen, is if AMCO works closely with each party, creating new rules that are fair for both parties to follow.

I urge you to support not just the bars, but the distilleries too.

Thank you for your time,

Elizabeth (Putt) Clark  
Fairbanks



**From:** Greg Schlachter / Expedition Broker  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 10:01:58 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Regards,

Greg Schlachter

**From:** Dave Carrothers  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 1:16:37 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written. Distilleries don't compete with bars due to their limited servings and early closings. If anything people may stop at a distillery then head to a bar for TV viewing or entertainment, as well as other drinks not available at the distillery.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

Sincerely,  
David Carrothers  
PO Box 20676  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Mary Ver Hoef  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Please keep Alaska Distilleries unrestricted  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 3:37:27 PM

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Hello:

I am a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska, and would like to offer comments in support of allowing Alaska distilleries, wineries and breweries to serve their products in combination with other ingredients and also to host social events and gatherings in the the tasting rooms.

It is important as a customer to try alcohol as it might be consumed at home - that is in combination with other ingredients. Having the opportunity to try a wide variety of combinations helps when making purchase decisions, and is inspiring. This also goes with having wine and food pairing tastings, (ie, wine and cheeses) and also beer and food combination tasting events. As a local farmer, allowing distilleries, wineries and breweries to use local ingredients in combination with their products helps spur our overall Alaska economy!! Distilleries can become another small niche market for organic produce and flowers.

Allowing tasting rooms to host social events is also helpful to the Alaska economy!! Again, this is small Alaska businesses helping each other to the benefit of all. Art shows, music and drama events, poetry readings, slide shows at Alaska tasting rooms brings in customers for both the alcohol and artists. This is win-win-win for all.

In summary, I am against proposed changes to Alaska law that would restrict the business options of distilleries, wineries and breweries in what products they can serve and sell, and what social events they host. Let's support ALL Alaska small businesses!!

Sincerely,  
Mary Ver Hoef  
artist, farmer, consumer

**From:** fpescott@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Changes to Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:41:59 PM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I have been made aware of the proposed changes to how distilleries may serve beverages to customers. The changes are cause for concern. The ability for distilleries to serve mixed drinks provide customers, such as me, provide the following:

- a. an opportunity to sample a drink as I would drink it at home, as I generally do not drink hard liquor neat;
- b. allows and promotes the consumption of alcohol in moderation (as it is diluted) and responsibly; and
- c. demonstrates different flavors that match the drink, giving customers creative inspiration for how the item can be mixed.

Placing limits on the ability to mix drinks, places undue restriction on a business to fulfill customer's needs and expectations and would likely have a negative financial impact on craft distilleries, in particular.

Thanks for taking my comments into consideration.

Regards,  
Finella

Finella Pescott

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** Jeanne Kitayama  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed regulatory changes for distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 5:16:04 PM

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It is puzzling to find AMCO concerned with issues not aligned with alcohol regulation, but focused on the non-alcoholic mixers. To clarify that distilleries should only serve their own spirits is a concern that can be clearly defined, regulated; black and white.

3 AAC 304.375 is amended by adding new subsections to read:

(d) For the purposes of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e), a licensee, agent, or employee of a licensee may not combine the distillery's product with any other manufactured product, but may serve separately non-alcoholic ingredients, including fruit juices, spiced and flavored mixers, garnishes, and carbonated beverages.

This allows the distillery to serve liquor with typical mixers and garnishments,

As for this point in particular, it really makes no logical sense. What is the purpose, what difference does it make for the customer to mix the drink? If the purpose is to "see" the quantity of spirits in the glass, that will change within seconds as the customer pours in the mixer. It is not efficient, it does not allow the distillery to offer their products in their own unique presentations. Something this small is of undue concern for AMCO, and appears to be an extreme measure for petty control.

In these times and talk of declining economies in Alaska, it is most appropriate for our public agencies to support small business, particularly growing industries such as Alaskan distilleries.

Sincerely,  
Jeanne Kitayama  
Haines, AK. 99827

**From:** Alexandra Pierce  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:14:44 PM

---

Hello,

Please allow distilleries to serve mixed drinks in their tasting rooms. This supports local business and innovative Alaskan companies. I do not feel that distilleries compete directly with bars. If anything it supports the bar business because people often progress to bars after having a mixed drink at a distillery that would otherwise have been consumed at home.

Thank you,  
Alexandra Pierce  
Juneau

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** W Shipley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 13, 2017 9:58:33 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Wes Shipley  
[wshipley79@gmail.com](mailto:wshipley79@gmail.com)  
907-957-2181

**From:** Emily Deitz  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 10:23:35 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304

To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the

Sincerely,

Emily Deitz



**From:** Neil Nickerson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting Room Issues  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:04:28 PM

---

Hello,

I wanted to voice my support for distilleries in Alaska to be able to serve non-alcoholic mixers in their tasting rooms. They are limited to 2 drinks anyway so this should not be an issue, and their hours of operation are limited so are not a threat of becoming like a bar. Other states allow this, so it is fairly common.

I live in Juneau, and the opening of Amalga Distillery has been a huge draw to getting local people downtown who would not normally be there. Other businesses have benefited, in particular, restaurants and bars. It adds to our community and economy. We should be encouraging innovation where it doesn't hurt anyone.

I believe a particular business in Juneau thinks it is unfair competition, when he could actually benefit from it. Too bad. Amalga Distillery's hours are short, they close early, and patrons are looking for another place to go.

Thank you for your consideration.

Neil Nickerson  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Rob Borland  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:04:41 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Rob Borland

--

Slainte Mhath! (To good health)

**From:** Handsomerob94  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:06:34 PM

---

**Dear AMCO,**

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Kaari Busick  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:14:27 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. We need more innovation and small business growth, not less.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses, and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kaari Busick

Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Katherine DiCristina  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 1:17:51 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Katie DiCristina

**From:** Nancy Spencer  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting Rooms/Distillery  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 2:31:43 PM

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I am totally against the proposed changes in the operations of these tasting rooms. The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board is out of their minds trying to squash these fledgling types of businesses as they try and get this industry off the ground. It is just shameful!!

Nancy A Spencer

**From:** Max Stanley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment Regarding Proposed Changes to 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 4:01:16 PM

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AMCO,

I am writing to oppose the proposed changes to 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The proposal for section (d) is **absolutely absurd**. I imagine the intent of this change is to prevent cocktails from being served, but since AMCO cannot regulate non-alcoholic beverages this is the deterrent you came up with. Besides causing an inconvenience to the patrons (i.e. the people of Alaska) and stifling business (export businesses during a time when our state can use additional revenue) what does this do for Alaska as a whole? Think about how silly, and ineffective this regulation is.

Section (e) only seeks to inhibit businesses even more. Tasting rooms provide an enjoyable atmosphere where patrons can enjoy the "distillery's product". This translates into sales of the "distillery's product" for off-site consumption. Additionally service of the "distillery's product" in a tasting room creates a revenue stream that allows fledgling business to survive and begin to positively impact Alaska. I have been impressed by the philanthropic means these establishments have provided in their first years of business.

The distillery industry that has come about in the last few years is a significant net positive for Alaska. Why must AMCO create **regulation to inhibit business**? Why try and instigate **paternalistic and protectionist regulation**? Instead, think about progressive ways to help a new, innovative industry in Alaska.

Thank you,

Max Stanley

Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Tricia  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 6:01:55 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am VERY MUCH OPPOSED to the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

These are small Alaska businesses that have carved out a niche for themselves and there is quite clearly a market for their craft. Please do not hamper Alaskan business growth, or the important community gathering places these business foster.

We have much more important issues to tackle in our state.

Thank you for your time,

Patricia Blake, Fairbanks



**From:** Richard Wolf  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 6:15:33 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Best regards,

Richard Wolf

**From:** Kate von Rekowski  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco.regs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** 3 AAC 304.375, support the distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:18:35 PM

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I'd like to write a statement of support for all of Alaska's craft distilleries.

Firstly, I'd like to clarify what is proposed to be added to the regulations. In the copy found posted to the state website (<https://aws.state.ak.us/OnlinePublicNotices/Notices/Attachment.aspx?id=110127>), the regulation indicates that text that is bold and underlined indicates language being added; however, the only thing bold and underlined is the word "distilled" in 3 AAC 304.375 (c). But the new sections 3 AAC 304.375 (d) and (e) do not appear to be bolded and underlined.

The first time I went into the distillery in Juneau (Amalga), I went to the counter and got a small taster of the straight gin distilled onsite, since I felt that was the purest thing to do. I didn't love it, at least not enough to buy a bottle, probably because I don't drink straight gin often, and I didn't go back for months. When I finally did go back, I tried some of the mixed drinks, and really enjoyed them. The mixed drinks gave me ideas for how I could use the product at home, since with it being such a distinct tasting product different from other gins I have tried this was helpful marketing.

The constant influx of new ideas into the drinks on their list made me keep coming back to try them! And I got more ideas on how to use it, and then I bought a bottle. I'm not a heavy consumer of alcohol by any means, but because of the mixed drinks being such a success I do continue to go back regularly. I know there is some potential concern from businesses, of distilleries stealing business, but I can tell you, you're not losing my business. I do not go out on the town very often. They are not losing my business, but Amalga is gaining it, by presenting itself as a modern bright space that is enjoyable and comfortable in, and by doing innovative things and promoting and showcasing the truest uses of Alaska's bountiful resources. I really do not understand the point of taking away the ability of a business to show off and showcase options for use of its product to the public. It's not like a brewery, like beer, which can be just poured into a glass and served as is. Spirits are not generally used as a straight up item, they need accompaniments to show the strength and diversity of the product which is for sale.

For the success of the future of Alaska, we must do our best effort to encourage new entrepreneurs that are starting out and investing in Alaska, by setting policies which encourage them to stay operating here in Alaska. I don't think the best way to do that is to take away all their freedom to explore new and better ways of doing business. I know little of business, but I do know for certain that the distillery is a great new addition to the face of the downtown and reflects the future we want to head towards as a community. There is tremendous community support for this growth. I am certain it is a similar story for the other craft distilleries in Alaska. Please do all you can to not set undue burdens and restrictions on the growth and development of these burgeoning new businesses.

Kate von Rekowski  
Resident of Juneau

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Robert M. Heide Jr.  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 6:51:26 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Heide

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Robert M. Heide

**From:** Stephen Gasche  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); %20craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:CED_AMCO_REGS%20sponsored%20craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Support Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 8:31:20 AM

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I live in Juneau. I'm a retired high school math teacher. I feel Alaska Distilleries should be able to continue their practice in no less limited way. It is fun seeing this entrepreneurial spirit and how they are revitalizing downtown. I love how they are supportive of local artists and the community at large. Please do not limit any further how they operate their business,  
Stephen Gasche

**From:** Carl Olson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 11:55:55 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans and an unfair competitive maneuver bar the corrupt bar industry.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

**From:** John Halligan  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Cc:** [bob@anchorage-distillery.com](mailto:bob@anchorage-distillery.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 12:26:45 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am strongly opposed to the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." There have been no issues of safety, public health or excessive consumption at micro-distilleries in the state of Alaska since tasting rooms began serving alcohol as mixed drinks over 2 years ago. This a regulation in search of a problem.

The ABC Board's role has historically and specifically been to regulate distribution/sales of alcoholic beverages as a means of ensuring quality, safety and public health. The new regulations expand the reach of the Board's actions beyond what is their mandate and is an action that could actually harm safety and public health. The Board does not control what items may be mixed or served with alcohol in any other venue as long as the mixers/additional ingredients are not pharmacologically active. Furthermore, this decision seems to have been made by persons who do not understand the physiology of alcohol consumption and could result in significant harm. By serving "mixed drinks" with a larger volume the alcohol is diluted and is consumed slower leading to lower blood alcohol levels. I believe that this information was a pertinent part of the decision of the legislature's original language in not demanding that only "straight alcohol" be served in tasting rooms. Demanding that Distilleries only sell 3 ounces of straight liquor could lead to a very significant amount of alcohol taken orally in a short time frame with a rapid rise in blood levels and intoxication. This could lead to increased rates of driving while intoxicated and harm or death directly attributable to the actions of the ABC Board. This is an anathema to its mission and very poor public policy. A government regulation that is encouraging the public to "shoot 2-3 shots" and get in the car is simply a terrible idea!

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the

responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients and should be beyond the scope of its authority. Allowing the distilleries to sell mixed drinks, allows the public/consumer to try the product in a manner which they would most likely consume it at a bar or in their home. The majority of vodka and gin consumption is in the form of mixed drinks, not “straight up”. This regulation therefore limits the consumer from actually trying the product in a normal manner of consumption. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly adversely impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most and place the public at risk from intoxication. I think this is a very misguided effort to solve a “problem” that does not exist. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

John B. Halligan, M.D.

Majority Owner, Anchorage Distillery



**From:** Mary Sutkowski  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 2:09:23 PM

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**To:**

The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—  
I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Additionally,

I am not sure what prompts these sort of attacks on small, menial issues within the state of Alaska, when we have monumental challenges with addiction, homelessness, public assistance, energy, and climate change, that NEED attention. I understand that it is also not the job of the ABC Board to address all of these issues, however, they are all related and if you are creative and focused enough, you can create small positive changes that impact these other issues. For instance, Alaskan Brewing is "Beer Powered Beer." It uses the recycled grain to power their processes. Why not look into creative solutions for saving folks money and increasing efficiency to benefit the planet and our beautiful landscape that we have here in Alaska, rather than focus on just making life unnecessarily more difficult for folks trying to run a business and pursue their passion to create.

Thank you for hearing the citizen of Alaska out. I hope you strongly consider what the people really want, which causes absolutely no harm and does not warrant legislative attacks.

Kind regards,

Mary Sutkowski

**From:** jared shucha  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 2:21:15 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Jared Shucha  
1700 Glacier Ave.  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Chris Sergeant  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Kito, Sam \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 2:31:04 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

Thank you for taking the time to read my comment letter. I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes because I enjoy and value the experience I can currently have at places like Amalga Distillery in Juneau. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Chris Sergeant

4886 Steelhead St.  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

**From:** Ashley Prange  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 3:03:20 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Ashley A Prange

**From:** Jon Maakestad  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulation  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 3:48:53 PM

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Regulators,

This seems like a ridiculous waste of state resource and potential. Distilleries are a vibrant, growing industry. As a bonus, they tend to support other local businesses by buying local material to support their enterprises. It makes little sense to do anything but help grow a vibrant, budding industry at a time when our state is hurting for funding. We should be seeking to grow this new industry, not curtail it.

Jon Maakestad

**From:** Melissa Griffiths  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 4:45:15 PM

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## The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am firmly opposed to the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

Craft beverage manufacturing is a growing sector in Alaska's economy, especially important when we consider the state of the oil industry and state government, other major employers in the state. Craft beverage manufacturers have the ability to stimulate the economy if they can be successful — the board should allow them to be successful. I look to Alaskan Brewing Co. (my former employer) as an example of the potential our craft distillers have. Alaskan Brewing Co. not only provides jobs in Juneau (nearly 100 full-time, year-round employees, plus seasonal positions), but they also bring money into Alaska's economy from outside the state.

If our distilleries are blocked from serving their product as they are meant to be consumed — with other ingredients to create a cocktail — they will face challenges that will certainly impede growth, if not force some distilleries to shut down entirely. Amalga Distillery, for example, based on the business models of other distilleries in the state, leased a downtown Juneau location and invested heavily in renovating an empty storefront, contributing to neighborhood revitalization. Forcing the closure of that tasting room could be financially damaging to a company that was looking to add new employees and export outside of Alaska.

Having visited both Amalga Distillery and Port Chilkoot Distillery in Haines, I know the purpose of these tasting rooms is to share the products they are so proud to have created as they are meant to be enjoyed, and in a responsible fashion.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska

needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Melissa Griffiths

907-209-6798

Douglas, Alaska



**From:** khevron@warppmail.net  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 5:43:38 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I see Distillery Tasting rooms as promotion and they need to be able to entertain and sample drinks people actually want to try, at their tasting rooms. I see not downside to allowing this. The venue is different than bars, to which I never go, so there is no actual competition for my business.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
-Donovan Goertz  
Fairbanks, AK

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- - -

"But when we crave power over life- endless wealth, unassailable safety, immortality- then desire becomes greed. And if knowledge allies itself to that greed, then becomes evil. Then the balance of the world is swayed, and ruin weighs heavy in the scale." Ged  
<http://www.khevron.com> -Remodel Blog & Khevron's Heraldrydiculous  
Donovan Goertz, Heraldrydiculous on Facebook

**From:** jacindra franks  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 6:01:25 PM

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The proposed changes to 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code which will advance the limitations of Alaskan Distilleries is overreaching and inappropriate. It is not the duty of AMCO to instill such restrictions. The laws have been in place for three years without incident. Please do not allow your sights to be clouded by those that believe we are de facto bars. As a Distillery Manager, I can assure you, we are not.

Furthermore, it is irresponsible for us Alaskan TAP card holders to serve three ounces of straight alcohol, then encourage people to leave. We should be inviting them to linger as long as they choose.

The Alaskan Craft Distillery movement has kept stride with the country with an ongoing focus on best practices. However, with monopolistic per capita rules already over-regulating the sale of alcohol in our state, these restrictions will distract the future of those looking to grow our economy by opening small businesses. Do not recess our economy. Keep regulatory overreach at bay.

Sincerely,

Jacindra Franks

**From:** Stephanie Plieness  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for distillery regulation change  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 6:58:25 PM

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To the ABC Board,

It seems illogical at a time when our state is having such a tough time fiscally to put additional regulations on a growing industry.

Alaska distilleries provide jobs and support local agriculture.

As someone who has worked in the tourism industry for nearly a decade, I can tell you that craft distilleries are a draw for tourists. Making them less appealing by not allowing the craft producers to showcase the drinks as they were intended will hinder business and bring less money to the state.

Don't be absurd. Let the distilleries serve cocktails.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Callie Benjamin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Specialty drinks  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 7:36:15 PM

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Distilleries in Alaska will not survive unless you allow them to do specialty mix drinks.

Please rethink your regulation on this.

Kindest Regards,  
Callie Benjamin

**From:** Steve Adams  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed distillery regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 7:51:33 PM

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Proposed distillery regulations

Sirs:

I write in regards to the current regulation proposal on distilleries:

I've studied the proposed regulation changes, and quite frankly I can see no benefit to either the distillery or to the consumers. It seems to me that the new regulations would in no way protect the public from anything, and even worse, would add burdensome requirements for the distillers to try to follow. While it could be argued that it is not government overreach into an area of no real concern - if it looks like a duck, and walks like a duck.... Well anyway, I urge you to NOT adopt the proposed changes, and leave well enough alone.

Thank you for allowing me to comment on the proposal.

Steve Adams  
PO Box 81814  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708-1814  
907-455-7130

**From:** skater9618  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 11:20:23 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Wayne Kitt  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Drinks  
**Date:** Friday, December 15, 2017 11:20:23 PM

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I feel it's just as important for out of town folks trying to get a taste of Anchorage. Please don't pass this

**From:** Cedar Stark  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Don't ruin a good thing.  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 7:41:41 AM

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Please keep allowing distilleries to serve mixed drinks. It creates an atmosphere unique to these small communities and connects us to each other in ways you don't find at bars. The atmosphere also allows for you to relax and sober up before leaving and driving away.

It would also be very detrimental to these small businesses that have started and thrived on that being an option. Taking that away could very well put them out of business.

Please don't ruin a good thing. Thank you!

Happy holidays.

Sincerely,

Cedar Stark  
[cedarstark@gmail.com](mailto:cedarstark@gmail.com)



**From:** Shawn Eisele  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** I support distilleries offering mixed drinks  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 10:55:34 AM

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I am commenting on your proposed re-interpretation that would ban distilleries from offering mixed drinks.

You should not do that, and instead should interpret the regulations to continue allowing distilleries to offer mixed drinks. Doing otherwise puts an unnecessary burden on business and innovation.

While this board has a duty to enact policy limiting societal harms from alcohol, I've heard no evidence of distilleries being problem spots. To the contrary, their impact seems to encourage other establishments to up their game. Any choice you make to re-interpret the regulations should be driven by evidence that doing so fosters public safety. Without such evidence, you should decline to impose such a burden on business.

--

Shawn Eisele  
606 6th St. Juneau AK 99801

**From:** Shelsea Smith  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Tasting Rooms  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 11:11:12 AM

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To whom it may concern,

Please DO NOT restrict Alaska's distilleries from serving patrons non alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I, as an Alaskan, am proud to say that I can support a local business via their tasting room. I wholeheartedly believe in shopping local as much as possible and a large part of what makes distilleries successful is their tasting room. Having a local option when buying spirits is a truly amazing step forward for Alaska, and placing heavy restrictions on tasting rooms will have a significant and detrimental impact to their success.

Please DO NOT place restrictions on these local businesses that will set our economy back, not help move it forward.

Thank you for your time,  
Shelsea Smith  
Proud Alaskan Resident

**From:** James Mabry  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 2:17:35 PM

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Hello,. I know the below is boiler plate from the industry. However, I can not say it better. Please read it again and stand down from your desire to overreach. ...

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

James Mabry

**From:** Robert Allen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 2:47:27 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Robert C Allen Jr

1406 W 8th Avenue

Anchorage

**From:** billg  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Cc:** [billg](#)  
**Subject:** comments over limitations on craft breweries and distilleries  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 5:28:02 PM

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Hello,

I have been a steady patron of both local breweries and distilleries here in Fairbanks. I have watched both types of enterprises start up and develop here in the Fairbanks area and appreciate both the cost and effort along with dedication to providing a quality product as well as a great place to enjoy their creations and socialize.

I have personally spoken with owners and operators and have had tours of several of these new startups and am amazed at their hard work and determination at producing a quality product. You can tell from speaking with these individuals that have put considerable time and resources into making a go of it but also their passion for what they are producing.

It seems a shame that some petty comments, politics and jealousy are causing the board to look critically upon how these businesses are operating. It confounds me that serving a mixed drink at a distillery is frowned upon as if they are competing with local bars when in reality the amount of drinks and alcohol are already limited! This is a major plus over bars as no-one over indulges, sits on or falls off their stools and I dare to say no DUI's!

Having the customer mix their own drinks is an inconvenience and doesn't enhance the experience, having someone knowledgeable and who can interact with the customers does enhance the experience.

Finally in support of breweries and distilleries which are startup business that support the local economy and provide a unique service should be encouraged and supported. I think the board needs to expand their vision to embrace these local establishments that cater to locals and not clamp down and stifle a local home grown industry.

My two cents.

Bill Gregory

**From:** Cole Deal  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 6:00:59 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Cole Deal

**From:** Nouyak Hamilton  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 6:25:21 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Nouyak Hamilton

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S8+, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** Rachel K  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Grave concerns  
**Date:** Saturday, December 16, 2017 9:07:14 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients!

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and breweries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans!

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Rachel Barber



**From:** Nicole  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 7:57:51 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Nicole

**From:** Jim Foster  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 8:16:59 AM

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Please support cottage industry in Akaka. These are the hard working Alaskans that make us great. Please don't shut down local commerce that serves locals and tourists alike. These tasting rooms are integral part of the distilleries advertising and marketing making them profitable. Thank you for your consideration..

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** William Howell Jr  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 10:05:53 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Bill Howell

**From:** Marta Lastufka  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Independent Distilleries  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 11:03:45 AM

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The ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code are simultaneously short sighted and over reaching. This is an example of poor regulation of a budding industry that is currently thriving.

If protection of Alaskans is the purpose of these proposed changes then you are protecting no one. If having an equal playing field is the purpose I don't believe the distilleries are a threat to bars. The people who enjoy going to bars will still go and the people like me, who never go to bars but appreciate the fun and familial atmosphere of our local creative distillery, will still not go to bars. I would stop going to my favorite distillery if these proposed changes go into effect. How would that be helping small businesses and local economies?

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Marta Lastufka

**From:** Casey @ Home  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 11:07:40 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Dr. Casey J Rudkin

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Kimberly McCray  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 2:47:40 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Webb

**From:** Morgan Michels  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 3:41:58 PM

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To the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

**From:** chris willis  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 4:12:33 PM

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**ATTN:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. The distilleries have the right to showcase their product to the consumer by creating drinks in the manner the consumer would. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

As a small business owner myself, I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I cannot believe the majority of Alaskans are in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Chris Willis

chris willis | 907.687.3491



**From:** James Harris  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting rooms  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 4:33:25 PM

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I firmly believe a bar should be a bar and a distillery should not act as a bar. Mixing drinks and charging for them is acting as a bar, some distillers aren't even wholesaling there product they are solely relying on tasting rooms for there income. This makes no sense to be why not package and sell your product, I feel the answer is obvious, they make muck more with little effort being a tasting room instead.

James Harris

**From:** Elena Weber  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 5:00:31 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Elena Weber

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Bridger Terra  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Step back on no fun!  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 5:34:36 PM

---

Dear Alcohol board Members,

I have traveled around the world and visited over 41 countries (Mostly Europe and Asia), and Alaska has some of the most restrictive Alcohol rules I have ever seen.

As an Adult, that is easily looking over 25 years old for over 15 years, I don't need my ID card checked nor do I need my personal information stored at a business when I want to purchase Alcohol. I shouldn't be limited at a tasting room, unless I am becoming impaired to the point of drunkenness.

As American we should have certain freedoms, but it seems not in this state. You shouldn't create burdensome laws about tasting rooms, fun, or mixed drinks.

You should require that service agents of Alcohol (waiters, bartenders, and cashiers and such) to only check ID of people who look younger than 25. We should ease the process of distribution of Alcohol not make it harder.

As a board you should make it illegal to record anyone (buyer of Alcohol) personal information including name, date of birth into any system or log, and any organization that does subject to a \$10,000 fine per entry. Buying alcohol shouldn't be treated like buying a gun.

I also think a fine should be made for any established enacting rules of checking IDs of anyone looking over 30 years of age at \$100 per check.

Lastly I think we should have discounted tax laws for locally produced alcohol.

Thank for reading my opinion,  
Bridger Terra  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** David Shaw  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Fun at Distilleries  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 5:52:59 PM

---

I'd like to express my concern about how the control board is treating distilleries. I'm not a big drinker and don't enjoy smokey bars, but I do appreciate small, local businesses. Here in Fairbanks the distilleries are enjoyable places to sip a cocktail and chat with friends. I can see no reason that this negatively affects anyone. Please allow them to continue serving our communities and providing pleasant places to spend a cold winter evening.

Sincerely,

David W. Shaw  
[www.wildimagephoto.com](http://www.wildimagephoto.com)  
[www.david-w-shaw.com](http://www.david-w-shaw.com)  
907-590-7023  
(Sent from a phone please excuse typos.)

**From:** Spencer Doll  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 6:37:52 PM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Spencer Doll

Fairbanks

**From:** ddnorstrom@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 8:12:57 PM

---

I think you're doing the right thing. A Distillery is not a Bar. If they are letting people try samples of their product at there production facility then that's all it should be. Not a place to hang out with friends and drink.  
Thank you.

**From:** Michelle Strickland  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Limits on Alaska Distilleries/Breweries  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 8:20:05 PM

---

I'm writing to express some thoughts regarding the ABC Board's proposals to limit operations at distillery tasting rooms.

As an occasional patron of these establishments, I'm not certain you understand that most people do not consume hard alcohol in straight shot-fashion. Mixers and garnishments offered to more closely approximate how the clientele would consume the product at home is a perfectly reasonable way to offer a sample of the product, and it's hard for me to understand what the objection to that might be. The distilleries' tasting rooms strictly adhere to the 3 oz. serving limit, and so the cocktail-style serving does not promote over-consumption of alcohol. Moreover, it seems to me that it would be safer to sip a beverage or two slowly than to down 3 oz. of straight vodka or gin, make your purchase, and then hustle on out of the door.

In that same vein, the very public battle between the board and Alaskan distilleries/breweries over the acceptable amount of "fun" that can be had at a tasting room has been puzzling. Any mild entertainment or activities to enjoy while a patron consumes their sample, or waits to make their purchase, is a reasonable safety measure to allow responsible consumption and subsequent transportation from the establishment. Again, there are serving limits that are strictly enforced, and so providing activities does not encourage patrons to hang around over-consuming, or create competition with the local bars that serve a very different kind of clientele. What is to be gained by restricting "fun" from such places, and to what extent do you intend to enforce that notion?

I'm proud of our locally owned distilleries and breweries, and would like to see the ABC Board putting their time and energy towards encouraging their success, rather than putting up obstacles and restrictions that don't serve any purpose of public safety.

Thank you for your time.  
Respectfully,

Michelle Strickland

**From:** Frank Boldt  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery tasting rooms  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 8:27:27 PM

---

I'm writing to express some thoughts regarding the ABC Board's proposals to limit operations at distillery tasting rooms.

In short, tasting rooms need to be able make mixed drinks, stop hindering a safer alternative to bars! These establishments have chosen to do tasting rooms instead of a liquor license and there is a good reason for that! We are a different clientele.

In more detail:

As an occasional patron of these establishments, I'm not certain you understand that most people do not consume hard alcohol in straight shot-fashion. Mixers and garnishments offered to more closely approximate how the clientele would consume the product at home is a perfectly reasonable way to offer a sample of the product, and it's hard for me to understand what the objection to that might be. The distilleries' tasting rooms strictly adhere to the 3 oz. serving limit, and so the cocktail-style serving does not promote over-consumption of alcohol. Moreover, it seems to me that it would be safer to sip a beverage or two slowly than to down 3 oz. of straight vodka or gin, make your purchase, and then hustle on out of the door.

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I'm proud of our locally owned distilleries and breweries, and would like to see the ABC Board putting their time and energy towards encouraging their success, rather than putting up obstacles and restrictions that don't serve any purpose of public safety.

Thank you for your time.  
Respectfully,  
Frank Boldt



**From:** Trey Simmons  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Sunday, December 17, 2017 9:03:19 PM

---

Hello -

As an Alaskan, I must say I am dismayed and mystified by AMCO's strange obsession with shutting down Alaska's craft distilleries. I would like you to show me exactly where in the law it states that distilleries are not allowed to mix non-alcoholic garnishes and mixers with their products. And are not allowed "fun" and "lingering". For that matter, I'd like you to show me where in the law it states that bars ARE allowed to mix non-alcoholic garnishes and mixers in their drinks. And ARE allowed "fun" and "lingering". You can't, because it's not in either law. This is an egregious example of government overreach. It is un-American, and very much un-Alaskan, and just plain downright stupid. Why are you so intent on stifling a growing industry in our state? Alaska's craft distilleries already are limited to serving customers a limited amount of alcohol, and must close by 8 PM. There is no logical reason to impose more restrictions, restrictions that by the way are NOT IN THE LAW. Get it together and back off.

Thanks,

Trey Simmons  
Ester, Alaska

**From:** B  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:55:02 AM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

---

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Hankins

**From:** Paul  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 6:06:22 AM

---

I am writing to urge you to not adopt regulations that would prohibit distilleries from mixing nonalcoholic ingredients with their products. I believe the regulation would be detrimental to the distillery industry and see this as over regulation.

Paul Dick  
Juneau  
957-6796

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Linda Buckley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:25:16 AM

---

Hello,

I am writing to say how much I have enjoyed both the Amalga distillery in Juneau and the Port Chilkoot distillery in Haines.

The clientele is a mix of visitors from around the world and locals.

What I especially enjoy is learning how to use local berries and wild edibles in a refreshing new beverage.

Please support these innovative entrepreneurs with less regulations not more.

Thank you

Linda Buckley

Juneau resident with a cabin in Haines!!

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Hannah Schlosstein  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:34:50 AM

---

Hello,

I am a resident of Juneau, and support those distilleries trying to create a safe environment for enjoying locally distilled beverages.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. Please keep our local economy vibrant.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Thank you,

Hannah Schlosstein

**From:** Vicki Van Fleet  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 9:37:55 AM

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I'm emailing to let you know that I think the AMCO Boards attempts at dictating what non-alcoholic mixers a distillery may use is ridiculous! It is total overreach by the Board and from my perspective the two distilleries that I have frequented have followed the rules explicitly!

Why make it harder for Alaskan Entrepreneurs to grow a business????

Let's make Alaska a business friendly state instead of imposing nonsensical regulations?

Sincerely,  
Vicki Van Fleet  
626 5th St.  
Juneau, AK

(former Alaska restaurateur)

**From:** Deborah Rudis  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:12:22 AM

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Dear ABC Board,

I am writing in support of allowing distilleries to serve spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients. To change this current policy would be an unfair disruption of small business owners who opened their facilities with the existing laws. Distilleries in Alaska are a growth industry providing employment and also creating local attractions for residents and our visitors. Tax revenue is also a plus to the state in these economic times.

Please do not change the current practice of serving spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients. This is the way that these spirits are meant to be enjoyed.

Thank you for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

Deborah Rudis  
Juneau, Alaska  
907.723.9981

**From:** Peter Flynn  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:28:33 AM

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Hello

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Peter Flynn

Ps, these places are bringing more business, more money into their areas, supporting other local businesses and our towns, we should be doing everything we can to support all alaskan entrepreneurs with regulation supporting responsible use, not limiting it.



**From:** Kaci Knueppel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting Rooms  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:34:44 AM

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Pushing people out after they've had alcohol in any capacity is just irresponsible.

Putting limitations on small business that makes it even harder to have a small business is irresponsible.

People ought to be allowed to taste great locally made product in safe environments and have fun and only leave when the time they've booked is up or when they are safe to do so.

It's literal logic.

Seriously do people think before they change laws and regulations or is it a dart board that spins?

**From:** Keiko Herrick  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 11:13:21 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The current legislation has been in place for three years and such drastic changes would be deleterious to small businesses in Alaska, who have already invested in the status quo.

Other distilleries across the country serve cocktails, so there is no precedent for these restrictions.

Please listen to public support for distilleries and demonstrate that you support small business and new industry in the state!

Your truly,

Keiko A. Herrick

--

*Keiko A. Herrick, PhD*

**From:** Franks, Laura R  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** WHY?  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 11:20:25 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

The proposed changes to 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code which will advance the limitations of Alaskan Distilleries is overreaching and inappropriate. It is not the duty of AMCO to instill such restrictions. The laws have been in place for three years without incident. Please do not allow your sights to be clouded by those that believe we are de facto bars. As a Distillery Manager, I can assure you, we are not.

Furthermore, it is irresponsible for us Alaskan TAP card holders to serve three ounces of straight alcohol, then encourage people to leave. We should be inviting them to linger as long as they choose.

The Alaskan Craft Distillery movement has kept stride with the country with an ongoing focus on best practices. However, with monopolistic per capita rules already over-regulating the sale of alcohol in our state, these restrictions will distract the future of those looking to grow our economy by opening small businesses. Do not recess our economy. Keep regulatory overreach at bay.

**From:** Roger Thode  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulation  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 11:34:01 AM

---

Hi,

I find it ridiculous that the control board would consider not allowing distilleries to serve non-alcoholic mixers and refreshments in their tasting rooms. Besides the fact most people use the products in mixed drinks, when someone stops to have a taste, and they have an underage person with them, say an 18 year old son, that son can't have a coke, or an orange juice??

That's just crazy, PLEASE do not support any such change to the regulations that would prevent distilleries from serving non-alcoholic beverages for any reason. I sure as the hell don't support such an outrageous idea. Besides, why would the ANCO even consider such a thing, it's not their place to interfere with such things. If they can serve soda pop everywhere else why wouldn't they be able to at a distillery tasting room??

Roger D. Thode

**From:** susan wylie  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** distillery regs  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 11:52:55 AM

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Please don't hurt this new, fantastic distillery industry that is a boon to the Alaska economy and to community by regulating what ingredients may be added to their product, i.e., mixed drinks.

I personally think that the whole reason this has become an issue is because one bar owner who wasn't doing a good enough job to attract more business got jealous and made a fuss. Sour grapes, I say, but should not be supported by setting regulations that shut down good, viable businesses.

Please, use common sense about this and let the distilleries continue business as usual.

Thank you,  
Susan Wylie

*Susan Wylie  
4014 Ridge Way  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907)523-0437 Home  
(907)209-3976 Office/cell  
(907)523-0438 FAX*

**From:** Francis Adams  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 12:48:57 PM

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Distilleries should be allowed to serve their products, mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients, in their tasting rooms.

Thank you.

**From:** Anna Nelson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Regulations  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 1:29:24 PM

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Please accept my comment as I am not in favor of limiting what can be served in a tasting room in our cities distilleries.

Regards,

*A. Nelson*

Anna Nelson  
Fire & Flood Services, Inc.  
907-344-4412 office  
907-301-2750 cellular  
907-243-9087 fax

**From:** Pagan Hill  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery rules public comment  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 2:13:51 PM

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Hi,

I am writing to urge you not to change the rules on businesses in progress here in Alaska. I am deeply concerned that a well meaning entrepreneur could have submitted his or her business plans in good faith, had everything approved and licensed, and then spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in capital to bring a business to fruition only to see the rules changed before he or she can recoup the investment. This is a profoundly unfair way to regulate business that can devastate families and diminish the trust in the process that is a requirement for starting new businesses.

Specifically, to license craft distilleries based on business plans that clearly rely on tasting rooms that serve mixed drinks, allow them to build these customized tasting rooms and start crafting their liquors at huge expense, and then rip away a primary driver of their income arbitrarily is extremely unjust. There are real human individuals involved who have homes and children that depend on them being able to see their plans through as they were approved and licensed to do.

Thank you for your consideration,

Pagan Hill  
Juneau, AK



Dear ABC Board of Alaska,

Please read this before discussing manufacturing licenses allowing entertainment.

For the record I want to be clear that I support the innovation and creativity manufacturers bring to the alcohol industry in our state. I appreciate the quality products they continue to develop and provide for retail sale. However, I see mounting pressure over their general unhappiness and dissatisfaction with the three-tier system our industry operates under. The existing format has clear purpose in maintaining distinct separation between the three main entities: production, distribution, and retail, where each component has a niche it provides in support of the others with limited overlap. This format has evolved dating to Prohibition and statehood and gives ample opportunity for those interested in being part of the industry to operate in a competitive manner while still maintaining respect to the primary function of the other two components. Unfortunately, the respect for the distinct boundaries between the three components has begun to erode lately. Perhaps there is a need for more clear definition in the laws, more enforcement to regulate those wishing to push the boundaries, or simply more education to those new to the industry. A combination of all three may be necessary to support the continued health of a robust and growing industry in our state.

I would like to voice my concern about manufacturing licenses providing live music, paint and sip classes, and yoga. I believe these recreational activities were mentioned either at the last ABC meeting or in Ericka McConnell's Memorandum on September 13<sup>th</sup> to the Board.

When manufacturing licenses were first created and then amended in 2014 to allow distilleries to sell three ounces of their distilled product in tasting rooms, current alcohol license holders were concerned. We wanted to make sure manufacturing license tasting rooms did not function as bars and the focus of the manufacturing license was on manufacturing, not tasting room retail.

I would like to point out what manufacturing law AS 04.11.170 e (2) states:

**(2) the distillery does not provide seats at the counter or bar where the product is served;**

I am one of the concerned retail license holders. I believe part of the law intended to mean no seats, period. The point being tasting rooms functioned truly as tasting rooms and were not designed to invite people to stay and mingle for a long time. Why else would you include anything about seats in the law? However, the intent was lost when it went to legislation and others unfamiliar with the alcohol industry rewrote the law. Shame on the alcohol industry for failing to see the above sentence was reworded in a manner that no longer prevents seating in tasting rooms. Originally the intent or wording did not allow for seating at all, which provided a major distinction between manufacturing licenses and BDL's. Who cares if they remove four stools in front of the serving area? Most bars don't have stools in front of their waitress or "cocktail station" either. Because of the wording used in the final version, this part of the law no longer carries the original intent. Some manufacturers have built huge tasting rooms! In some cases, bigger than most bars, with more space than their manufacturing area. Why? Because they intend to earn the majority of their income through tasting room sales and not through the other two entities: distribution and retail. This is a fact. The license holders of BDLs, package stores, and REPLs screwed up



and didn't pay attention to the final wording of the law. The ABC Board has not heard many complaints from BDLs or REPL about the large amounts of seating manufacturers are providing. We now see this part of the law was not re-written correctly to achieve the original intent- no seats.

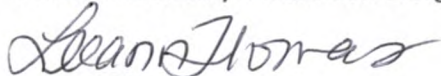
The seating issue is an example of how the existing separation is continuing to erode one rule at a time. Now, we are concerned because we see the following section of law in serious jeopardy:

**(1) the distillery does not allow live entertainment, televisions, pool tables, dart games, dancing, electronic or other games, game tables, or other recreational or gaming opportunities on the premises where the consumption occurs;**

This part of the law seems straightforward and complete. It covers the intent of the law with simple and plain language and states no live entertainment or recreational opportunities. Why? So tasting rooms do not function like BDLs. Operating a retail/tasting room is a free license under a manufacturing license. However, operating a similar room under a REPL or BDL is not free but rather sold at market value and range anywhere from \$30k to \$250k depending on the actual class of license and the location. Entertainment encourages repeat daily customers to linger in a bar setting. A tasting room should NOT use music, classes, lectures, painting lessons, or yoga to entice new or repeat customers. These are forms of entertainment to develop their tasting room as a regular hang-out for patrons. A private party at the manufacturer should not be a way to skirt this law either. This law should be enforced at all times, not just during business hours. Simply because the above examples of activities currently being offered by manufacturers aren't found in the language of AS 04.11.170 (e)1 doesn't mean they meet the intent of the law. Even the AMCO Director agrees:

*"The intent of a manufacturing license is to allow the holder to manufacture the type of alcohol permitted by the license, and the onsite consumption provisions are there to allow members of the public who may wish to purchase the product, to taste it to see if they like it, purchase or not purchase, and leave. The license type does not suggest that members of the public should be encouraged to linger through food service and events, and the prohibition on entertainment supports that interpretation. That said, there is nothing in the statute or regulation that prohibits food service or the sale of other products."* Erika McConnell- Director of Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office - memorandum to ABC Board on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

I want to make clear I do not support entertainment in manufacturing tasting rooms. It is clear the ABC Board should enforce the law as written so manufacturing licenses stay focused on manufacturing. To allow otherwise is unfair to the other long-standing alcohol retail businesses in the State. These businesses are also essential components in the industry and create and maintain jobs that contribute to Alaska's economy. Please don't forget about us.

  
Leeann Thomas  
Triangle Club

**From:** Leeann Thomas  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Letter for ABC board about Entertainment  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 2:32:10 PM

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Dear Jedediah,

I would like my letter to be placed in January 23 agenda where the board will discuss Other Manufacturing Issues. On the current website document, Tab 5 talks about manufactures wanting to provide more entertainment and recreational events at tasting rooms. When the board discusses this issue, that is where I would like my letter to go in the packet. I know some breweries have been asked to write letter about wanting to offer more entertainment. I would like my letter to go with any breweries/or distilleries letters talking about why they should be able to offer more than just tasting at their place of manufacturing.

I think good example of this is tab 37 on the current website. There are letters from distilleries and a power point presentation trying to sway the board opinions. The lack of other license holders letters is not because other BDLs, package stores, REPLs didn't care we just didn't know we could write a letter of give a presentation to the board before they asked for public comment.

Leeann Thomas  
Triangle Club Inc  
907-586-3140

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**From:** CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored) <amco.regs@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 3:20:45 PM  
**To:** Leeann Thomas  
**Subject:** RE: Letter for ABC board about Entertainment

[This will be included as public comment for the distillery regulation project.](#)

Jedediah R. Smith  
Local Government Specialist  
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office  
(907) 334-2195  
<https://www.commerce.alaska.gov/web/amco/>

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**From:** Leeann Thomas [mailto:triangleclubbar@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, December 18, 2017 2:14 PM  
**To:** CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored) <amco.regs@alaska.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter for ABC board about Entertainment

Please put this letter in the ABC board packets for information on Manufacturing license and Entertainment.

If it can not for any reason be given to the ABC Board, please let me know.

Thank you,

Leeann Thomas  
Triangle Club Inc  
907-586-3140

**From:** Savannah Fletcher  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 2:15:41 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am opposed to the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I am specifically against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same as it has been, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. I would argue that it is better to serve it mixed even, because that is how the alcohol is intended to be consumed once purchased and it provides the consumer with a better experience, improving the sales for local businesses. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. They should stick to the responsibilities the legislature has given them. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. The majority of Alaskans are *not* in support of this proposal. Do not be swayed by the few powerful lobbying voices over the desires of the wider public. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses, and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as currently written.

Sincerely,

Savannah Fletcher  
Juneau resident

**From:** Delirium Dance Productions  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 2:32:35 PM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code, specifically proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. NO ONE I know supports these changes. I am a 30 year old parent. I don't go to bars. Every great once in awhile I do like to visit our local distilleries because A) the atmosphere is clean, bright, and has a very different motivation than a bar and B) I want to support a local business.

I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Brighton Brooks

**From:** michele mouton  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Support of Alaska Distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 3:44:06 PM

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I am in support of distilleries rights to serve cocktails. Michele

**From:** Abe Stevens  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT ON 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 4:00:33 PM

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To: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am opposed to the proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code subsections (d) and (e), which restricts what a distillery can serve on its premises.

While I am a California resident, I do visit Alaska for recreation and will be disappointed not to be able to fully enjoy any potential distillery visits I may make on my next trip. I am also a distillery owner in my home state, and I can speak to the harm these proposed regulations will have on Alaska distilleries. The ability to serve cocktails on-site is an important means of gaining customer loyalty and building brand recognition. It is also an important source of revenue that provides local job opportunities and can help offset overhead expenses while the manufacturing side of the business grows. Craft distilling is a growing, but very competitive industry, and these regulations to Alaska distilleries at a competitive disadvantage compared to others located in other states with more reasonable rules.

Additionally, being able to serve cocktails is the preferable way to sample the product compared to serving straight hard alcohol. Consuming straight high proof alcohol might increase the risk of oral and throat cancers compared to a diluted drink, not to mention being able to dilute the alcohol might also decrease the rate of potential intoxication.

Sincerely,  
Abe Stevens, founder  
Humboldt Distillery  
707-725-1700



**From:** Brad Fleming  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:22:46 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,



Brad Fleming  
920 254 6778

**From:** Ben Fleming  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 5:39:43 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Ben Fleming  
(269) 547-9632

**From:** Theresa Hicks  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska's Distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 8:17:54 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I do not think that a direct comparison should be made between Alaska's distilleries and bars. They are two entirely different entities, run on completely different business plans. I do not believe it is the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board's duty to regulate non alcoholic components to alcoholic drinks. There is already legislation limiting the amount of alcohol served to customers by distilleries. A distillery serving the allotted alcohol to a customer through a mixed drink is essentially advertising their own product and the ways their product can be used, or in this case drunk. Bars serving mixed drinks aren't advertising a product. They're pleasing a customer's desire for a drink.

Sincerely,

Theresa Hicks  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Anne DeMuth  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed reg changes  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 8:29:09 PM

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Hello,

I'm writing to oppose any regulatory changes that would limit distilleries' ability to serve mixed drinks. In my experience, distilleries, both in Alaska and Outside that I have visited provide a comfortable, non-bar environment for enjoying a drink or two. The distillery that my husband and I most frequently visit has become a comfortable meeting place as well as somewhere to catch up with friends and neighbors.

I believe that allowing distilleries (and breweries) to function as low-key places to enjoy a little alcohol and companionship is providing a service to communities at on one else's expense. Please allow them to continue serving mixed drinks.

Thank you for your attention to my views.

Anne DeMuth  
2091 Weston Drive  
Fairbanks. AK

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Jon Kurland  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regs  
**Date:** Monday, December 18, 2017 10:00:22 PM

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Dear Members of the ABCB,

I strongly oppose the draft subsection you propose to add at 3 AAC 304.375(d), which would needlessly prohibit Alaska distilleries from mixing drinks. This regulation would run counter to the clear intent of the legislature and counter to common sense, and would senselessly handicap a small but emerging Alaska industry for no useful purpose. Mixing distilled spirits with non-alcoholic ingredients in distillery tasting rooms causes no harm to anyone, and allows for an enjoyable experience for consumers. Please reverse course on this short-sighted proposal. Thank you.

Jon Kurland  
9155 Black Wolf Way, Juneau

**From:** Tedmund Hanrahan  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Concerned in Juneau  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 8:15:34 AM

---

I'm a Juneau resident who opposes changes to tasting room regulations that would restrict distilleries from serving mixed cocktails on site.

Thank you for reading my coments,  
Tedmund Hanrahan

To: the State of Alaska Alcohol Beverage Control Board,

I am in support of the ABC Board's proposed clarification of language found in 3 AAC 304.375 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm supportive of (d) which continues to allow distilleries to sell three ounces of their distilled product separate of any mixer. This allows patrons to taste the product made at the distillery and should be recognized as a good compromise made by the Board to provide supplemental income, especially for new ventures. The clarification would also help better define the rules for distilleries who are slowly turning their tasting rooms into bars. They should not be serving cocktails.

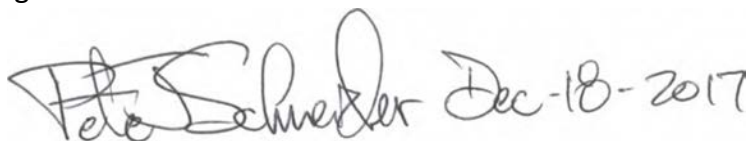
I am also supportive of (e) which clarifies distillery products as a spirit distilled on the premise for bottling. I'm concerned with the word "barreling" however. Currently, distilleries are using the concept of barreling to essentially pre-mix cocktails to serve in their tasting rooms. These products are not being offered as one-ounce samples, but rather as 16-ounce cocktails for patrons. In addition, the cocktail products are not being bottled or made available to purchase for off-site consumption. The creation of cocktails is clearly not what the regulations allow. Patrons of the tasting rooms are enjoying Bloody Mar(s and Cosmos for example which are created using mixers not added during the distilling phase, but rather during the barreling phase. All types of distilled products served in tasting rooms should be available to purchase that day for off-site consumption. If the distillery does not have the Cosmo packaged in a way they could sell to go, they should not be selling it in their tasting room. If the distillery does not distill and bottle the vodka, then they should not be serving vodka in their tasting room at all, even if it is added to a barrel and served as a Cosmo.

To be clear I am voicing my support for the State of Alaska's proposed clarification of AS 04.11.170 (d). I also support (e) but have a concern with the word barreling in the proposed clarification. The Board needs to ensure this word does not create another loophole for distilleries to mix cocktails in a barrel and then serve from said barrel in their tasting room. The right to serve cocktails is reserved for those businesses possessing beverage dispensary licenses (BDL's). I hope the ABC Board supports the AMCO staff and State of Alaska law department's recommendation to clarify the laws regarding manufacturing. ABC inspectors need support to do their jobs and effectively address violations of alcohol laws. The industry has been closely regulated in the State of Alaska for decades. Businesses who've invested in licenses and followed alcohol regulations are being hurt or will be hurt in the future if those with new manufacturing licenses are allowed to make their own interpretations or ignore State advisories.

I have owned a State of Alaska BDL for 17 years. BDL's have been granted rights by the State to dispense alcohol drinks and market value of these limited licenses is based on population levels (1 in 3,000 persons). The Board's indecision on this topic has hurt my business and the market value of my license.

It will continue to depress the value if it fails to acknowledge the precedent set with my existing BDL. Retailers in the State are your constituents too. Clarification in the language will help maintain the overall integrity of Alaska's alcohol industry and the continued reputation for responsible management.

Pete Schneider

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Pete Schneider" followed by the date "Dec-18-2017". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PO BOX 20977  
Juneau, Alaska 99802



**From:** Katherine Cornelius  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:34:04 AM

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## To The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Katherine Cornelius

**From:** M A Tunley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:58:31 AM

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I would like to walk into an Alaskan distillery and have a specialty drink. I feel that we should not be forced into drinking straight shots of artisanal spirits...that's alcoholism and exactly what Wolfschmidt is for...

Our local artisans should be allowed to showcase the fruits of their labors with, well fruits and juices and such...mixed drinks should not be a crime in Alaska's distilleries.

In fact, it seems as though the straight shots that AMCO is trying to force upon us only perpetuates the sort of behavior that AMCO is trying to quash...what says "party" or "excessive drinking" like a straight shot of, well, anything!

Mixed drinks are far more civilized and culturally relevant...unless y'all think the days of the whisky-drinking goldminers or rum-sodden whalers is a time we need to revisit.

Thank you,  
-Michael Tunley  
3416 Seppala Dr  
Anchorage, AK 99517  
907.545.3199

**From:** ritchie dorrier  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Regulations for Distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 10:17:56 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to voice my objection against the proposed regulation changes that will prohibit distilleries from serving non-alcoholic ingredients with their distilled product.

While I understand that the AMCO feels that the ABC board is interpreting the current law to prohibit anything served in a distillery that was not manufactured on the premises, I feel strongly that this proposed change is NOT the answer to the dilemma. The proposed changes will simply impede good business and economic success.

I recognize that the current statute does not specifically address the issues of "mixers", and it likely will take some time effort to amend the law. Therefore I recommend that the board members and staff go back to the drawing board and devise a solution that is more viable, and makes good business sense. Please remember, these are "tasting rooms", and any good business with a good product should be able to offer different experiences to individuals. After all, as a consumer, why would I purchase a product after having only a partial or incomplete tasting experience?

While I, personally, am not a regular supporter of bars, restaurants or distilleries, I see distilleries as a very different business from a bar or restaurant, and I think the laws and regulations should recognize that. I believe firmly that clientele of distillery "tasting rooms" is not the same clientele of bars and restaurants, and should not be viewed as competition. In fact, I feel distilleries could possibly enhance a thriving business and entertainment community.

I urge the board to take a step back and consider all options to encourage economic growth and expansion in this sector of our business community. You might consider forming a task force consisting of distillery owners, business leaders and board members, to "think outside the box", and create a solution that will enable these businesses to show their best side.

Thank you for your consideration.

C. Ritchie Dorrier  
Juneau  
907-321-1542

**From:** JAS  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 10:53:40 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I have been impressed with the craft distillery industry that has recently been developing in Alaska, in particular, the Amalga Distillery in Juneau, and the Port Chilkoot Distillery in Haines. These businesses support our communities in many ways, for example, by hosting community fundraisers, showcasing local artists, using local ingredients, employing local residents, paying local taxes, and creating safe and welcoming venues for locals to gather.

I have heard that much of the pushback against distilleries is coming from local bar owners who are finding it hard to compete. It is important to note that the distilleries are filling a critical niche that bars were not filling. Many of the patrons of the distilleries would not patronize the local bars if the distilleries did not exist. Many Alaskans are looking for a pleasant, community-minded environment to gather with friends; one where over-drinking is not encouraged or allowed. The existing regulations that limit the operating hours for distilleries further reduce competition with bars.

I also understand that some of the heartburn felt by local bar owners stems from the fact that they have had to purchase and maintain expensive liquor licenses that the distilleries do not have to purchase. A solution to this disparity might be for the ABC Board to create a special type of limited liquor license to allow distilleries to dispense their product.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the

distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Julie Scheurer

Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Dave Miller  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska distillery regulations  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 12:19:17 PM

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Hello,

I heard the board was considering making regulations to disallow distilleries from mixing and serving drinks. This will do nothing but cripple our economy, if even just a little bit.

I can see no purpose in any regulations inhibiting distilleries from selling their product regardless of the form of sales.

David Miller

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Katherine Washington  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 12:28:27 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Katy Washington

Anchorage resident

**From:** Barbara Kelly  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Craft distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 1:09:04 PM

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Craft distilleries, such as Amalga Distillery in Juneau, are a different business model in Alaska. They are not bars but something new that has been successful and a welcome change from the usual local bar scene. Don't restrict craft distilleries to appease a few bar owners. People go to a bar to get drunk but people go to a craft distillery to sample the product and visit with friends. No one is stumbling out of a craft distillery at 2am. As a single woman, I support craft distilleries but do not support additional restrictions on how they can conduct business. I urge you to support craft distilleries and let the marketplace decide if a business is successful without additional government involvement.

Barbara Kelly  
Juneau, Alaska

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Regular Mail  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting room rules  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 2:07:54 PM

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I think it is wrong for the statutes to be re-interpreted AFTER a distillery license has been issued. If anything, you should grandfather their rights and have any new licenses fall under any new interpretations, if even needed.

Some of the existing rules regarding: no chairs, music, games, etc. are antiquated and ridiculous! Explain to me why chairs at the “bar” aren’t allowed? What purpose does that serve? Are we living in a Quaker community? Why is the state of AK trying to thwart their own economy, especially in times of needed growth and revenue?

Tasting rooms aren’t competition to bars anyways. Most people plan on going to a tasting room to have their allotment of a mere 3 ounces (or 36 oz. if a brewery/cidery) and then simply go home because they aren’t the bar type anyhow. True bar patrons generally frequent places AFTER 8pm.

Additionally, telling a customer that when they have to go into a tasting room they need to drink straight liquor (no mixers) and not loiter is a public safety issue. Don’t you think it actually makes better sense to allow things such as games, music or chairs to encourage leisure and hanging out? As you well know, “time” is actually the only thing that can sober a person up. Can you imagine if bar patrons were required to have their drinks and then quickly leave? As a side note, when was the last time you heard of a fight or gun/knife fight, sexual assault outside of a tasting room?!

Just because a bar owner is complaining because they feel their bar business is suffering shouldn’t be the reason for the state to meddle. Perhaps bar owners, instead, should examine whether or not to change their own business practices/menus/offerings to adapt to the ever changing desires of the public. I can think of dozens of bars that would benefit by doing this. Sure, we’re the last frontier but we’re not Neanderthals.

Simply adhering to regulating each customer to 3 ounces per day and only until 8pm is plenty (although still rather stringent) so just leave it at that.

Thanks for your consideration,

-Joel Loosli

**From:** Brian & Lisa Martsolf  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** distillery regulations  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 3:18:09 PM

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In support of our local distilleries, I am sending this email regarding the regulating of what and how samples are served at our distilleries. I don't go to a distillery to take shots of alcohol – I can do that at a bar or at home. I want to sample the alcohol made on the premises in a manner that shows off the artisanal creation of the distillery. Many times, best sampled mixed with what you would traditionally drink that alcohol with – whether it be juice, soda, tonic, etc. This is a chance for the distillery to showcase their varietals.

I don't believe regulating non-alcoholic beverages is the job of the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office.

Please take this into consideration, thank you.

Lisa Martsolf

**From:** Katie Stachow  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:42:39 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

**From:** Eve Dillingham  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose Distillery Regulations RE Mixers  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 5:48:51 PM

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Alaska Beverage Control Board -

Some people play golf. Others, like me, don't play golf but play mini-golf. Still others do both. I won't play golf if mini-golf is made to disappear—just as I won't go to a bar if you make distilleries stop showcasing their products with mixers.

I support distilleries' ability to serve their products with added non-alcoholic ingredients.

I do not drink alcoholic beverages "straight". I drink them with mixers. When I sample products from distilleries, I look to the producers to enlighten me about how their products may best be enhanced by sampling their recipes. After all, they should know.

I oppose any regulations that prohibit this practice. In fact, I see these regulations as a result of the strong efforts from a region of the beverage industry that views this practice as an economic threat, like bars. I do not attend bars and do not consider them the venue to learn mixology. Bars serving alcohol with mixers=apples; distilleries serving alcohol with mixers=oranges. I understand the difference. Your effort to articulate the difference too is greatly appreciated.

Eve Dillingham  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Erika Stone  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:28:43 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Erika Stone

**From:** Sally Slater  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regs  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 7:33:20 PM

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I'm writing to voice my opinion as to the proposed change in regulations that would prohibit distilleries from serving non-alcoholic beverages with their product. This idea seems not only unfair, it would deter this fledgling industry from moving forward.

They followed current regulations when they set up their businesses, and should be able to operate under those rules, without them being changed in mid-stream. This proposed regulation would cause undue hardship and seems like government overreach.

Please do NOT tell them they cannot serve non alcoholic beverages of their choice with their distilled product!

Thank you,  
Sally V Slater

**From:** Meagan Nye  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com); [Sam.Kito@akleg.gov](mailto:Sam.Kito@akleg.gov)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:08:18 PM

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While 3 ounces of alcohol is still 3 ounces of alcohol no matter how you package it, distilleries serving their product in cocktail form is beneficial for Alaskans. I grew up in Haines, Alaska, and learned from a tender age that the “proper” way to drink distilled spirits was in the form of a shot, quick and dirty, one after another. Over the years I’ve witnessed the consequences of this drinking style, and it’s ugly. As an adult, and due to my patronage of the Port Chilkoot Distillery and Amalga Distillery, I’ve discovered the joy of moderate and responsible alcohol consumption in cocktail form. The distilleries’ artful and creative samples have taught me to imbibe in a mindful manner, slowly savoring the colorful blend of flavors. Adoption of the ABC board’s proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 is something I adamantly oppose. This government overreach has no place in the last frontier. It serves only to negatively impact small business owners struggling to survive in a depressed economy. These proposed changes will not benefit the general public, will harm small businesses, and further depress the overall economy. Please use common sense and listen to the voice of the Alaskan people.

Sincerely,

Meagan E. Nye

**From:** Shayla Yates  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Laws  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 3:49:58 AM

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Hello, my name is shayla ..

I do not support this change..

You can't tell me that the distillery owners did not research the laws that pertain to that particular license before they invested in the business....

They knew and are choosing to not follow the laws..

They have been told already they are breaking the law, they chose not to care..

I own a liquor license here in Juneau and this is deprecating my kind of license..

If they don't follow the law then the next distillery and brew pub will not either..

They are just upset because they are being called out for operating there license like a bar when infact they do not have the appropriate license to do so..

If I have to follow my rules they should follow there's..

Thanks, shayla

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Elissa Borges & Ray Imel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries - Why can't we have good things?  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 4:58:36 AM

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Here's hoping we can continue our quiet evenings out at the Amalga Distillery w/o mixing our own drinks. It is a unique experience, great atmosphere and the model experience for folks who enjoy limited social drinking. I'm certain there is a compelling legal argument to make our visits there awkward, just like the kind of argument that prevents brewing beer and serving food at the same location. But I believe the public good is better served by allowing tasting rooms to mix drinks. In my case the slope is not slippery at all, more than a 2 drink maximum, and I will stay home, thank you. Thiis establishment has brought me downtown in the evenings, a benefit to restaurants and galleries, as well as myself. Oddly, because of my positive experiences there, I was willing to visit other downtown bars, where I have been absent for over a decade. Well, I'm sure there is some legal prinicple that will help me sleep better at night, some group being protected, some harms, invisible to me, but inflicted on others that will be reduced by regulating Distileries and it is someones duty 'guard the walls'. But maybe, instead of throwing out babies with bathwater we can have this good thing for a little while longer.



101 Dunkel Street, Suite 111  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701-4806  
(907) 457-3282 • Fax (907) 459-3787  
[www.explorefairbanks.com](http://www.explorefairbanks.com)

December 13, 2017

Bob Klein, Chair  
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
State of Alaska DCCED  
Via email to [amco.regs@alaska.gov](mailto:amco.regs@alaska.gov)

RE: Distillery License Clarification

Dear Mr. Klein and Members of the ABC Board:

In March 2014, the Board of Directors of Explore Fairbanks, the largest tourism industry association in Alaska's Interior, supported House Bill (HB) 309 designed to modernize Alaska's distillery laws to allow for growth in small business and retail establishments and, thereby, leading to enhanced tourism product throughout Alaska.

The end result is indeed happening as visitors are discovering that distilleries in Fairbanks may provide a relaxing pause in their robust itineraries in Alaska. Please see the attached article that appeared in the October 2015 issue of *Beyond*, Alaska Airline's inflight magazine, which illustrates the popularity of the distillery product.

More than three years later, HB 309 requires a clarification that continues to allow reasonable parameters for small distilleries to thrive and fully participate in Alaska's tourism industry. Allowing distilleries to serve spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients and garnishments is a reasonable interpretation.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (907) 459-3770 or [dhickok@explorefairbanks.com](mailto:dhickok@explorefairbanks.com).

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deb Hickok". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Deb Hickok  
President and CEO

Enclosure

# PIONEERING SPIRITS

## ALASKA BREWERS AND DISTILLERS ARE CRAFTING EXCELLENCE

BY RENEE BRINCKS

**A**t first glance, the production space at Ursa Major Distilling looks like many other small-batch operations: a line of fermentation tanks, a still with columns stretching up from a silver drum, wooden barrels used to age spirits.

Look closer, however, and you'll discover several unusual components in this Fairbanks facility. A standard power drill propels a mill that grinds barley. Owners Rob and Tara Borland use a canoe paddle to stir the mash, a mix of milled grain and water that's fermented to create alcohol. The still, which extracts alcohol after the mash is strained, is a stainless steel drum fitted with pipes from a plumbing supply store. Those pipes are stuffed with structured copper mesh normally used as a packing material.

By designing and building his own equipment, Rob Borland established a distillery for a fraction of the normal cost. That self-reliant mindset, often associated with Alaska, extends to the company's sourcing practices. The Borlands ferment rum with Alaskan sourdough, flavor gin with rhubarb from their own garden and purchase Ursa Major's grain from regional farmers. Barley grown in Delta Junction lends a faintly sweet, almost strawberry note to the Long Winter Vodka.

"We try to stay as local as we can," says Borland, who distributes

Ursa Major spirits almost exclusively in the Fairbanks area. The Kenai Peninsula native was inspired by the business practices of his hometown's Homer Brewing Company, which also keeps its products local.

Craft beer and spirits are big on the Last Frontier, from Silver Gulch Brewing, Ursa Major's neighbor and America's northernmost brewery, to the new Icy Strait Brewing along Alaska's Inside Passage near Juneau. The state's thriving industry includes five established distilleries (with a sixth on the way) and more than two dozen existing and planned breweries. A 2014 report from the Brewers Association, a Colorado-based organization representing small and independent American craft brewers, measured a \$239 million annual economic impact from Alaska's breweries alone.

Like Ursa Major, other producers look to local ingredients to capture a true taste of Alaska. Fairbanks Distilling Company, which begins production in a former city hall building this autumn, will use Tanana Valley potatoes and Delta Junction barley. Anchorage Distillery sources barley, wheat and winter rye from Alaska farms, and gathers water from a lake fed by the Eklutna Glacier. Hoodoo Brewing Company in Fairbanks purchases local pumpkins for its fall pumpkin ale, while other artisans incorporate Alaska blue-





berries, highbush cranberries, rose hips, spruce tips, artemisia (wormwood) and herbs into their beers and spirits.

"People are curious about local products. They want something from the source, and they want to know who made it," says Hoo-Doo's Karen Wilken.

At Port Chilkoot Distillery in Haines, a new tasting room opens into the production space so that guests can watch as Heather Shade and Sean Copeland create and hand-bottle their small-batch spirits. Copeland spent a year repurposing the building, a former military bakery on historic Fort Seward that now features reclaimed wood fixtures and custom-built steel and copper kettles. Despite their non-distilling background (Shade was a National Park Service biologist and Copeland a carpenter), the couple has created a gin that won two prestigious awards in 2015: a double gold medal at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition and a gold at the American Craft Spirits Association competition. The 50 Fathoms Gin balances juniper essence with earthy spruce and cinnamon, and the citrus finish comes from tangerines that Shade's parents ship from their California farm.

Shade and Copeland's decision to open a distillery in a small, rural Southeast Alaska town came from a desire to create careers



HEATHER SHADE (2)

Owner Rob Borland (at left, above) designed much of the equipment at Ursa Major Distilling in Fairbanks; he uses local ingredients for spirits such as rum.



that would keep them in Haines while providing personal and professional growth. They also saw an opportunity to work with the region's tourism industry. As the founding president of the Distillers Guild of Alaska, Shade and her colleagues lobbied for 2014 legislation that allows distilleries to operate on-site tasting rooms and offer limited samples and sales.

"That single thing—allowing us to have visitors and thereby join the tourism industry—is what enables us to survive in this kind of business," says Shade, who now welcomes locals as well as cruise ship and ferry passengers and independent travelers exploring Alaska by air and road.

A few blocks away, Paul Wheeler and Jeanne Kitayama are finishing a new downtown Haines Brewing Company location that opens this fall. Wheeler built his original brewing system using old dairy tanks shipped up from Iowa and Minnesota, and the business has operated in its original Dalton City spot since 1999. Haines Brewing concentrates on local distribution only. Captain Cook's Spruce Tip Ale, one of the

brewery's biggest sellers, combines subtle fruit and spice flavors. It's seasoned with spruce tips that Wheeler, Kitayama and their friends harvest by hand.

"We're not striving to be a regional brand you can get anywhere," Wheeler says. "The beauty of travel is finding local products you can't taste at home."

On the Kenai Peninsula, Soldotna

Port Chilkoot Distillery (below) welcomes visitors to its Haines tasting room. Craft brewery pioneers Geoff and Marcy Larson show off their flagship Alaskan Amber Ale in Juneau (right).



## CRAFTING A TOUR

Bryan Caenepeel spent 10 years as a local guide before launching Big Swig Tours, a 3.5-hour exploration of the Anchorage beer scene. During stops at Midnight Sun Brewing Company, King Street Brewing Company and other locations, guests sample a dozen Alaskan beers, fuel up on appetizers, and join brewers on behind-the-scenes tours that explain the production process. Caenepeel also shares stories from the state's brewing past and present between stops.

Big Swig departs six days a week in the summer and offers by-appointment outings throughout the winter. The company is developing an expanded tour that will soon travel to breweries in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley, north of Anchorage.



BIG SWIG TOURS

Big Swig Tours takes visitors behind the scenes.

Economic Development Director Stephanie Queen also sees craft beverage production benefiting both local tourism and local quality of life.

"A few years ago, we were fighting the perception that there was nothing to come back here for. Now that's no longer the case," she says.

Queen cites community building efforts by Kassik's Brewery, St. Elias Brewing Company, Kenai River Brewing, High Mark Distillery and other producers who support local charities, sponsor events and create popular gathering spots. Her office works

to help such businesses, much like homesteaders who arrived in Soldotna in 1947.

"This is still a place where you can take a risk to create something from nothing, and you'll see it succeed," she says.

Former teacher Doug Hogue took that kind of risk when he debuted Kenai River

Brewing in 2006, just before Frank and Debara Kassik opened Kassik's Brewery up the road in North Kenai. The three entrepreneurs had to encourage local customers to try something new; many were loyal to big-brand lagers without the flavor complexities of these new craft releases. Kenai River Brewing's Breakfast Beer, for example, has hints of milk, oatmeal and chocolate and looks indigo in the glass.

This August, Kenai River Brewing broke ground on a new

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# ANCHORAGE

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facility off the Sterling Highway, near Soldotna Creek Park. Hogue is doubling his brewing capacity, and he's adding outdoor seating, nature trails and an expanded, family-friendly tasting room.

"The community has really come together and supported breweries here on the peninsula, and across the entire state," says Kenai Peninsula resident and beer writer Bill Howell. He chronicles the state's brewing history in his 2015 book, *Alaska Beer: Liquid Gold in the Land of the Midnight Sun*.

During the late 1800s and early 1900s, Howell explains, a brewery's opening helped confirm a community's transition from trading post to established town. Some early residents took issue with alcohol and banned it entirely; today, some Alaska localities still outlaw alcohol. But other communities dedicated pioneer beer and spirits revenues to infrastructure.

"The first public schools in Alaska were built with revenues from saloon fees," Howell says. "They were essential drivers in economic development."

Prohibition ended legal brewing and distilling in the state. And a redirection of resources during World War II all but halted new beverage production. High shipping and distribution rates further slowed the industry's growth in Alaska, and those costs continue to challenge current-day producers.

Despite all those obstacles, a pioneering Juneau couple kick-started the state's brewing resurgence in 1986. Geoff and Marcy Larson opened Chinook Alaskan Brewing Company (later renamed Alaskan Brewing Company) with the support of 88 private investors who saw potential in the young couple's plans. Today, Alaskan Brewing distributes to 17 U.S. states, and it ranks 20th on the list of top American craft brewing companies. Alaskan sells 161,700 barrels a year; by comparison, the largest U.S. craft brewer, Yuengling of Pennsylvania, sells 2.9 million barrels annually.

Alaskan Brewing's first release was an amber ale inspired by an old recipe from Douglas City Brewing Company, which

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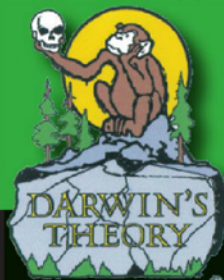
This small downtown bar is a favorite "Tourist Trap" where the locals view the "Urban Wildlife."

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Darwin's signature drink is the Cinnamon Red Hot and is the world's biggest seller of Cinnamon Schnapps.

Darwin's Theory  
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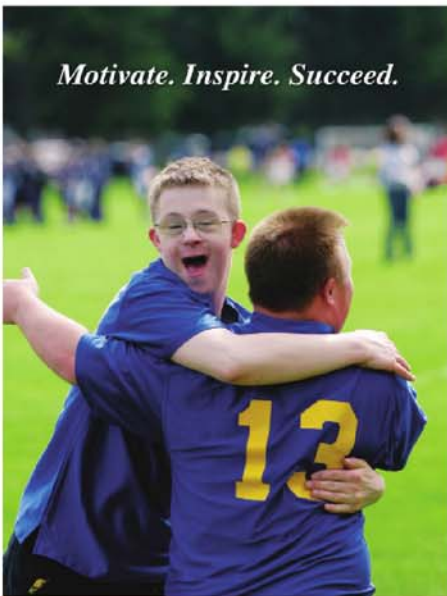


operated near Juneau in the early 1900s. The coppery-colored beer is smooth and malty, balanced with just a hint of bitterness. When Alaskan Amber won Great American Beer Festival medals in 1987 and 1988, it brought national attention to the state's then-fledgling brewing industry. Expansion continued from there, but the company still keeps its focus close to home.

Visitors to the Anchorage Distillery tasting room can sample four different types of vodka, plus gin and whiskey.



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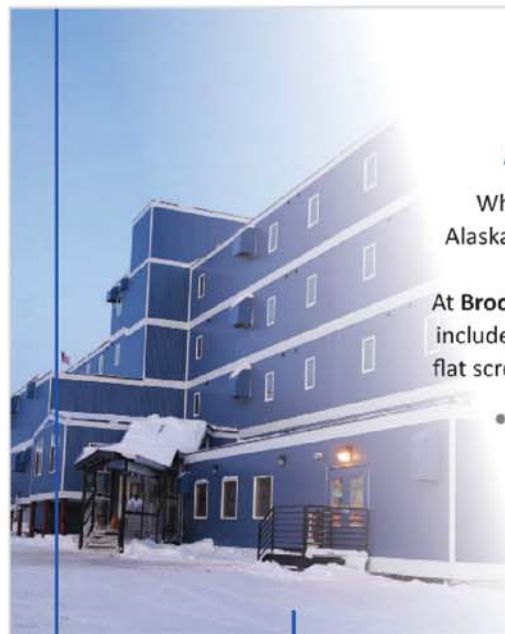


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"Inspired by their experience getting the finances and having buy-in from all these Alaskans, Geoff and Marcy became incredibly committed to making beer that represents Alaska—and especially Juneau," says Andy Kline of Alaskan Brewing.

Because Juneau is only accessible by flight or ferry, the brewery also takes innovative steps to control shipping costs while lightening its environmental impact. A custom steam boiler that powers production equipment runs on spent grain, a byproduct of the beer-making process. Alaskan Brewing also captures carbon dioxide from fermentation and recycles it for production.



CHRIS AREND

In addition to its artisan ales and lagers, Glacier BrewHouse has great pub food at its downtown Anchorage location.

The success of Alaskan Brewing paved the way for other standouts statewide, including Midnight Sun Brewing Company, celebrating 20 years; Broken Tooth Brewing, winner of nine Great American Beer Festival medals; and Anchorage Brewing Company, a recent addition that distributes its respected barrel-aged beers globally. But, as Alaska's brewers and distillers distinguish themselves with distinctive recipes and methods, Paul Wheeler of Haines Brewing believes that one similarity remains.

"We're all in this business to make a great product." ▲

*Renee Brincks is based in San Francisco.*

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**From:** karen@cspaceak.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com); [Tuck, Christopher \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 9:15:09 AM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." I cannot understand why you think it is better for someone to consume a "shot" vs. a cocktail. It makes no sense.

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. Why are going against an industry that is **MAKING SOMETHING HERE IN ALASKA?** They are adding value and jobs. Stop being a puppet to CHARR.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

karen larsen

**CREATIVE SPACE** : : karen larsen : : 907.632.5782  
2451 spurr lane, anchorage, ak 99517 : : [creativespacealaska.com](http://creativespacealaska.com)

**From:** Abby Cooper  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 9:36:39 AM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Abby Cooper

**From:** Peggy and Alex  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery sales regulation  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 10:51:48 AM

---

Dear People:

We think that allowing mixed drink sales in distillery tasting rooms is consistent with current statute and should be permitted. Distilleries are strictly limited to amounts per customer and hours of operation for the tasting rooms. Because their alcohol products are typically used in mixed drinks, and not as "shots", presenting the product in a mixed drink for tasting makes perfect sense. The distilleries are a vibrant new business type that provide great local benefits. Narrowly interpreting the statutes to artificially constrain their operations, inconsistent with past practices, is inappropriate, especially in light of the fact that the legislators that drew up the enabling legislation have gone on record to say that the narrow interpretation of serving product was definitely not intended

Sincerely,

Alex and Peggy Wertheimer  
17200 Andreanoff Drive  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Rebecca Venot  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 11:36:51 AM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Venot

**From:** April Rebert  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 11:51:04 AM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

April Rebert

**From:** Orin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 12:17:29 PM

---

To Whom it May Concern:

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses, and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Orin Bakal-Molnar

**From:** Emily McLaughlin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 2:05:25 PM

---

To The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I'm writing to express that I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code, specifically proposed subsections (d) and (e) that define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered a distillery's product.

It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients that a distillery chooses to mix with its product, and the consumption limit stays the same whether the alcohol is being served straight or combined with other ingredients.

I also believe that the ability to mix product with other ingredients is critical to the tasting room experience and that great tasting rooms are only a benefit to their surrounding communities, economies and consumers. I personally am only interested in sampling most alcohol if it's in a mixed drink form, and prohibiting this would probably stop me from visiting tasting rooms.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider my thoughts.  
Emily

907-382-3056

**From:** Christine Kleinhenz  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Amalga  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 2:54:20 PM

---

To whom it may concern.

Amalga Distillery is a wonderful addition to our downtown. The product is top quality and the atmosphere is eclectic (a mix of young and old and hip and fringe) just like our town which I love. It is a warm and friendly place to go for a drink. I go there at least once a month. It is my bar of choice.

I support Amalga Distillery and hope that they can stay in business.

Sincerely  
Christine Kleinhenz  
907-723-6154

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Jeff Tucker  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco.regs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Notice of Proposed Changes Regarding Distillery Licenses  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 4:28:51 PM

---

Dear members of the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am writing you today to express my concern that the proposed changes to 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code will do nothing more than hurt the growing distillery industry in Alaska.

I travel extensively throughout the United States, by myself and often with my wife, and in my travels I take every opportunity to visit and support local craft breweries, distilleries, and wineries. I enjoy being able to sample the products that these, typically small, local operations produce. This is where we can witness true creativity and small business entrepreneurship and I do my part to support them.

It is unfortunate that the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board may take steps to limit how distilleries can serve their products. They are currently limited to only serving two drinks to a customer. They should be able to showcase their products in such a way that encourages the visitors to their business to purchase the products they are tasting.

Our craft distilleries are not competing with other establishments who serve alcohol. They offer tastings to encourage patrons to purchase a bottle to take home or go to their local liquor store to make a purchase. Hopefully through this interaction with the actual makers of these craft liquors folks will decide to continue to buy their products.

I firmly believe that the Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board should be working to encourage the growth of this industry that is springing up across the state. It provides direct jobs for Alaskans and attracts tourists and visitors to those communities who are fortunate enough to have one of these business in their area.

I ask the members of the board to support the Alaska craft distillery industry and encourage its growth by not limiting how these business can showcase their products in their tasting rooms.

Sincerely,

--

**Jeff Tucker**  
**840 Sand Dollar Drive**  
**Kenai, Alaska 99611**  
**907-388-1702**

**From:** Shari Paul  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS. \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 20, 2017 10:27:02 PM

---

## Public comment for 3 AAC 304

**To:** I am not clear on why this Board seeks to slowly dismantle a new industry in our state - created by smart, young and talented Alaskans.

Tonight, I had the opportunity to visit the distillery for one gin and tonic before going home for the evening. I would others not go to a bar for a \$14.00 cocktail unless I planned on spending more time out with friends.

And now I read the ABC Board is attempting to dismantle another aspect of these young entrepreneurs business by altering the way they are running their distillery.

I am **not** in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public.

These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

Shari Paul  
713 W 12th Street  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** hlockhart@hsmove.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regs  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 8:26:52 AM

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I can see no reason that AMCO will not put the safety of the consumer first. It is a known fact that that slowing down the process of alcohol can be done by TIME. It takes 5x as long to sip on a drink, versus take a shot of straight booze.

The downtown bar scene has already drawn enough attention with fights, shootings, and people being over served. Give consumers the choice where they want to get a cocktail, but limit the cocktail to ONLY be the manufacturer's spirit (they can only serve 3 oz anyway).

I have been to a half dozen distilleries and not one required me to drink the spirit straight (unless I chose to). We have put Alaska on the map with its forward thinking in Marijuana laws; don't be archaic in your alcohol laws.

I urge you to listen to the masses of the general public. There is an outcry of people wanting their voice heard.

Your dual licensed Professional Realtor,  
Hilary Lockhart  
Arizona: 480-213-5673  
Alaska: 907-274-0000

**From:** Cody Jennings  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 1:30:13 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Cody Jennings

Skagway, Alaska

**From:** Heather Rodig  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 1:43:28 PM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Heather Rodig  
42 year Alaskan Resident



December 21, 2017

Bob Klein, Chair  
Alcohol Beverage Control Board  
550 W 7th Ave, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

[via email AMCO.Reggs@alaska.gov](mailto:AMCO.Reggs@alaska.gov)

Dear Mr. Klein and the Alcohol Beverage Control Board,

The Fairbanks Chamber supports a legislative statutory review and revision process of statutes that govern distilleries, to include:

- ✓ **Public engagement** – to give community and business ample opportunity to provide comment on how enforcement can and should protect the public from harm;
- ✓ **Initial intent** - to research the legislation and ensure that regulation, policy and procedure align with original statutory intent;
- ✓ **Consideration for conflicts of interest** – to ensure the outcome of statute review and interpretation is determined by individuals who hold no personal benefit from further limiting distilleries.

Interpretation of regulation should be guided by the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) mission statement to: *enforce... and provide clear, consistent standards for licensure to protect the public from harm*. Distilleries have been safely operating for years, yet recent changes in regulation interpretation demonstrate misalignment to AMCO's core mission. The Director's recent memo to the Board illustrates an imbalance between stricter interpretation of regulation and the call to protect the public from harm. The memo specifically calls out unwarranted concerns with distilleries hosting paint parties, yoga classes, yodeling competitions and poetry readings, which are examples that appear to be in conflict with the mission statement.

We understand that the Director seeks the Alcohol Beverage Control Board input to interpret "distillery's product" and how product can be served on a licensed premises, and there is a perceived effort to unfairly limit distilleries through more stringent interpretation. The public will not be further protected from harm by limiting the ways in which a distillery product can be served, including prohibition of ice cubes, lime slices, and non-alcoholic mixers at distilleries, which are accompaniments that would otherwise complement a sample of a distillery product, considering the normal consumption of these types of spirits is rarely "straight up". There is obvious and implied overreach in such an action to eliminate these common items from being served.

Businesses expect that regulations and interpretations will be consistent, reliable, and safeguard the public. Alaskans make investment decisions in business, and in turn, when there is a shift in interpretation of regulations that affect the way these businesses can operate, livelihoods and local economies are adversely impacted.

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The Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce represents over 700 businesses in the Greater Fairbanks area and across the State. We advocate on behalf of our members for a healthy economic environment and we build partnerships that promote the greater Fairbanks area as an attractive place for business and community. We work to create a pro-business environment that encourages private sector investment and job creation by working with local, state and federal government officials.

Respectfully,



Marisa Sharrah  
President & CEO  
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce



Garry Hutchison  
Board Chair  
Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Interior Delegation  
Governor Bill Walker

**From:** William Clark  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting room  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 6:07:01 PM

---

I do not support the new board action nor do majority of Alaskans. Please vote against this action!

Sincerely

William and Charlotte Clark

Sent from my iPhone





To: The Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office:

The Distillers Guild of Alaska has reviewed the draft regulation for 3 AAC 304 in reference to distillery licenses and opposes the proposed changes. The regulation does not reflect the original intent of the distillery tasting room law, it does not contribute to public safety, is not in the best interest of the consumer or the state, and it does not take in to account standard industry trade practices.

Distilleries have been operating their tasting rooms for three years in full compliance of all the restrictions outlined in the state statutes. Mixing distillery products with other ingredients is not one of the restrictions and was never intended to be by those who passed the tasting room law. The statute was added to bring distilleries on to an equal par with breweries and wineries; to enter the tourism sector, to subsidize the high expense of manufacturing in Alaska, to help local products compete with imports, and to allow distilleries to directly market and serve their products to visitors in the way they are intended to be consumed. The way spirits are served is unique to our industry, and does not change how much alcohol is being consumed.

We encourage the ABC Board to not take action to adopt the proposed regulations, and not add wording to the statute that was neither intended nor implied. The proposed wording would require customers to mix their own drinks with the distillery's products on-site, which is an arbitrary, contrived inconvenience that will be detrimental to an industry comprised entirely of small businesses.

If the board feels the need to clarify the statute for the purposes of AMCO enforcement, then we encourage you to change the draft in a direction that reflects standard industry practices nationwide and that allows distilleries to continue operating in the way they were intended to. An appropriate change to the wording would simply be:

"The holder of a distillery license may combine the distillery's product with non-alcoholic flavoring ingredients".

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. If you have any further questions about our specific trade industry practices, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Maura Selenak  
President, Distillers Guild of Alaska

**From:** Stephanie  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery tasting rooms in Alaska  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 8:40:27 PM

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Hello,

I'm a Juneau resident who has been following this story with interest. I want to voice my support for the the growing distillery industry in the state and the tasting rooms that showcase their products. It is not feasible to serve 3 oz of spirits without mixers of some kind, and clearly the ABC Board cannot seriously think that regulating the non-alcoholic mixers used to make cocktails makes any sense at all. There are much more important things on which the board should be focusing.

The distilleries and tasting rooms bring a nice fresh addition to the "rough and tumble" bar scene & brewery scene in Juneau. It's not an either-or situation, each venue has it's strengths. Don't make it so difficult for the distilleries to make their substantial investments pay off by trying to regulate things that really pose no safety issues—the mixers. There is room for all venues to showcase their specialties and products unique to Alaska.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Merrill

**From:** Lena Merrell  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** : Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 10:00:54 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am writing to voice my concern of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Any changes to the law as it is already spelled out are a direct attack on successful entrepreneurial endeavors that have done nothing but foster an environment for creativity and friendship to blossom. Please show us you support small businesses.

Sincerely,

Lena Merrell

Juneau, AK

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Corinne Cogger  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 11:31:28 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Corinne

**From:** anna jurgeleit  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery support  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 9:38:23 AM

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To whom it my concern,  
Please allow the craft distillery's in Alaska to mix cocktails. I really believe you would be hurting economic development by not allowing them to mix cocktails.  
Sincerely,  
Anna Jurgeleit  
Haines

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Amund rong  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Tasting Rooms  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 9:44:07 AM

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I want to let you know that i support distilleries serving cocktails in their tasting rooms. I'm not sure what issue you have with them mixing their product with non alcoholic mixers. I see this as no different than a brewery serving their beer, or a winery serving their wine. You are being presented with a product, and consuming it in the way that most people would consume said product. Also, i think that your ideas are overstepping tradition and common sense. Some styles of beer are traditionally served with syrups, or slices of fruit, or even with fruit juice mixed in. If your argument was consistent, wouldn't you be trying to outlaw that as well? I assume you're not, because that would be a huge waste of time, and would not be beneficial to anyone.

Also, breweries, distilleries, and wineries using their "tasting rooms" as a place for people to gather and stay for as many drinks are legally allowed, is totally fine with me. This is literally the business plan and goal for thousands of breweries and distilleries around the country. I also don't think any of these businesses should be forced to sell their product to any distributor or bar if they don't want to.

The whole label of "tasting room" is outdated to me. If i am going to a brewery or distillery, i am going there to hang out and consume their product, in the space where it was made. I've never gone to one of these places with the intent of tasting a small sample, then leaving to go to some bar to drink said product. I'm not sure what you're trying to accomplish by trying to implement this. You're killing innovation, small businesses, and most importantly culture.

Please leave distilleries alone, and just let them do their thing. I can somewhat understand not letting them use other producers alcoholic mixers... but non alcoholic ones too? Thats getting ridiculous.



# Municipality of Skagway

GATEWAY TO THE KLONDIKE

P.O. BOX 415 SKAGWAY, ALASKA 99840

(PHONE) 907-983-2297 – Fax 907-983-2151

[WWW.SKAGWAY.ORG](http://WWW.SKAGWAY.ORG)

December 22, 2017

Erika McConnell, Director  
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. McConnell,

The Municipality of Skagway supports the ability of distilleries to mix distilled spirits with non-alcoholic ingredients, as has been the standard practice since the passage of HB309 in 2014.

HB309 allows the sale of not more than three ounces a day of the distillery's product to a person for consumption on the premises, with certain restrictions, but is silent on the issue of mixing this product with non-alcoholic ingredients; non-alcoholic ingredients have not in the past been regulated by AMCO.

The distillery industry has been growing steadily and contributes tax revenue to the State of Alaska and to local communities. Inhibiting a distillery due to a new interpretation of state code could affect this revenue stream, and thereby could affect communities on a local level.

The Municipality of Skagway supports local businesses and their contributions to the success of the community, and for this reason supports efforts to allow local distilleries to operate in a way that has become the industry standard in the State of Alaska and across the nation.

Sincerely,

Emily A. Deach  
Acting Borough Manager

**From:** Bri Kelly  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 2:58:30 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Happy holidays and thanks for your consideration.

Bri Kelly



**From:** dawn@portchilkootdistillery.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulation Change Comment  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 3:53:02 PM  
**Attachments:** [AMCO ABC Board Letter.docx](#)

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

As an Alaska resident and distillery employee I am opposed to the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code with regard to subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The proposed change seems to be a reaction against the innovation of one new distillery (pre-mixed cocktails) that would negatively affect the entire industry. It would not enhance public safety or alter the amount of alcohol ultimately being served to the public. The proposal would merely hinder distilleries' ability to showcase their spirits by serving them in the most professional manner possible. It would also inconvenience the public by forcing them to combine their own spirits and mixers.

It is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. This attempt to do so would negatively impact the state's burgeoning craft distillery industry by reducing the tasting room income that offsets Alaska's high cost of manufacturing. This could also hurt other Alaska-based businesses that provide goods and services to tasting rooms as well as reduce tax income for the state during challenging economic times.

The Alaska legislature is currently working on a clarification in statute that would better define the original intent of HB-309. This bill will resolve any lingering questions about HB-309 and should not be preempted by a haphazard regulation change from the body tasked with interpreting law over creating it.

If the ABC board feels the need to insert additional wording to clarify the intent of HB-309, a better alternative would be to simply add that a distillery may blend its product with other non-alcoholic ingredients.

In closing, I urge the ABC Board not to adopt the proposed regulation changes as written. HB-309, as currently practiced, is the very foundation upon which Alaska's distilleries have built their business plans and growth over the last 3 years.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

-Dawn Drotos

Alaska Resident and Office Manager of Port Chilkoot Distillery, Haines, AK  
907 766-3434 / dawn@portchilkootdistillery.com

**From:** SFX Chief Engineer  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska"s Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 4:00:28 PM

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I do not support the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative code. Specifically subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product".

These small distilleries provide trade and manufacturing jobs for Alaskans. I do not believe it is the role of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.

Thank you for your time,

Keith Barsch

**From:** Ethan Abelow  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** 3 AAC 304.375 (e)  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 6:17:40 PM

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Please do NOT make any changes to the existing law. The existing regulations are more than sufficient and we do not need even more needless oversight that adds additional work for state employees and could be onerous to local distilleries who already have enough federal, state and local hoops to jump through.

I live here in Anchorage, but do not personally know anyone in this business. Feel free to contact me at this address.

Thank you.

**From:** Jim Erickson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [Wool, Adam L \(LEG\)](#); [Kito, Sam \(LEG\)](#); [Tuck, Christopher \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Putting in mixers?  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 11:07:40 PM

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Dear Representatives and distillery deceivers,

Haha. Give me a break. If you want to sell booze with mixer, buy a liquor license! This back door approach with a innocence flavor is plain bullshit.

Breweries are the same. Trying to be a bar and say they are a innocent brewery. SPEND the money like the rest of us had to!!

ps - it's not cheap

James



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** Curt Urling  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 22, 2017 11:22:45 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most.

I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Curt Urling

**From:** Jason Tapley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Saturday, December 23, 2017 8:43:51 AM

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To Whom It May Concern,

I am a concerned citizen that lives in Douglas. My wife and I have lived here for about 3 years. We moved up to Alaska after about 10 years in different parts of North Carolina. We are both originally from the northeast US.

I think that it is absurd that such a big deal is being made about mixers being added to the cocktails at the distilleries throughout the state. The fact that the bars are complaining about the distillery business is even more bizarre. The first problem that I have with these proposed regulations is that bars and distilleries are not direct competitors. The distilleries close around 7 or 8, long before prime time ever occurs at the bars. My second problem is that consumers need to pick the businesses that will thrive, not the regulators, as this unfairly tilts the table against the innovators. We live in capitalistic America where the consumer picks the winners, not the government. My message to the unhappy bar owners would be, "Do something to improve your business and make people seek you out!" Absurd regulation is not the answer. For a state that purports to be "friendly to small business" as Lisa Murkowski has stated several times in the few years that we have lived in Alaska, these regulations would be very unfriendly to small business.

After living in many states in the northeastern US and in the southern US, I have not seen a place that so heavily regulates alcohol and FUN! One cannot dance, sing, or play games in any brewery/distillery in the state. What in the world was the reason for this regulation? If you want to attract more tourism to the state and add more revenue to help with the government shortcomings, you should be removing ridiculous regulations such as these anti-FUN laws. In most other states in the United States, breweries AND distilleries are a place where people take their family (children and dogs) to spend the day. They play board games, enjoy a beer on the lawn, eat food provided by food trucks or their own picnic basket, and just enjoy the day. With the current regulations on alcohol/fun in Alaska, this attempts to make it anything but a fun place to live/relax.

Please allow the distilleries to continue to serve mixers with their wonderful cocktails and support local business. Competition is great for the consumer and if the other businesses cannot adapt to compete, then they were not meant to survive. Thank you.

Best,

Jason Tapley

**From:** Meghan Garrison  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 23, 2017 9:40:25 AM

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To The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office & Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I find these proposed changes extremely short-sighted, with a dangerous ripple effect that may impact many other businesses in our community.

**I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.**

Sincerely,  
Meghan Chambers  
Juneau Resident

**From:** Kerry Clark  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Saturday, December 23, 2017 1:49:50 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kerry Clark

1503 Kepner Dr

Anchorage, AK 99504

"everything that comes into our circle has come to teach us what we need to know." -Pema Chodron



**From:** John Gaguine  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on proposed distillery regs  
**Date:** Saturday, December 23, 2017 2:07:32 PM

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I support maintaining the status quo, and allowing distilleries to mix their alcoholic product with mixers, even if the mixers are not made on the site of the distillery. Thank you.

John Gaguine  
1940 Fritz Cove Rd  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Leah Berman Williams  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska distilleries  
**Date:** Saturday, December 23, 2017 9:00:48 PM

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I am very excited by the new distilleries that are opening up around Alaska! I would hope that the Alcohol Control Board would support this developing industry, for the benefit of Alaskans.

It is totally reasonable that I should be able to enjoy the spirits produced by these local businesses in their tasting rooms in the way that they are likely to be consumed at home and in bars and restaurants, in mixed drinks as well as straight. The idea of providing me with a shot of spirits and a side of mixers and expecting me to mix my own cocktail is absurd.

I encourage the alcohol control board to continue to allow tasting rooms at distilleries to serve mixed drinks that incorporate the alcohol that is produced on site. I would also encourage the ABC to allow distilleries to use small amounts of alcohol produced elsewhere (e.g., a distillery that makes gin would be allowed to use a vermouth that was not made in the distillery when making a martini featuring the distillery's gin) as well as non-alcoholic mixers.

Sincerely,  
Leah Berman Williams

**From:** Felicia Crockett  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Sunday, December 24, 2017 4:36:26 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Ms. Crockett

**From:** DeAnna  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamcoregs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Proposed Refulations  
**Date:** Monday, December 25, 2017 2:34:22 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely

DeAnna C Koranda

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Glenda Smith  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** distilleries  
**Date:** Monday, December 25, 2017 9:04:22 PM

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AMCO,

Please carefully consider how prohibiting distilleries from serving distilled spirits with nonalcoholic ingredients would 'BENEFIT' that industry and business/commerce in our state.

I personally do not think there is a benefit to small businesses and/or commerce and would encourage you not to institute any regulations for such requirements.

Thank you.  
Glenda Smith  
Palmer, AK

**From:** Gershon Cohen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:36:56 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I do not support the ABC Board's proposed regulatory changes to 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code for the following reasons:

1. You are clearly going against the original intent of the legislature, whether their intent was entered into the record at the time of passage or not given the comments of the sponsors. Not allowing distilleries to add tonic water to their gin is absurd. Will they need to grow their own limes too?
2. You are caving to the bar owners and their lobbyists who simply don't want competition. Funny how we are supposed to be all about free enterprise and capitalism until someone else has an idea that could cut into our personal profit margin. Then it's all about protectionism. It's shameful to pander to such hypocrisy.
3. It does much more to enhance the attractiveness and reputation of our State to support people who can not only run a business but are skilled at a craft, as opposed to people who may be competent at running a business but are essentially a middle man for someone else's product.
4. The distilleries diversify our economy, and therefore diversify our workforce, which means more opportunities for more people.
5. Finally, bars and distilleries are very different establishments. With the restrictions on the amount of alcohol that can be served, the lack of entertainment, comfortable seating, and the restricted hours, any decently run bar should be able to survive just fine. This is no time to be putting your thumb down on entrepreneurial activities in Alaska.

Gershon Cohen PhD  
Box 956, Haines, AK 99827  
907-314-0228

**From:** Sean Cox  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 11:03:59 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

Alaska is developing a great new industry with the rising number of craft distilleries; therefore, I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. It greatly reduces their ability to market their products due to the unique dynamics of the business.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Sean Cox

**From:** Amanda Kurdziolek  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Upcoming regulations on Distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 11:53:46 AM

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To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to express my opinion on the upcoming changes you plan to make for Alaska Distillery businesses and those affected by it.

We feel that these new changes are not necessary and it is not clear why they are being suggested. They seem to only hurt our small businesses and our economy. They appear to fix a problem that does not exist.

The 3oz limit is already more than sufficient to address any concerns of public safety.

We are in a state of recession here in Alaska and an industry that promotes growth, jobs and revenue should not be stifled with asinine rules that make no sense.

In fact, your far reaching attempts to stifle our economy makes me wonder your value in our state altogether.

Sincerely,

**Amanda Kurdziolek**

**Sean Kurdziolek Portraits and Gallery**

**[www.seankurdz.com](http://www.seankurdz.com)**

**907-987-0973**



**From:** Julie Zundel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Leave the distilleries alone  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 12:02:37 PM

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Leave the distilleries alone. Seriously, you should have bigger things to focus on.

Julie Zundel

P.O.BOX 10674

Fairbanks, AK 99710

**From:** Kate Baldridge  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 1:26:16 PM

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To: the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

In re: Public comment for 3 AAC 304

I do not support the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kate Baldridge

Juneau, AK

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse brevity and typos.

**From:** Amanda Krafft  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 1:59:15 PM

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Dear members of the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Amanda Krafft

**From:** Melissa Robinson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); %20craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:CED_AMCO_REGS_CED_sponsored_%20craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 2:16:20 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely, Melissa Robinson

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Melissa Robinson  
Robinson/Scholastic Objectives LLC  
[907 500-8688](tel:9075008688)

**From:** carolynmay518@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 2:31:40 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Dobbs

**From:** Laura Murphy  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Haines distillery  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 2:42:22 PM

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I hope you will reconsider a law prohibiting our local Haines distillery from serving mixed drinks with their spirits. This business fulfills a niche in Haines that serves many tourists in the summer and our residents the rest of the year. Serving their unique drinks also helps keep them in business and I'm sure you don't want to create a regulation that will hurt small businesses.

Thank you.

Laura Murphy  
Haines, AK 99827

**From:** Beth Bolander  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery rules  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 2:43:11 PM

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I oppose the proposed rule to prohibit distilleries from serving anything mixed in with locally made spirits.

Beth Bolander  
Haines, AK

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Charles Sterling  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed ban.  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 2:51:37 PM

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I oppose this legislation. Please leave us the Choice of these truly original cocktails.  
Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Orin Pierson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed rule change is bad for business and bad for Alaska  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 2:52:35 PM

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This wave of successful Alaska entrepreneurs taking distilling and craft beverage making to new heights in Alaska is a very good thing. But the success of their enterprises depends on their ability to showcase their products. This proposed change is bad for business and innovation in Alaska. Harming these vital new businesses is stupid. Do not implement changes that will outlaw popular new businesses from succeeding. Again. Do not harm Alaskan businesses this way.

Thank you,  
Orin Pierson  
Petersburg, Alaska

**From:** Noah Jenkins  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillaries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 3:04:22 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

I am in favor of allowing distilleries in Alaska to mix drinks. Please change the regulation language to reflect how the distilleries have been operating.

Thanks,

Noah Jenkins

[Noah.jenkins.iaff@noahandjennifer@gmail.com](mailto:Noah.jenkins.iaff@noahandjennifer@gmail.com)

15295 Glacier Hwy

Juneau, AK 99801

907-209-4722

**From:** Danielle B  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries and proposed changes  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 3:12:51 PM

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Dear AMCO members,

I do not support your proposed changes to what distilleries are allowed to serve and the activities allowed inside.

I disagree with your recent interpretations of the existing distillery regulations as well. I think your recent actions are punitive and not necessary.

Please let distilleries serve all possible ingredients including ones that they didn't make. And please allow these businesses to have events.

These small Alaska businesses should be allowed to sell mixed cocktails made with ingredients that they do not themselves make. They should be allowed to have events and entertainment as well. These are local businesses that enhance the community with their presence. The distilleries existing do not detract from local bars either, in my opinion. There is room in Fairbanks and all of Alaska for bars, distilleries and tap rooms. And distillery tasting rooms and tap rooms don't need to be overly regulated like you are trying to do.

If a tasting room is there only for me to taste product, I want to taste the best possible version of that product. Often that means a drink made by an expert using many different ingredients- ingredients that might not exist locally. I do not see any negative to letting these places host events. There is a two drink maximum. Having a paint night or 20's party is not going to change that you can only drink two drinks. Limiting what is allowed inside a legal business is just asinine and petty.

I support local businesses and I do not support AMCO and the proposed regulation changes regarding distilleries.

Thank you,

Danielle Bouton  
Po Box 192  
Ester, AK  
99725

**From:** casandra smith  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** No!  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 3:44:11 PM

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I oppose the change! I love the fact that our distillery can show us how to make wonderful drinks with their spirits. I believe its good for their business as well.

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S® 6 edge, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

Mr. Nicholas P. Capuzzi  
Alcohol Enthusiast  
Juneau, Alaska  
[npcapuzzi@gmail.com](mailto:npcapuzzi@gmail.com)

Mr. Jedediah Smith  
Local Government Specialist  
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office  
[AMCO.Reg@Alaska.Gov](mailto:AMCO.Reg@Alaska.Gov)

Dear Mr. Smith and distinguished members of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

The purpose of this letter is to express my concern over the proposed amendments to 3 AAC 304.375, regulations applying to the licensing of distilleries. I believe the new section (d) in these amendments constitutes a regulatory overreach, hampers the fiscal viability Alaska's small distilling businesses, and poses an unnecessary risk to public safety. I stand vehemently opposed to these measures.

From the start, I believe the ABC is departing from the Legislature's intent under AS 04. The Legislature has delegated the ABC authority to regulate the "manufacture, barter, sale, consumption, and possession of alcoholic beverages in the state." Nowhere in these regulations does the Legislature delegate authority for the regulation of non-alcoholic beverages such as soda, tonic water, or fruit juices. In accordance with the law, no more than 3 ounces of the regulated product is offered for sale. The prohibition of a distillery employee mixing it is unrelated, and has no statutory backing. From a pragmatic standpoint, I am unable to identify any meaningful result this amendment might achieve.

The results I am able to clearly foresee are twofold, and both are quite negative. The first is an immediate loss of revenue and the second is the encouragement of irresponsible drinking. In terms of lost revenue, persons simply won't visit a distillery anymore if mixed drinks aren't served. I can't say I've ever been to a restaurant where I ordered a meal and a waiter just brought me the ingredients to make it myself. Such a restaurant would never survive. And yet, these are the conditions you wish to impose upon distilleries, small businesses putting Alaskans to work in this trying financial climate. Do not be surprised when you discover your actions have economic consequences, despite your economic analysis citing a zero-dollar impact. These changes are no doubt at the urging of the bar industry, who believe that their more expensive licenses are being infringed upon, but the average start-up cost a distillery is \$3-5 million, so this isn't a budget strategy to get around bar licensing expenses.

While the above is a problem for those with financial stake in a distillery, I admit that I cannot claim such a nexus. However, I do have a vested interest in the safety of my community, and I think this new regulation will have a negative impact on that. Mixing the permitted 3 ounces of distilled spirits with non-alcoholic ingredients allows for a 1.5-ounce shot to be turned into an 8-ounce cocktail. The cocktail takes a longer time to drink, and this time can be used for conversation and general "hanging out" in the tasting room. Should only serving straight liquor be permitted, I don't believe it's unreasonable to assume that a person will walk in, "down" his or her allotted 3 ounces, and walk out, since there is nothing else to keep that person in the venue. By taking away the experience of sipping cocktails while

enjoying the comforts of the room, the ABC Board is encouraging irresponsible drinking practices. For a city like Juneau, which already has a problem with public intoxication and drunk and disorderly conduct, the Board is adding fuel to the fire. Additionally, not all patrons live within walking distance of these establishments, so driving under the influence should be considered as well. Obviously, the Board would not be openly encouraging these irresponsible drinking practices, but the Board would be remiss if they did not consider the tangential impacts of their decisions.

To summarize, I hope the Board realizes that whatever positive effects they are trying to achieve from these regulatory amendments are minimal, if existent at all, and are definitely outweighed by the negative ones. I urge you to reconsider this regulation. Thank you for your consideration.

Very Respectfully,  
Nicholas Capuzzi

**From:** Stephanie Carter  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 3:59:26 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Carter

Juneau, AK

**From:** Alison Krein  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment in support of Alaska's Distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 4:05:24 PM

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I am writing to notify my support of the distilleries in Alaska serving custom mixed drinks with their own alcohol and hand made mixers/ingredients. The distilleries have enough limitations to distinguish themselves from bars; including the two drink minimum and limited hours. They even serve a different clientele; many people, like myself, do not go to bars. We don't like the noise, atmosphere, and frankly, drunk people. The distilleries are not costing bars our business, I assure you.

Thank you for your consideration,

Alison Krein  
957-0228



**From:** Kristen Zelman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [Kito, Sam \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 4:37:02 PM

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To The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Very Respectfully,

Kristen E. Zelman

**From:** Christopher Zelman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [Kito, Sam \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 4:41:09 PM

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To The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and Representative Kito,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Very Respectfully,

Christopher R. Zelman

**From:** Kristin Pitts  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 5:39:42 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kris Pitts, Resident in 99504

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Holly Smith  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for ABC Board: Distilleries  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:17:59 PM

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Hello,

I oppose the current consideration of the board to prohibit distilleries from serving mixed drinks.

The Alaska Statute governing distilleries (AS 04.11.170) includes a long list of requirements that distilleries must meet in order to operate, including the "no stools at the bar" rule, the "no entertainment" rule, and the "no drinks after 8 pm" rule. The statute also offers a maximum quantity limit of 3 ounces of product per day per person. And please note that the statute only refers to a "distillery's product," but does not dictate the way in which this product must be served.

The absence of regulation in statute is more instructive in this case because of how strict the rules already are.

Please allow common sense and a healthy interpretation of the intent of this law to prevail. Let distilleries serve mixed drinks and be done with it! You have more important things to do, surely.

Thanks.  
-Holly Smith  
Haines Resident

**From:** Amber Stephens  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:37:46 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Amber Stephens

**From:** meg thordarson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting Rooms  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:41:14 PM

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**Subject line:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Meg Thordarson

[jnugems@yahoo.com](mailto:jnugems@yahoo.com)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Marissa Capito  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 6:47:28 PM

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To the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

This regulation does nothing except discourage entrepreneurship, and will stymie economic growth for a rapidly emerging market. If you took the time to visit some of these distilleries, you would soon see their value and importance as fixtures to the communities they reside in. The proposed regulations would directly and negatively impact the ability for these businesses to live up to the full potential they have already established or are in the process of establishing.

Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. This regulation seems completely finicky; I am sure this office has far bigger fish to fry than mull over whether or not juice can legally be added to some gin. This is not an effective use of my tax dollars and is government overreach at its worst.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Marissa Capito,

Resident of Juneau, AK

**From:** Christopher Constant  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Oppose 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 8:07:36 PM

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I support small business and sensible regulation. I think AMCO is overreaching by attempting to regulate non-alcoholic beverages. I believe that Alaska's local distillers deserve a fair shot at growing their businesses.

-Christopher Constant  
907-947-9438



**From:** Robin Mulvey  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamcoregs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Support local entrepreneurs  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 9:21:44 PM

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Robin Mulvey and I am writing to express support for local distilleries and other small businesses created by courageous and creative entrepreneurs in Alaska. I ask that the control board interpret the laws for distilleries in a similar manner as they are interpreted in other states. This means that Alaskan distilleries would be permitted to serve two drinks on site in the form of a cocktail or unmixed spirits to any patron of legal drinking age.

Interpreting the law in any other way does a disservice to entrepreneurs and the local community. I also feel strongly that allowing two drinks on site as described above poses absolutely no risk or detriment to anyone. Indeed, isn't this why regulation exists- to prevent undesirable behavior? I have both enjoyed and been extraordinarily impressed by the innovation of our local distillery in Juneau, Amalga distillery. The owners and creators of this business are pillars of our community and they have created a wonderful space for social gatherings and creative beverages. Please do not misinterpret guidelines that are currently in place that will harm their business, or other similar businesses in Alaska. Alaska does not need reckless regulation that harms economic growth for absolutely no benefit. Please respond to this email so that I know my opinion has been appropriately tallied.

Sincerely,

Robin Mulvey  
Juneau resident  
10100 Silver St  
Juneau, AK 99801  
907-500-4962

**From:** TJ Franklin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 9:41:46 PM

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**Subject line:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely

Troy Franklin

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Cara Murray  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Regarding mixing cocktails  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 9:46:08 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I'm a huge fan of craft cocktails, particularly those which contain fine Alaskan spirits. I am not however, a fan of straight liquor. I feel that it is in the best interest of the Alaskan liquor board to allow Distillery tasting rooms to demonstrate how their vodka, whiskey, gin and so on taste when mixed with highbush cranberries, orange juice, blueberry purée or the like. It's not only a great selling point, it's a good way for Alaskan distilleries to set themselves apart from the rest! Fresh ingredients that are available in not only the great outdoors but demonstrated as a healthier alternative to sugary syrups with a fine crafted liquor? Win!

Sincerely,  
Cara Jane Murray  
Alaskan Artist  
Mother of three  
Wife of an Alaskan Bush Pilot

May we be peaceful  
May we be loving  
May we be whole

[www.facebook.com/CaraMurrayFolkArt](http://www.facebook.com/CaraMurrayFolkArt)

**From:** s chandler  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Amco regs please don't stop people from shopping local  
**Date:** Tuesday, December 26, 2017 11:10:13 PM

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Over the past couple of years I have visited several tasting room around the state. I like to visit the places I purchase from and know what the best way are to use the products. Allowing the tasting rooms to showcase their products is very important.

I could go to liquor store and buy a national alcoholic beverage, but now that I have visited and enjoyed LOCAL products while learning about the process I am more likely to purchase from these distilleries.

Having patrons come in and have a shot of liquor and leave doesn't showcase the product or the reason to purchase. It is also not responsible for drivers.

I have heard the argument that if people want to drink they can go to the bar. This is a different atmosphere to showcase the products and enjoy learning.

Tourism is a big part of Alaska please don't disadvantage local business sharing their products in a comfortable safe atmosphere of a tasting room.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Stacey

**From:** Sherri  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 12:10:55 AM

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Hello Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Sherri McDonald

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S®6 active, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** Alla Grikurova  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 12:49:17 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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Sincerely,

Alla Grikurova

**From:** Sergei Maurits  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Cc:** [Sergei Maurits](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 1:04:08 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Sergei Maurits

4085 Teal Ave. , Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** ZJ Moran  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:43:59 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Richard Morrison



**From:** Rosalie Loewen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Changes to Rules for Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:51:13 AM

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To Ms. McConnell and Members of the Alcohol Control Board,

I wanted to make you aware that your recent interpretation of the legislation regarding Alaskan distilleries and tasting rooms has had an enormous negative effect on my business. I do not make or sell alcoholic beverages, so I am a bit surprised to find myself in the position of having to write to you to advise you of this.

I am the owner of a small business in Haines, Dipper Kitchen, ([www.dipperkitchen.com](http://www.dipperkitchen.com).) We make jams, jellies and syrups out of Alaska's best flavors (like fireweed, spruce tip, and highbush cranberries.) We have a small DEC certified kitchen and we are certified as a Made In Alaska company, as well.

It was a wonderful boost to my business when the Port Chilkoot Distillery, selected my syrups to use as a base for the cocktails that they offer on their tasting menu. I was so proud to be a part of this effort to create and sell high quality locally made products to both locals and visitors. In the summer I like to go to the Port Chilkoot tasting room just to watch the visitors from the cruise ships be amazed as they are introduced to the level of craftsmanship that our little town has on offer. To see the Dipper Kitchen name on the big chalk menu by the door and to hear the people exclaim over their cocktails made the hard work worthwhile.

Today, I feel as though I am an innocent bystander caught in the crossfire. My kitchen is full of expensive raw materials and high value finished products that I can no longer sell to my most important customer. I understand that we want to regulate the sale of alcohol in Alaska. My comment to you is this: if, in this war between the Distilleries and the Bars, the casualty turns out to be my little syrup company, which does not even sell alcohol, then maybe your aim is off.

Furthermore, as seems to be frequently the case in Alaska, I am struck by how quickly the urban regulators write off the interests of the rural areas. From an urban perspective, this may be a business interest skirmish of minor import, but I want to tell you that our town is struggling, as are many rural areas across Alaska. Every dollar that is spent in a local business on a local product is gold to us. New enterprises, like mine and that of Port Chilkoot Distillery, don't start in Haines every day. People like Heather Shade and I have worked so hard to build what we can. We get up early, we sweep the floors, we make the things that are sold, we make jobs, we collect sales tax, we contribute to the nonprofits, we make our communities proud, and then we go to bed late and tired. And nobody pays our wages, buys us cushy healthcare plans, or gives us paid leave. Our hard work, and the work of all the other local business owners in Alaska, is the lifeblood of the rural communities and at this point, we can't afford to lose a drop.

I hope that this perspective is helpful to you as you consider your responsibilities in serving the people of Alaska.

Thank you for your time and service,

Rosalie Loewen  
Owner, Dipper Kitchen

**From:** DeeAnn Fuller  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Ak distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:03:34 AM

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Good morning from Hawaii!

My husband and I are currently on vacation but I couldn't pass up the opportunity to show my support for local distilleries, specifically Amalga Distillery in Juneau, AK.

It seems that local bars are concerned about the competition distilleries may bring. I want to be clear that places like Amalga are much different than the bar options we have been provided with. Amalga is a clean and inviting atmosphere. You know the drinks you are getting will be tasteful and creative but not too strong. It's a place you can meet your best friends for drinks or your boss to talk about work projects. You don't have to worry about some low life stealing your purse, drinks being thrown, or fights happening near by. It is a high end common ground to meet with people you'd like to talk to and be able to actually hear them because they aren't playing music so loud you have to yell to be heard.

They hold their two drink maximum rule. They close early enough to not take from busy hours at the nearby bars downtown. If two drinks aren't enough, you still have time to stop by one of the many filthy bars downtown for one more and you can still be home by bedtime.

They have turned an empty and shut down place of business into a beautifully decorated place for those with higher standards. The remodel and equipment alone is close, if not more, than a liquor license would have cost them. They provide a product that will get local bars more business for having it. It is great tasting and sets a high bar.

Please let Amalga continue doing what they do. They are good people and have put a lot of thought into their business plan. They have been thoughtful and considerate when it comes to not stepping on any toes. The owners are a part of the community and they provide a place to build just that. They aren't like other local owners that are completely absent just counting their profits. Juneau people like to drink. There is no shortage of money being added to the pot for bar owners.

Thank you for your time,

DeeAnn and Justin Fuller

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Kendall Dawkins Wessler  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:51:15 AM

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## The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
An annoyed citizen  
[kendalldawk@gmail.com](mailto:kendalldawk@gmail.com)

**From:** Michael Whalen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery tasting room regulations  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:54:13 AM

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I am opposed to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board proposed adoption of regulations regarding what distilleries can serve in conjunction with their alcoholic products. I do not enjoy drinking most hard alcoholic beverages on their own and I believe that is true for most consumers. Most people that buy vodka or gin are going to combine that alcohol with an appropriate mixer. A consumer that is sampling a distillery's product should be able to taste it in the form they intend to drink it at home. Combining hard liquor with other non-alcoholic products in distillery tasting rooms should in no way be regulated by the Alcohol Beverage Control Board. Such regulations would destroy the business at the tasting rooms of Alaska's distilleries. I would never visit a tasting room if all I could purchase was a plain shot of hard liquor.

Sincerely yours,  
Michael Whalen

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MT Whalen

**From:** Callie Conerton  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Allow for craft cocktails at distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:05:05 AM

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Hello,

I write to you today urging you to support craft cocktails at distilleries. I personally live in Juneau and have traveled to multiple places with distilleries. I personally do not drink straight alcohol, so those who serve their product in a craft cocktail will make me more likely to support their business by purchasing their alcohol to take home. It allows the consumer to be able to experience their product in a way they might at home. It is important that Alaskans are able to support their local businesses and when you don't support allow craft cocktails, you are cutting local businesses. Cutting any local economy will not help our state or cities. Please allow for distilleries to continue to serve craft cocktails with their products as it was intended by those who created the laws.

Thank you,

Callie Conerton  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Amy Jo Meiners  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Support distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:15:20 AM

---

Dear Board Members,  
Please support local distilleries as new businesses add to local economies. I would appreciate your vote of support.  
Sincerely,  
Amy Jo Meiners  
Juneau resident since 1966

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Amanda Behrends Spickler  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:27:58 AM

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Hello to the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Amanda Spickler

--

[Amanda Behrends Spickler / Behrends Mechanical, Inc](#)  
[O 907-780-6766 / F 907-780-6063 / C 907-209-7889](#)



**From:** Aldyn Brudie  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:33:08 AM

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While the following form letter echoes my opinions about the current considerations regarding distilleries in Alaska, I would also like to reiterate the sentiments of many - that places like our beloved neighborhood distillery Amalga are not just making hard liquor, but rather are inclusive community spaces (for responsible adults over 21, of course) that even serve to enrich other small businesses by using their platform and popularity to lift up other entrepreneurs and organizations in the community. This, all while serving delicious cocktails, that encourage people to truly delight in what they are drinking. I implore you to not adopt these proposed regulations.

To whom it may concern on the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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Sincerely,

Aldyn M. Brudie

Juneau, AK

**From:** Michael Hurst  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:39:41 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I **am not** in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in **3 AAC 304** of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Michael Hurst  
10412 Valley Park Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99507  
907.306.6284  
[mdhurst1@mac.com](mailto:mdhurst1@mac.com)

**From:** Susie Linford  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:56:35 AM

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December 27, 2017

To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am NOT in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight.

Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.

Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal.

These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Susie Linford  
**ALASKA COASTAL CATERING, LLC**  
Managing Member ~ Corporate Chef  
[907.868.7655](tel:907.868.7655) ~ Office  
[907.230.6184](tel:907.230.6184) ~ Cell / Text  
[www.AlaskaCoastalCatering.com](http://www.AlaskaCoastalCatering.com)  
[www.Latitude61Alaska.com](http://www.Latitude61Alaska.com)



..^..><(((^>  
..^..><(((^> ... ***Fish On!***  
..^..><(((^>

**From:** Janice Caulfield  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Comments re: Local Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:15:47 AM

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I am writing to express my support for the local distilleries who are bringing new life to downtowns in Juneau, Anchorage and other communities. I urge that the regulations be revised (if necessary) to allow them to serve their product in the manner they were led to believe they could when they developed their business plans and successfully launched their businesses. I believe that they should have the opportunity to serve their distilled products with mixes and ingredients that they do not manufacture on site.

Alaska needs more entrepreneurs and new lively businesses, not fewer. Please make it possible for these local distilleries to be able to operate in the manner they were initially told that they could.

Thank you,

Jan Caulfield  
525 W 9th St  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** S PR  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 12:15:10 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Sean Rielly

**From:** Shannon Ford  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Limits on alcohol  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 12:22:58 PM

---

Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304

To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Patrick Levy  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [Rep. Scott Kawasaki](#); [Tuck, Christopher \(LEG\)](#); [Senator.Pete.Kelley@akleg.gov](#); [rep.david.guttenberg@akleg.gov](#); [Bishop, Click \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed AMCO Regulations Public Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 1:45:01 PM

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Director McConnell, Chairman Klein, and AMCO Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit public comment on the proposed AMCO changes to our distillery regulations. It is through the whole public process of government that ultimately fair and just regulations for private industry are determined.

To be a successful manufacturing enterprise a Company needs to be able to present their product to a consumer in the manner that it will be consumed. For my manufacturing enterprise, our consumers are Bars, Restaurants & individuals. These three consumers of my product always mix my product with other liquids to arrive at a blended drink. For the last year and a half my business has been legally allowed to mix my product and sell up to two delicious cocktails per person for onsite consumption. This has been very helpful for my fledgling business and I was very grateful to government over the results of the 2014 House Bill 309 legislation.

With the recent reinterpretation of the Alaska Statute for distilleries, AS 04.11.170 by AMCO due to one complaint from a Bar in Juneau, our State manufacturing industry has been needlessly thrown into turmoil. AMCO has ignored a group letter from legislators that indicated their intent of HB309 was to allow State distilleries to allow onsite mixing of cocktails. Instead of proposing regulations that would allow the distilleries to continue the way they have been doing business for the last three years and to nurture them, AMCO is proposing restrictive regulations on State distilleries that prevent them from selling their products in the way they are consumed. As a small family operated business that just opened our new expanded tasting room on December 1st, we can only see this as State government attempting to destroy our small manufacturing business by imposing new restrictive regulations on a whole industry that are based on a single complaint.

I am disappointed that our enforcement agency, AMCO, is not protecting our industry and instead chooses to ignore the intent of the legislature.

Unfortunately, as the owner of Fairbanks Distilling Company, I find the newly proposed restrictive regulations to be impractical in that they result in preventing my business from presenting my product in the way it will be consumed. If I understand these new regulations correctly, they would give the task of mixing a cocktail in my tasting room to the customer, which is unprecedented and makes no sense. We would naturally prefer that our trained distillery tasting room employees be in control of the final mixed beverage that the consumer receives.

It is therefore my hope that this upcoming legislature can fix our poorly worded Alaska Statute for distilleries and allow unrestricted mixing in our tasting rooms before any destructive new AMCO regulations take effect.

Thank you,

Patrick Levy

--

Patrick Levy, owner  
Fairbanks Distilling Company  
410 Cushman St.  
P.O. Box 80059  
Fairbanks, AK 99708  
(907) 452-5055



**From:** Juanita Martin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Tuck, Christopher \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 2:01:30 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

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I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Juanita Martin

Anchorage, Ak

**From:** Jamie Brower  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Not in support of 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 2:14:41 PM

---

Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304

To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

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Sincerely,  
Jamie DeVault

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** Rick Nieves  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 2:44:40 PM

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ABC Board Members,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Israel R Nieves

8198 Thunder Street

Juneau, AK 99801

[ricknieves72@gmail.com](mailto:ricknieves72@gmail.com)

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Carolyn Minor  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries - let them continue to mix drinks!  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 2:56:53 PM

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I am a patron of Amalga Distillery in Juneau and very much support the way they currently do business. I see no reason to change it! They show people great ways to use their product. And they provide a different atmosphere than one finds in a bar.

Nothing against bars, of course, but the distilleries' job is not the same. And neither is the experience.

Thanks for all that you do, and thanks for voting to keep the status quo.

Carolyn Minor  
1509 5th Street  
Douglas, AK. 99824

Sent from my iPad

**From:** tamar harrison  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting rooms  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 3:23:25 PM

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Hello,

First of all I would like to thank you for taking the time to consider my thoughts. I live in Skagway, which as I am sure you know is a very small town. A small local distillery recently opened and I believe it is a great addition to our town. Any local business that has the ability to grow and provide jobs is a very valuable commodity. Tourists and locals alike greatly appreciate the opportunity to taste and learn about the locally distilled liquors. Most people do not enjoy neat spirits which is why I believe it is important that the tasting room be allowed to add mixers.

The state of Alaska is in a financial crisis, small businesses like distilleries have the opportunity to bring in revenue for the state, let's not make it harder for them to do that. Thank you again for your careful consideration of this important issue.

Tamar Harrison

**From:** kellie curtin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan Craft Distillers  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 3:38:29 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

**From:** Stuart Brown  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Craft Distillers  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 3:45:17 PM

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ABC Board,.

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishments. This is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

These distillers bring a clean, "green" industry to our state and as such, should be nurtured and encouraged by our state government.

Thank you,  
Stuart Brown, owner  
Skagway Municipal And Regional Transit  
Skagway, Alaska

# ARCTIC HARVEST LLC



P.O. Box 56597, North Pole, AK 99705  
(907)460-1414 arcticharvestak@gmail.com

December 27, 2017

Erika McConnell  
Director, Alaska Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office  
550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Director McConnell and Members of the Board:

Arctic Harvest received our license to distill spirits in March 2017. We are the first distillery in the state that is truly seed to bottle, meaning we grow and malt the grain, and mash and distill on site. We are proud of our whiskey, grown under the midnight sun in North Pole, and have been focusing our efforts on retail sales.

Though our tasting room is only open one day a week, we value that time to teach customers about craft whiskey and farming in the interior while sampling our spirits. In our tasting room we offer straight shots of whiskey, but many people prefer to taste how other ingredients enhance the flavor of our spirits. We have never used outside alcoholic beverages - we understand and support this position of the board.

However, we do not understand how the board can regulate non-alcoholic beverages – those produced on site or elsewhere. It seems a trivial matter for the board to enforce whether or not a cocktail is mixed by distillery staff or mixed by the customer after purchasing a shot of spirits and a non-alcoholic beverage.

We think the current statute adequately addresses the ability of distilleries to mix cocktails, although we encourage you to make the language in regulation clearer to ease the current confusion. Please share this email with those involved in the creation and implementation of any new regulations. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Arctic Harvest Board of Directors:  
Stu and Robyn Davies  
Travis and Kelly Eggleston  
Darcy Etcheverry



**From:** Cindy O'Daniel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Craft Distillers Comments  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 4:00:51 PM

---

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Thank you  
Cindy O'Daniel  
Resident of Skagway, Alaska.

**From:** e decker  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska craft distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 4:25:19 PM

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My name is Elise Cassell of Skagway Alaska....

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

## **Alcohol Beverage Control Board**

### **Public Comment for: Proposed Regulation Change to: 3 AAC 304.375. Distillery License**

First, I think we need to put all the reasons for this regulation project out there.

The history of why **3 AAC 304.375** was created in the first place comes from Licensees operating under a Distillery license, but not actually distilling product, instead flavoring other's product and calling it their own. The current round of advisories and regulation was spurred by Distillers once again bringing in name brand alcohol, like Chartreuse and Kahlua, that they did not manufacture themselves. They were then combining these products with their own product in illegal cocktails served in their bars. When called out on this, they stopped using other's product but continued making mixed drinks and functioning as bars. Now some are continually violating the Entertainment section by hosting events in the tasting room on a regular basis. Also using catering permits to essentially increase their hours. Add to that drink specials on limited days and even times in some Facebook posts that seem to be in violation of the Happy Hour Laws or **(Sec. 04.16.015. Pricing and marketing of alcoholic beverages)**

Some DISTILLERS, which are less than 1 percent of our REGULATED ALCOHOL INDUSTRY continue to show disregard or try and alter the intent of the laws and regulations we all are required to abide by to function in OUR REGULATED INDUSTRY. This regulation project needs to be very specific and the intent of the Board clearly conveyed to staff and enforcement. This will stop the current state of no enforcement of any kind for violations by distillers, currently existing.

#### **(1) 3 AAC 304.375**

**(c) is amended to require alcohol to be distilled onsite for the purpose of obtaining a license.**

This is a good amendment, but, unfortunately, it needs to be even more specific. It needs to be very clear that using another's distilled product as a starting point and passing through the equipment on site does not change it into a product of the distillery. Any product that starts with alcoholic content should not be considered a product of the distillery and therefore should also not be included in the 80% required to be distilled on premises by (b) of 3 AAC 304.375.

Possibly modifying (c) with the addition below or something similar.

(c) Flavoring ethanol or alcohol that was not [MANUFACTURED] **distilled from base non-alcohol components** in the distillery does not qualify as operating a distillery for purposes of obtaining a license under AS 04.11.170

3 AAC 304.375 (b) also needs to be modified to make it crystal clear that starting with an alcoholic base of any kind does not add to the 80 percent of final product.

3 AAC 304.375 (e) potentially will also need this clarification "from base non-alcohol components".

#### **(2) 3 AAC 304.375 (d) is a new subsection that defines what a licensee, agent or employee may serve on the licensed premises.**

This is a good addition and will give staff and enforcement the direction they need to enforce the law as it was already written. Tasting rooms were never meant to be bars serving mixed drinks to regular customers. They were envisioned as a limited way to allow the public to taste

their product on the distillery property. The 3-ounce limit, is supposed to let these distilleries allow a person on site to taste several of their products in small samples. Never were they meant for them to serve mixed drinks hiding their product under mixers thus defeating the purpose of a tasting room.

This opportunity should also be used to clarify that multiple Manufacture licensed tasting rooms cannot occupy the same footprint. The expansion of one tasting room selling 3oz of distilled product and 36oz of beer is already happening. Potentially much more could end up being sold from a single location, consider the implications of a Cider or Mead Manufacturer, Distillery, and Brewery together in one location. Now you have a Bar able to sell 6 to 9 drinks to an individual. Obviously, this is no longer a tasting or sampling room as the manufacturer would like you to believe. Without clarification soon, we will be see more tasting rooms selling multiple types of products as well as multiple quotas of single product types. Manufacturing licenses are already sharing equipment and space. Overlapping footprints in the tasting rooms will just create an even more bar like atmosphere, if that's possible.

Possibly adding to (d) as follows could clarify that this is not the intent of anyone:

(d) For the purposes of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e), a licensee, agent, or employee of a licensee may not combine the distillery's product with any other manufactured product, or serve products from another license under AS 04, but may serve separately non-alcoholic ingredients, including fruit juices, spiced and flavored mixers, garnishes, and carbonated beverages.

**(3) 3 AAC 304.375 (e) is a new subsection that defines "distillery's product."**

Once again, the intent here is good but I think there is need for more clarity. Specifically, the term barreling. It should be clarified that barreled product is a product intended only for sale through wholesale or self-distribution to other licensees under Title 04. This needs clarification, so we don't end up back with the distillery selling mixed drinks by just changing the place where they add the mixer. Serving screwdrivers from a barrel that was mixed in the back room is the same as adding OJ to a shot of vodka in the bar. Not to be confused with an actual product bottled and ready for sale. Please don't allow the barrel to be the method for a tasting room to sell a mixed drink that is only available in the tasting room and not a real product of the distillery. But is instead just a large mixed drink to promote a bar atmosphere in a tasting room.

Please remember that these comments should be evaluated from the viewpoint of all 2,500 plus licensees in the state. Not just the desire of 8 or 9 licensees who continue to try and reinterpret the intention of the law to suit their unbridled expansion desires at the expense of the public and other licensees.

Also, keep in mind that if you allow these bars to continue operation, you will be effectively doubling the number establishments serving the public cocktails. 1 BDL per 3000 population and now 1 Distillery cocktail bar per 3000 population. Of course, this is only the tip of the iceberg since each so called "manufacture" has a separate 1 in 3000 population limit to operate a tasting room under. Prepare to see a quadrupling of the establishments serving the public in a bar like atmosphere.

Paul Thomas  
Retail Title 04 License holder #271





**From:** Microsoft.com account team  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 4:41:57 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

**From:** Suzie Teerlink  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** In support of cocktail tasting in Alaska  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 4:46:42 PM

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Dear ABC Board,

I am writing to let you know that I am in support of Alaskan distilleries retaining their ability to taste their products mixed.

I am a longtime Juneau resident. I have found the Amalga Distillery to be a fantastic edition to Juneau and a much needed alternative to a bar. They fill a niche that is not found elsewhere in Juneau and, for me, this establishment actually makes me more likely to go downtown and visit one of Juneau's bars or restaurants later in the evening. This is because while I am unlikely to go to a bar after work or on weekends, I much prefer the professional, open, and clean environment that the Amalga Distillery offers. This is more likely to get me out downtown and potentially continue on to a bar or restaurant after. If this option were no longer available, I would return to my habits of eating and drinking at home.

Further, I don't think that it is responsible to encourage patrons to taste straight shots of spirits. I believe spirits should be sampled and tasted as they are meant to be consumed- mixed. This slows the rate of consumption and allows for the mixers to help highlight the various flavors distilled in to the spirits.

Thank you for taking a stand on what I believe to be common sense and simultaneously supportive of Juneau's businesses and community.

Sincerely,  
Suzie Teerlink



**P.O. Box 111369  
11321 Old Seward Hwy  
Anchorage, AK 99511  
907 336-7177**

**12/27/17**

**Dear ABC Board:**

**I support the addition of section (d) 3 AAC 304.375. Distillery License.**

**This eliminates the ambiguity of Sec. 04.11.170. Distillery license. Sampling rooms are sampling of products produced as is without necessity of a Full Beverage Dispensary appearance. A Distillery tasting can serve not more than 3.0 fl oz which I understand to include ice and water. This was never meant to be used to act as a bar and serve mixed alcoholic beverages. Please Adopt this part of the regulation and protect the investment of Alaska's Small Business Full Beverage Dispensary Licensees.**

**If you have any questions, please call me at: 907-223-8533.**

**Sincerely,**

**Bernadette Bradley, Owner**

**From:** Kelsey Elliot  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** ABC Board Proposed Rule Change for Distillers  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:02:10 PM

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Good evening,

I wanted to write in to show my support for Alaskan craft distillers.

I believe Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Prohibiting distilleries from serving spirits with garnishes and non-alcoholic ingredients is not how Alaskans and visitors like to experience tasting rooms, and I don't believe it is in the best interest of the public. I believe this decision could limit the growth the industry when we should be encouraging Alaskan business to grow and flourish.

Best,

Kelsey Paulson  
907-957-2551



**From:** Aaron Thomas  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** ABC distillery's  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:06:01 PM

---

I feel the ABC is making a mistake limiting small distilleries from making craft cocktails in their tasting rooms. It is not in the best interest of the public to prohibit these distilleries from using outside ingredients.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Aaron Thomas  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** ABC distillery's  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:06:01 PM

---

I feel the ABC is making a mistake limiting small distilleries from making craft cocktails in their tasting rooms. It is not in the best interest of the public to prohibit these distilleries from using outside ingredients.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Robert Skitt  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:cedamco_regs@ced-sponsored.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:09:33 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Respectfully

Robert Skitt  
Information Technology Compliance Manager  
Axiom/SecureTrans Armored  
Alaska/Washington/California  
[866-761-6712](tel:866-761-6712) Toll Free  
907-266-6765 Desk  
[907-887-3429](tel:907-887-3429) Cell  
[907-561-6713](tel:907-561-6713) Fax

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**From:** Merle Stewart  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); %20craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:18:43 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

Alaskan businesses should be encouraged to showcase their products to residents and visitors, stimulating the market for Alaska products at home and abroad, as recently promoted with the highly successful Buy Alaskan initiative, encouraging Alaskans to purchase locally produced products.

My friend visiting from England this summer was thrilled to find a unique Alaskan product to take home, and restricting these products makes no sense for our economy.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Merle Stewart  
Wasilla

**From:** Julie Bates  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:20:40 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Julie A. Bates

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** ML111  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** I support distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:28:15 PM

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I support allowing distilleries to sell their products in the form of mixed drinks with mixers and even liqueurs. The craft distillery industry can prove beneficial to communities and the state, and should be encouraged.

Mark Larsen

**From:** M A Tunley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** AMCO distillery comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 6:44:40 PM

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The Alcohol Control Board should not limit the right of a craft distillery to add NON ALCOHOLIC ingredients to their products in a tasting room experience. Doing so only encourages the straight shot binge drinking mentality that is so destructive to our communities and families. Hard alcohol, in modern culture, is simply an ingredient. The patrons of our craft distilleries should be able to sample a finished product rather than a raw ingredient.

Thank you,  
MATunley  
3416 Seppala Dr  
Anchorage, Ak  
99517

**From:** loraminne  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:14:17 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Alaska Resident Laura M Minne

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy S7, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone



**From:** Cindy Rader  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:16:17 PM

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I do not believe that distilleries should be able to serve mixed drinks. I feel it is unfair to the owners of bars and restaurants who have had to pay many thousands of dollars for a liquor license.

Thank you for your time

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Brandy Lokke  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:23:15 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Brandy Lokke

**From:** Zachary Yoder  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:38:18 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Zachary Yoder

**From:** Kevin Taylor  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 7:48:54 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kevin Taylor  
65 Tamarack Dr  
Whitehorse, Yukon Territory  
Y1A 4Y7  
867-335-7686

**From:** Maria Medvedeva  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:05:00 PM

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To the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board —

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Maria Medvedeva  
Cell: +7-924-703-55-56  
Business Lync: +1-832-619-21-60

**From:** Tracy Sullivan  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:08:02 PM

---

I am against the proposed regulation that distilleries cannot add anything to their tastings. It sounds like you are promoting downing shots instead of a nice tasting experience.

Tracy Sullivan  
PO Box 997  
Skagway, AK 99849

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Thomas McGuire  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** public comment for 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:08:22 PM

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Dear sir:

I am opposed to the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes concerning what can and cannot be served on the premises of Alaskan distilleries.

I believe the intent of the original legislation was to allow the craft distilleries to serve mixed drinks in their tasting rooms. Hard alcohol is most commonly served mixed rather than straight and it is not the role of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients.

I have been an Alaskan resident since 1969 and have made my home in Haines since 1985. Although I regularly drink alcohol I do not frequent bars. In my thirty two years in Haines I have been to a local bar only once. Yet I have gone to the Port Chilkoot distillery tasting room a number of times and have also visited Hoarfrost Distillery in Fairbanks. My patronage of these businesses does not take one penny away from the long established bar industry. Both of these craft distilleries provide a high quality product and are locally owned and locally staffed. Both tasting rooms are clean and orderly. I cannot fathom why the State would want to place a burden on such small business start-ups, especially considering Alaska's troubled economy.

I am certain the total amount of alcohol served by the craft distilleries is a minuscule percentage of the alcohol by the glass business in this state. The craft distilleries are a niche industry and do not pose a threat to the much larger bar industry. The restrictions already in place on the amount of alcohol served and the hours of operation are all that is needed to prevent the craft distilleries from becoming a major competitor. I think the attempt to suppress the growth of these small businesses is misguided and I urge the ABC board not to adopt the currently proposed regulations.

respectfully,

Thomas McGuire  
PO Box 918  
Haines, AK 99827  
[907 766 3202](tel:9077663202)

**From:** Electra Gardinier  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of Distilleries  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:09:51 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of small businesses, particularly Alaskan distilleries. I have had the pleasure of going to both the distillery in Juneau and in Haines. I cannot imagine these businesses being forced out of selling cocktails, nor do I understand the logic behind this. As someone who no longer drinks (both establishments served lovely mocktails), I definitely understand the concerns about increasing substance use in our communities. However, this does the opposite. Currently, distilleries encourage people to sip locally, have a few drinks, and spend time together. If regulations change, not only will I not even be able to get a NON alcoholic drink, but my friends will have to drink shots at home. If we are thinking about our community and about small businesses, then allowing a couple cocktails and endless laughs, seems like a much better option than sending people on their way with hard alcohol. We have bars, but they are not welcoming, particularly if you enjoy chatting, organic flavors, and being able to actually hear conversations. While alcoholism will always be a concern in our state, distilleries provide a safe, friendly, healthier way for people to drink socially with friends. I hope your decision will reflect what is best for small businesses and communities, rather than to appease bar owners.

Thank you!

Electra Gardinier

Sent from my iPhone

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Blees, John  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:23:26 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

John Blees

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**From:** Jim Jurgeleit  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:37:03 PM

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Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative code. I do not believe they should be restricted to only serving drinks without the added ingredients that are typically added for various drinks. Having patrons add ingredients won't produce the same quality of product and will take the sanitary procedures out of the process that the bartenders currently provide.

These regulations will harm a new and growing industry in Alaska, one that is already highly regulated. These businesses provide a nice atmosphere and with a 3 ounce alcohol limit per person in place you won't have the "inebriated" people that you may find at a typical bar.

I urge you to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Best Regards, Jim Jurgeleit

**From:** Ashley Bolyard  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 8:59:35 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Ashley

**From:** Juan Castaneda  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery support  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:10:55 PM

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I, Juan Pedro Castaneda-Gonzalez, support that Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them. Don't be like the FCC, listen to the people.

**From:** Wendi Yohman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:20:15 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Wendi Yohman

**From:** Heidi Morel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Local business  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:53:51 PM

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Hi. I'm a resident of Fairbanks and a local artist/swim coach. The last few years I have watched local breweries and distilleries thrive in my community. With the early tasting hours and strict 2 drink limit, I feel much more comfortable/safer than at local bars. I also like supporting local artisans (which includes distilleries and breweries) that stand behind their product and enjoy serving the community. These businesses that you are proposing new regulations on are classy establishments that families come to hang out and tourists come for a little taste of Alaska. These businesses also support local businesses (like myself) by having events such as First Fridays, which is a fun, family event that exposes art/culture/ideas to our community. In these tough fiscal times, its important to help small businesses thrive, not throw stones in their path. I hope that these proposed regulations are voted down and you keep the regs as is. Thanks!

Heidi Morel  
[morelpottery.com](http://morelpottery.com)  
[morelpottery.etsy.com](http://morelpottery.etsy.com)

**From:** Lindy Larson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 9:58:46 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. I have been a part of small family business, and this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Lindy Larson

**From:** Jeanette Boshears  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:24:19 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Boshears



**From:** Reed McCluskey  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** PUBLIC COMMENT: Proposed Regs: Distillery tasting rooms  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 10:58:08 PM

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Dear Alaska Alcohol Beverage Control Board:

I have recently been made aware of efforts by the board to severely restrict the options for private distillers in operating on-premises tasting rooms. As distillers are now permitted to sell up to 3 ounces of their products to customers for immediate consumption on the distilling premises, there is simply no reason to restrict how that product is served, whether it be alone or in combination with other usual and customary beverage ingredients such as mixers, ice, or garnishes. The latter items enhance the reception by potential customers of the bottled products.

I and my wife were Alaska residents from 1998 to 2013 and believe that anything that helps small businesses get started and become viable is to be encouraged. We believe that the unnecessarily restrictive regulations, as proposed, should not be approved.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

*Reed McCluskey*  
*21220 Apple Valley Drive*  
*Sonora, CA 95370*  
*(209) 588-8292 landline*  
*(209) 768-8612 cell*  
[mcc.reed@gmail.com](mailto:mcc.reed@gmail.com)

**From:** Bob Sylvester  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); %20craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:%20craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:09:20 PM

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Hello,

Please be advised that I am NOT in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

I understand that this is somewhat new ground for regulation. I believe the ABC is regulating the Distillery as you should. However by delving into the minute detail of what may or may not be served is beyond the reasonable scope of your charge. We do not want local businesses closing down due to regulation that is not appropriate. When in doubt allow the consumers choice and allow a business a chance to succeed.

Thank you,

Robert Sylvester  
PO Box 22487  
Juneau, AK 99802  
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**From:** Sara Chapell  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulation  
**Date:** Wednesday, December 27, 2017 11:11:02 PM

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Dear Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am writing to comment on proposed regulations that would further limit Alaska's distillery industry. AK State law creates reasonable restrictions on distillery tasting rooms, which clearly differentiate them from bars or restaurants. Those restrictions, like limiting operating hours, live music and bar seating, help draw the line between a bar, where a patron might spend hours consuming alcoholic beverages, and a distillery's tasting room, where the business cannot serve more than 3 ounces of their product to each patron. As a tasting room patron, I can attest to the fact that a stop at a distillery tasting room is rarely longer than an hour in duration.

I oppose the ABC board's attempt to regulate the kinds of mixers that distilleries serve with their product. If a business believes, for instance, that they can hear showcase their locally produced gin by mixing it with commercial tonic water, that does not make the establishment a bar. That's like saying a cupcake bakery shouldn't serve glasses of milk along side their confections. It's true, they didn't milk the cow themselves, but it should be left to their professional opinion how to best showcase their sweet treats.

Please do not stifle Alaskan ingenuity and entrepreneurship with unnecessary regulatory restrictions. Alaskans don't want it. We enjoy a locally mixed cocktail and appreciate the craftsmanship that goes into the whole product. Just a few ingredients that I've enjoyed in a cocktail at my hometown distillery: wild blueberries, locally produced high bush cranberry syrup, locally produced bitters, sour cherries harvested down the road, and spruce tip infused soda. Don't step in and over-regulate where it isn't wanted or necessary.

Thank you,

Sara Chapell  
P.O. Box 574  
Haines, AK 99827

**From:** Nicholle Chandler  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan Craft Distillers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 1:17:46 AM

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Hello,

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them. Straight shots are not as fun, and not as safe.

Alaska visitors, and myself, who like to experience tasting rooms, don't want straight shots.

We want a fun adult beverage with mixers and garnishes. I experienced a distiller this last summer in Skagway, and had a lovely drink with flowers and lavender. I wouldn't have bought one if it was served as a straight shot. Not allowing these drinks to be made with mixers and garnishes is losing sales, and therefore tax dollars.

Thank you for your time.

Nicholle Chandler  
Skagway, Alaska

**From:** Marsha  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:11:06 AM

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I support Alaska Distillers what's wrong with generating a new taxable industry for communities. They already seem to have appropriate limitations for safety of people & Community.  
Thanks for your time.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** James T  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 6:02:13 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
James Kirk  
Palmer, AK

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Alexandra Fletcher  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 6:56:22 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Fletcher

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Alexandra

**From:** Samantha LaPierre  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 6:59:01 AM

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Dear The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Samantha LaPierre



**From:** Tania Lewis  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery cocktails  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 7:59:56 AM

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Hello all,

Please keep allowing Alaskan distilleries to serve a small number of cocktails of their wares in tasting rooms. These tasting rooms have become important gathering places where the public can taste the distillery products with delicious hand crafted mixers. I personally would never drink gin or vodka with no mixer, so why would I want to try it straight in the tasting room? Distilleries generally have limited hours and are limited in the number of drinks they can serve each person, so they are not in direct competition with bars in the area. Rather they attract people to the area, people who then visit bars and other businesses, benefiting all. We have a good thing going here in AK with our local distilleries, please do not ruin it!

Sincerely,

Tania Lewis  
Juneau AK

**From:** Devin Finch  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 8:16:52 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Devin Finch

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** David Hajduk  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304 - Gov't Overreach  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 8:43:55 AM

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I am NOT in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate Non-Alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to NOT adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

David B. Hydock  
Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Tiffany Reynolds  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 9:25:07 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

As a manager of a thriving bar located in Skagway, Alaska, I believe putting limitations on serving craft cocktails with non-alcoholic ingredients at distilleries hinders the purpose of why tourist want to tour a distillery and tasting room. Distilleries with tasting rooms are experiencing a growth of tourism and are a popular planned destination. The tourists are there for the experience, education, and sampling of the product. The most popular choice for most tourist visiting a tasting room is to sample the products in a craft cocktail. The limitations of pouring 3 ounces a day of the distilleries product has ensured that the distilleries and tasting rooms have not abused the system and should not be limited on serving the 3 ounces they do serve by banning the use of non-alcoholic ingredients.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Reynolds

**From:** Natasha Ruppert  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 9:36:42 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

I do not like going to bars for drinks because its loud and I don't feel safe there. I Like going to distillery tasting rooms for a drink. But I will not be going there if I have to mix my own drinks or if I can only have shots of their products. Please do not take this option from people like myself.

Sincerely,

Natasha Ruppert  
3245 Hillary Ave, Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** Justin Jarvis  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** I support local distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:11:24 AM

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This is dumb. Let distilleries mix there own drinks. Thanks for listening.

Justin Jarvis  
Juneau AK

**From:** Tom Nelda Stewart  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Notice of Proposed Changes Regarding Distillery Licenses - comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:27:26 AM

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Hello,

I am writing in regards to the **Proposed Changes Regarding Distillery Licenses** and in particular:

*3 AAC 304.375 (d) For the purposes of AS 04.11.170(d) and (e), a licensee, agent, or employee of a licensee may not combine the distillery's product with any other manufactured product, but may serve separately non-alcoholic ingredients, including fruit juices, spiced and flavored mixers, garnishes, and carbonated beverages.*

I am at a loss as to why the Alaska ABC board is proposing that a Distillery can “*not combine the distillery's product with any other manufactured product*”, but may serve separately non-alcoholic ingredients”. What is the logic behind this requirement?

To prevent “combining” of products seems petty and the alternative being offered silly.

This proposal will cause an already established business process to be inefficient and more costly for the distillery and the consumer/customer, as it will be:

- Labor intensive.
- Time consuming.
- Wasteful, as three glasses will be required instead of one.

The end result will be a reduction of sales, loss of business revenue, loss of city sales tax, and possibly the closing of some distilleries. That could result in a huge loss of investment by the owners and possibly jobs.

From my standpoint what appears to be missing is the perspective of the consumer/customer. Distilleries are offering a new locality for consumers to sample a product at its origin. Gin and Vodka are two products that generally are not drunk by themselves, they are almost always mixed with other products.

Adding amendment (d) to regulation 3 AAC 304.375 as it is currently written will unfairly hinder the business model of many Alaska distilleries while adding nothing of value.

Thank you,

Tom Stewart



**From:** ken.doyel@yahoo.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Changing Regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:33:40 AM

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Leave the distilleries alone!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**From:** amanda babin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** I support local Distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:44:04 AM

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Dear Alcohol board,

I feel that distilleries in Alaska have received enough regulation distinguishing them from a bar. They have limited operating hours, a 6oz drink limit, and entertainment regulations, and more rules I'm probably not aware of. These three key regulations: hours, amount, and entertainment are what make a bar a bar.

Prohibiting distilleries from having mixer for there products is controlling how most people prefer to drink hard alcohol and limiting the distillery creativity and ability to inspire ways to use there product. A year ago I would have told you that I don't like gin. After trying a variety of drinks at the Amalga distillery in Juneau I now realize that I do like gin mixed in certain ways. Taking away the ability to inspire is cruel and unnecessary. I ask that you, the alcohol board, please allow distilleries in Alaska to continue to serve mixers.

-Amanda Babin

**From:** Matthew Reece  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:47:36 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Matthew Reece  
Juneau.

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Matthew Reece  
[mreece@caves.org](mailto:mreece@caves.org)

**From:** Caitlin McCurdy  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:56:37 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Caitlin McCurdy

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Kalean Rielly  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:59:22 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kalean Rielly

December 27, 2017

Alcohol & Marijuana Control Board  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: Public Comment on Proposed Changes Regarding Distillery Licenses

Dear Board Members:

As a current holder of several package store licenses in Juneau, I would like to offer the following comments regarding the proposed changes to 3 AAC 304.375:

It is my understanding that many distilleries are currently serving mixed drinks in their tasting rooms. Tasting rooms were created to allow the distillery to provide samples of their product to customers. Those of us holding other licenses issued pursuant to AS 04 have spent upwards of \$250,000 to obtain these very limited licenses. Distillery licenses cost \$1,000 for a two-year license. Allowing distilleries to continue to serve mixed drinks would encroach on businesses operating under the strict rules of AS 04 and severely diminish the value of those licenses.

The current language in AS 04.11.170 is clear. Sections (d) and (e) both state that the distillery may provide small portions of the distillery's product... This language does not allow the mixture of the distillery product with any other product. The Board's attorney has pointed out this fact on several occasions. The addition of the language proposed by the Department of Law making it unlawful for a distillery to combine their product with any other manufactured product, will help clarify this issue.

All of us in the alcohol industry must adhere to the laws and regulations in place for the type of license we possess. I encourage the Board to adopt the proposed language to make it clear what is and is not acceptable for current distillery license holders.

Sincerely,

Pete Thibodeau  
President & CEO  
Thibodeau's Markets  
PO Box 20290  
Juneau, AK 99802

**From:** Jonathon Petersson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:35:35 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcohol Beverage Control Board

I am not in Support of the ABC Board proposed regulation changes in 3AAC 304 of the Alaska Administration Code. I am specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on it's premises and what is considered to be a distillery "product".

The consumption limit of three ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless whether or not the alcohol is served straight or mixed. Furthermore, in my opinion, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients or garnishing of our drinks. To change the law, now and after the fact, is simply unfair to distillers, their customers and employees.

The proposed change adds another limitation to an industry that is benefiting other industries in the state. The ability to serve distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers, such as tonics, sodas and garnishing with a slice of lime or lemon is an industry standard.

It is also, not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. An attempt to do so is Government overreach that, if approved, will directly effect customers and small business owners.

Thank-you

**From:** Dueck Bach  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:35:47 AM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcohol Beverage Control Board

I am not in Support of the ABC Board proposed regulation changes in 3AAC 304 of the Alaska Administration Code. I am specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on it's premises and what is considered to be a distillery "product".

The consumption limit of three ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless whether or not the alcohol is served straight or mixed. Furthermore, in my opinion, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients or garnishing of our drinks. To change the law, now and after the fact, is simply unfair to distillers, their customers and employees.

The proposed change adds another limitation to an industry that is benefiting other industries in the state. The ability to serve distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers, such as tonics, sodas and garnishing with a slice of lime or lemon is an industry standard.

It is also, not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. An attempt to do so is Government overreach that, if approved, will directly effect customers and small business owners.

Thank-you



**From:** kathy selenak  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:38:53 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Selenak

**From:** Dale Fox  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:40:14 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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To: ABC Board

AS 04.06.090 says in part that the “The Board shall control the manufacture, barter, possession, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the state.” The Alaska Legislature provides in statutes the foundation of the law. The board is then allowed to promulgate regulations to clarify the law.

The foundation of our system is that we are bound by the rule of law. So the first thing that is needed is an examination of what the law says.

**04.141.170 d and e provide that a distillery may give away or sell up to” three ounces” of the “distillery’s product”.**

1. **A distillery’s product is or should be easy to define.** In 04.11.170 (a) a distillery is where alcoholic beverages are distilled. The normal definition of distilling is the process where grains are fermented and processed with a still.

Clearly Not the Distillery’s Product:

- Other spirits purchased from outside sources
- Products that are not distilled, including all mixers

The board cannot invent in their regulations new products that would be the distiller product.

Gray area:

- If a distiller buys alcohol from another source and then runs it through their still---Did they distill a product? Some may argue yes, other argue no because they did not begin with a normal distilling starting with grains and other raw material.

The board does have the ability to deal with gray areas. Does the distilleries product need to start from basic ingredients or can an operator just run absolute vodka through their still to develop Absolute Alaska?

2. **The second issue from the law is what is three ounces of the distillery’s product?** We contend that the distillery’s product is the spirits that result from raw materials fermented and processed with a still. However if the board decides ginger beer or other mixers are the distillery product. There is no ambiguity about what 3 ounces means. The mixer (if recognized as the distillers product) plus the spirits cannot total more than 3 ounces.

When the board examines these two facts the proposed regulations are indeed rational for the ABC

to adopt.

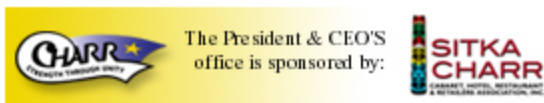
The challenge with all laws and regulations is the amazing creativity of residents to quibble over the definition of words. One example is in section ( e ) of the new regulation. Residents could argue about what a distilled product was as outlined above in my gray area example. We suggest that the wording be more descriptive to describe the process starting with grains and other raw materials or there will be some who argue that running Jack Daniels through there still one more time makes it Alaska Jack.

Similarly, section (e) ( 2 ) the words say the distillery product should be offered for sale. Does that mean for sale just in the tasting room or does that mean bottled for sale through normal retail outlets like bars and package stores?

The board should clearly follow the law and it should also where possible clarify gray areas where creative people could develop different opinions of what the words mean.

Most important is that the board make a decision, as delay and ignoring the plain meaning of the law diminishes respect for the rule of law. 04.06.075 says that the director shall enforce this title and regulations adopted by the board. Clearly the mission board to control the manufacture, barter or sale of alcohol requires decisions in some reasonable time frame. There is a provision that allows the director to cast a tie breaking vote with the consent of the directors. (see AAC 304.025 C) It may be time to utilize this provision given the inability of the board to reach a decision on these issues.

Dale Fox  
President & CEO  
Alaska CHARR  
1503 W 31st Ave Ste 202  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
907-274-8133 or Toll Free in Alaska 800-478-2427  
[www.alaskacharr.com](http://www.alaskacharr.com)



**From:** Ben Tatone  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Craft distillers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 11:58:29 AM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Ben Tatone

**From:** William Thomas  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Micro distillery regs  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:13:16 PM

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As a consumer, I don't see any reason to put restrictions on independent distillers that would limit their opportunity to showcase their products in the most informative ways: ie; serving mixed drinks.

Most people are going to use alcohol in cocktails. Let distilleries demo their products in the way consumers are going to use them.

I am a frequent visitor to Alaska.

Bill Thomas

Sent from my iPad

**From:** sherry  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** skagway spirits  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:30:40 PM

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I am a resident of skagway alaska and would like to support my local distillery in serving non in house mixer components for the purposes of sampling in house spirits. this is in no way competing with local bars-- there's enough business to go around. the limited hours of the distilleries and other limitations ensure distilleries are not direct competition to local liquor license establishments and in fact actually can increase their business once the 8:00 curfew is enforced at closing. locals will go to the bars afterwards. You can't change the rules mid season== that is bad ethics and your board should be ashamed for taking such action. These hard working establishments are doing lots to comply and to bring new industry to small communities. the abc board has no business to change the rules mid game and in essence limit their options so they can't continue to operate. Leave them alone and start thinking outside the box.

Sherry corrington  
skagway ak

**From:** Becky McGill  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Law  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:33:12 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Cheers,  
Becky

**From:** Larisa Corbett  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** New restrictions  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:34:24 PM

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Anchorage needs more reasons for business to open and that includes ways to bring people into an establishment. Creating fun, unique events at breweries, wine making and distillery establishments is a way to support a new and burdening industry in AK. Many places outside of Ak has very successfully included the community in events meant to educate or just plain have some fun. Please do not limit the entrepreneurial sport of Ak by over regulating what has been shown to work in other areas of the county. These types of establishments should be allowed to hold events at their places of business.

Thank you  
Larisa Corbett



**From:** Janice Smalling  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan Craft Distillers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:41:04 PM

---

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred and safer way to consume them.

Sincerely,  
Janice Smalling

**From:** Tina Cyr  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** ABC Board RE: Craft Distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:43:54 PM

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I am writing in support of the Alaskan Craft distiller's business model of being allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. This emerging Distillery business concept is not like a tasting room for the wine industry - the alcohol needs a mixer!

Thank you for this consideration. I believe that these local craft distillers are doing a very professional job of showcasing THEIR creations.

Thank you

Kristin (Tina) Cyr  
Skagway Alaska Resident

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Scott Doddridge  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Keep Distilleries Going  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:53:06 PM

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Please support the future of distilleries. They provide local jobs, spur growth of other cottage industries, and provide a good atmosphere by keeping drinking at tolerable limits.

Sincerely,  
Scott Doddridge

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Sent from my mobile

**From:** Pete & Sheri Heger  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska craft distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 12:54:15 PM

---

I support Alaska craft distilleries be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non- alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred ( and safe ) way to consume them. Thank you  
Pete Heger

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10



Port Chilkoot Distillery  
PO Box 1248  
Haines, Alaska 99827  
[www.portchilkootdistillery.com](http://www.portchilkootdistillery.com)

To: The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board-

Thank you for taking the time to review the existing distillery statutes and your efforts to clarify language through this regulations project. We have reviewed the proposed statute changes and are disappointed to see that they do not reflect standard industry practices, the intent of the law, public safety considerations, the will of the citizens, or common sense. As an industry member and small business that this regulation will greatly impact, we oppose the proposed draft; specifically, the addition of wording in to the statute that restricts the mixing of any ingredient with our distilled spirits. The draft you have proposed would require us to have our customers mix their own drinks, which is unsafe. It would make it almost impossible to monitor proper alcohol service and would create hazardous food safety conditions. It does not reflect a proper understanding of the distilling industry.

We participated in the drafting of HB309 that modernized Alaska's distillery laws to allow for tasting rooms, and we accepted the unique restrictions that are placed on all tasting rooms in this state. The restrictions are outlined in the Title 4 statutes and there is clearly no restriction in there on how our products are to be prepared for service. It was not intended that there would be; otherwise it would have been listed as one of the restrictions. The original sponsors of the bill have provided this clarification to you. The purpose of the law was to allow the distilling industry to promote and sell our products directly to the consumer, just like the breweries can do. Spirits are unique in the way they are prepared and there is no reason to limit how we serve them and we believe that doing so is unlawful and is severe, unnecessary government overreach in to our industry's trade practices and of our customers' rights.

It is not necessary to ADD restrictions that are not currently in there. Instead, we encourage you to learn more about our industry and how spirits are produced and served and change the wording of the regulation to ALLOW for mixing of any ingredients with the distilled products. State legislators are in the process of filing a bill that clarifies this. Please allow the law-makers to do their job and in the meantime, for our distillery tasting rooms to operate in the way we have been for the past three years.

Thank you,

*Heather Shade*  
Heather Shade  
Co-Owner, Port Chilkoot Distillery  
Haines, Alaska

**From:** Paul Casey  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 1:02:13 PM

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**Subject line:**

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Paul

**From:** Natalie Giordano  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska craft distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 1:07:15 PM

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To whom it may concern;

As an Alaska resident and a small business owner, I am in support of Alaskan craft distilleries showcasing their products in the form of mixed drinks. In my opinion, they should be allowed to mix their products with nonalcoholic beverages and to use garnishes. Most people do not drink liquor straight, so they are unable to sample the products before purchasing. Such small and unique businesses need ways to be able to sell there products so they may survive being in business against the big corporations.

We should all be In support of small Alaskan companies making a name for themselves. This will only affect our state and local commerce in a positive and lucrative way.

Thank you for considering my opinion,  
Natalie Healy

**From:** Toivo Luick  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Against proposed distillery regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 1:37:19 PM

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Dear Director McConnell and members of the ABC Board:

I am strongly against instituting the proposed regulations that would alter the way that distilleries serve our distilled products. Instead I ask the Board to consider putting regulations aside and waiting for the legislature to consider a new bill that will remove all doubt as to interpretation of the statutes.

The 3 oz restriction places the same limit for distilleries as other producers in terms of alcohol consumed, or you might say, results in the same degree of intoxication. The mixers allow us to sell our products in the usual and customary way that liquors are consumed. There are some people who drink vodka or whiskey neat (a small minority), but many spirits are never taken that way such as gin or absinthe.

HB309 in 2014 as part of a distillery license to allow us a place to showcase our products, and to make sales to offset the high cost of production in Alaska. This vital financial vehicle allows distillers to raise some revenue, which is vital in the early days when we are trying to establish our brand and become known.

The financial risks taken by distillers in Alaska are enormous even in the best-case scenario. A distiller's license is not, as some have put it, a license to print money. In our case, we were paying rent, salary, and construction costs for an entire year while spending hundreds of thousands of dollars on equipment and supplies and consulting before we could even get a license.

Only after licensing were we able to begin trying recipes, testing equipment, and then making refinements and testing again. Still paying rent and other fixed costs, and still not bringing in a single cent in revenue. We spent all that before we knew if we could even make a marketable product. There are myriad things that could have gone wrong and put us back months with ongoing costs continuing to accumulate.

Once we were able to start bottling and selling vodka, we had to then begin to try to establish a brand identity in the market. Only 10 months that we have been open remains our number one most important and difficult goal. That is where the tasting room means the difference between financial life and death.

Bars and liquor stores don't have any incentive to promote our vodka over other brands that they can usually get cheaper and that people already know. Craft spirits make up less than 2% of all sales in the US. We have to win over customers so that they order our products in the bars. Between the revenue that is generated, and the chance to educate potential customers about our vodka, the tasting room is the most crucial tool for building our brand.

That makes two years or extremely intense spending and working very long days, every day and every week to build up the brand enough that we can get the public to even know that our product exists, much less try it and appreciate the quality of it. My company is my wife and I. We have employees, but at this time we are still paying salaries out of our life savings and



doing everything we can to survive until our sales get over the hump.

The argument that I have mostly heard is that AMCO has to abide by a plain reading of the statute. I argue that “a plain reading” and the interpretation that has been given in ABC Board meetings are subject to debate. The language of the statutes has been given extremely narrow definitions by the AAG, and I believe that the intent of the statutes has been wrongly put aside.

We have become entangled in a semantic argument over mixing non-alcohol components. I can not imagine a “plain reading” that is so muddled that we have to debate whether the tonic is made by me or purchased. When we talk about a slippery slope in meetings, I think the slipperiest is when the Board starts taking on attempting to regulate non-alcohol items. I think this is clearly outside the intent of the statute, and even the AAG has to amend her plain reading to add an editorial “and nothing else” in order for it to make sense.

My interpretation is backed up by numerous legislators who were active in the passing of HB309. The AAG says that their opinion is of no importance, and that all rests on the plain reading of the statute as written. If their opinions don’t matter, then no opinions should matter, but in this case I think original intent is easily determined and should be supported.

I ask that AMCO and the Board abandon these proposed regulations. I think that the results of following the AAG’s advice will have a crushing and irreparable effect on the industry, and on the families who have invested so much, only to have the rules changed in mid-stream. Instead, please allow the legislature to take up the issue in the next session. A bill has already been drafted and is ready for early introduction.

I think that the Board, when considering the reasons for taking this action should ask if they are doing good. Is it the right thing? Many Alaskan’s have put their faith and knowledge and entrepreneurial spirit and life savings to the test by starting small distilleries. Changing the rules now in this way is only destructive.

Warm regards,

Toivo Luick  
Hoarfrost Distilling

--

**Hoarfrost Distilling**  
Toivo Luick, owner  
4345 Driftwood Ct  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
907-460-7918

**From:** doug  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** In opposition to new regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 1:51:18 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Please focus on other aspects of liquor control that are in desperate need of increased regulation.  
Cheers.

**From:** Sheri Vidic  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 2:04:28 PM

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Hello,

I am writing in favor of allowing our great distilleries of Alaska to add non-alcoholic beverages to their spirits. Considering the limit of three drinks already in place I believe this is a an appropriate request, and I 100% support not breaking something that is providing a favorable opportunity to those of us who are enjoying the distillery environment.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sheri Vidic  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Susan Boudreau  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed rule change  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 2:08:33 PM

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To whom it may concern,

Alaskans and our visitors enjoy the experience of our tasting rooms. They enjoy Alaska made spirits with garnishes and non-alcohol ingredients. The Alaska experience comes in all different ways and this is what our visitors want and expect. This ruling would have a direct impact to our visitors and the financial future of Alaska's businesses. Please vote against it. Thank you

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Eric Forst  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Leeann Thomas](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed changes to distillery license  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 2:11:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [image006.png](#)

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Dear AMCO board members,

I find myself writing you today to remind you that you are once again making decisions about the liquor industry without considering the ramifications that those decisions might have on the existing BDL business who have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars for the privilege to operate a bar in Alaska.

The current issue revolves around distilleries and how they are allowed to operate. Currently there are only a handful of distilleries operating in the state and it is clear there are issues surrounding these operations. Now is the time to make the necessary corrections to the regulations BEFORE this new industry develops further.

My concern is not with the ability of the distilleries to operate tasting rooms in order for the public to SAMPLE their product but rather with HOW you are allowing, either by regulation or lack of regulation, these tasting rooms to operate. Tasting rooms should not be operating as pseudo bars that close at 8. The purpose of these rooms should be to introduce their product to customers and then direct them to retailers or bars for purchase. That is how the 3 tier system works. But if someone can go into a tasting rooms and have 2 cocktails for a reduced price why would they then continue to a regular bar? Most people have 2 drinks in a bar anyway. Mixed drinks should remain the purview of actual bars who have invested significantly in a BDL and not allowed to be served in any way in tasting rooms. The language is plain and simple, in section **04.11.170 distillery License**, that distilleries are not allowed to serve mixed alcoholic beverages the boards own attorney has pointed that out on multiple occasions. Mixed Alcoholic Beverages are the business of BDL's. When finished with this project it needs to be very clear that Distilleries are not allowed to Mix drinks, or provide entertainment. And that the only product allowed to be sampled is product ready for sale in a bottled form to the public.

A true distillery is actually distilling their own alcohol. Currently many of the distilleries are simply buying bulk grain alcohol and throwing in a few "spices" and running through that their still. This is not what a craft distillery is supposed to look like. Never mind that there is no way for the customer to know that the product is in fact mass produced alcohol from the lower 48.

As you consider the public comment in favor of the distilleries, remember that many of these people are customers who patronize these tasting rooms as bars for cocktail consumption and not to simply "sample" the product and ask their local bar to carry it.

This issue is critical to the health of the BDL operators and since you are issuing these new distillery licenses at a rate of 1 per 3000 there is the potential for up to 11 new "bars" in Juneau which will dramatically impact the value of the license that many of us have invested in. Before this happens, please consider this and any decision you make through the lens of "how will this impact existing

BDL license holders?" I urge you to work on this issue and foster a healthy distillery industry that is built on production and wholesale distribution and not built around operating a distillery tasting room bar.

Thank you for your time.

**Eric Forst**

*General Manager/Partner*

*Red Dog Saloon and Mercantile*

*278 S. Franklin St.*

*Juneau AK, 99801*

*(907)463-3658 ext. 1*

*(907)723-1275 cell*

[eric@reddogsaloon.com](mailto:eric@reddogsaloon.com)



[www.reddogsaloon.com](http://www.reddogsaloon.com)

**From:** Ellery, Karen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** I support Alaskan craft distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 2:14:00 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

These craftspeople deserve to be able to showcase their products as the majority of people will consume them: in cocktails. Please don't stifle their creativity and business sense! Thank you!

Karen Ellery

**From:** Candace Cahill  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan Craft Distillers Comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 2:22:43 PM

---

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Candace Cahill  
PO Box 662  
Skagway, Alaska 99840



**From:** Shawn hipsh  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan craft distillers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 2:52:46 PM

---

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Shawn Hipsh

# Alaska State Legislature

Official Business



State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska  
99801-1182

December 28, 2017

Erika McConnell  
Director  
Alaska Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office  
550 West 7th Ave, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Director McConnell and ABC Board Members,

The 28<sup>th</sup> Alaska State Legislature passed House Bill 309 (HB 309) by an overwhelming majority of legislators. HB 309 helped Alaska-owned distilleries grow their small businesses by providing an opportunity for tasting rooms.

We do not always see immediate benefits of legislation, but in this case our distillery businesses were able to flourish using tasting rooms to increase in their visibility, attract more customers, compete effectively with multi-national brands, and become a more active participant in their respective communities. HB 309 was so successful that since the passage of HB 309, seven new distilleries have opened across Alaska.

The proposed regulations to limit mixing distilled products goes against the original intent of the Legislature and will negatively impact local distilleries. It is crucial that we continue to support all our small businesses and not create regulations that will hamper their ability to thrive.

HB 309 intended to allow distillers to provide samples and sell their product. The statute clearly outlines what a distiller can and cannot within their tasting rooms, how a distiller can give samples to patrons and sell their products. There was never an intention to impose limitations on serving distilled products with mixers.

Most consumers of distilled spirits do in fact mix the spirits with other products. One of the reasons the serving amount of a distilled product was limited to three ounces was the expectation that mixers would be added to the serving to approximate the way consumers would be using the product. The owners of distilleries were intimately involved in the legislative process, from drafting to passage, so we sincerely believe Alaskan distilleries have been following the letter of the law and the intent of bill.

Please do not pass the proposed regulations, which will significantly impede small business owners across Alaska, create undue burden on their current business practices, and hurt their ability to grow. We have witnessed the wide-spread support of our local distilleries and have full confidence that our distillery owners will continue to be good stewards of our communities.

Sincerely,



Sen. Peter Micciche



Rep. Chris Tuck



Sen. Berta Gardner



Rep. Scott Kawasaki



Sen. Natasha von Imhof



Rep. Jonathan Kreiss-Tomkins



Sen. Bill Wielechowski



Rep. Jason Grenn



Sen. Tom Begich



Rep. Harriet Drummond



Sen. Dennis Egan

cc: Bob Klein, ABC Board Chair  
Rex Leath, ABC Board Member  
Robert Evans, ABC Board Member  
Thomas Manning, ABC Board Member  
Ellen Ganley, ABC Board Member

**From:** Samuel Best  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** New distillery regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:14:49 PM

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I support Alaska craft distillers' right to serve their distilled spirits with non alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe that it is the best way to showcase their products, and the preferred (and safer) way for customers to consume them.

There is obviously a demand for mixed drinks in tasting rooms. These regulations do nothing to promote customer safety, but do put an unnecessary burden on these small business owners.

I hope that you take this into consideration when making decisions regarding these regulations.

Thank you for your time,

Sam in Skagway

**From:** Thomas Heywood  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Tasting Rooms comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:19:30 PM

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Hello. My husband and I have been Haines residents for 24 years and are very much in support of tasting rooms in Alaskan distilleries. Heather Shade and Sean Copeland have worked very hard to establish their business in Haines, and have helped put Haines on the map with their successful Port Chilkoot Distillery. The limited hours, lack of seating, select product, and 3 oz. limit at the distillery all put distillery tasting rooms in a different category than bars. We do not see tasting rooms competing with bar business. The draw is different. We have never gone to a local bar for a cocktail, nor would we start now. We go to the Port Chilkoot Distillery tasting room to support the efforts of Heather and Sean as entrepreneurs and business people, and we enjoy seeing (and tasting!) what they do with locally harvested products.

We are writing today to ask you to please continue allowing Alaskan distilleries to operate their tasting rooms. Ours is a source of pride in Haines – a shining star like our Best Small Library in America, our Southeast Alaska State Fair and annual Beer Fest, and our quirky Hammer Museum.

Sincerely,  
Liz and Tom Heywood

**From:** George Butt  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting room regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:19:42 PM

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As much as I recognize the government's right to control the distribution of alcohol, I feel that the undo burden of restricting how distillers present their products to the public harmful to their ability to operate. Without the ability to garnish or create a cocktails, they lose the magic that promotes the product and will not be able to showcase the spirits in their best light. After owing my own small business I know the blood and tears that come from going all in on a dream. I feel that for those just starting out this additional regulation could end more than a few dreams.

George Butt

**From:** Kat  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:25:20 PM

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Dear Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

The proposed rule changes that would prohibit distilleries from serving spirits with garnishes and non-alcoholic ingredients is silly. Leaving distilleries with the only option of serve straight shots is irresponsible and is not how Alaskans and visitors like to experience tasting rooms, and isn't in the best interest of the public.

I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Sincerely,

Kathy Wassman

(A big fan of Skagway distillery)

**From:** Wasabi"s  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries serving liquor  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:31:59 PM

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My name is Idalia Frazier and I own and operate Wasabi's restaurant in Homer. I strongly disagree with the propose notion to allow distilleries to serve alcohol in a manner other than just tasting. If the distilleries want to participate in the bar business they should go and get a dispensary license like the rest of us and make the investment of \$150 k like we did. Their current license is to manufacture alcohol, sell it in bulk to us and other distributing outlets. Allowing what they are currently doing is a breach of their license. Please follow the letter of the law and stop distilleries from becoming another dispensary with out the proper licenses. Thank you.



**From:** Terri Fagerstrom  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Distilleries/tasting rooms  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 3:39:22 PM

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I've been reading a lot about the regulations, interpretation, and dispute of tasting rooms for distilleries in Alaska these past few months and wanted to add my take on things. I can see both sides of the argument. I can fully understand and appreciate the concerns of bar owners who have to obtain an often very expensive and elusive alcohol license in order to run their business and, often to cover the expenses of having such a license, are forced to charge a premium in order to cover expenses. Meanwhile, they see distilleries and breweries having the freedom to serve similar drinks without the overhead expenses of such a license. On the other hand, I see the entrepreneur business owners who found built a business model based on how the regulations were being interpreted at the time. Especially now, Alaska needs new business and revenue; shutting down this business model would essentially destroy the business and investment these persons have made. So, what is the solution? First off, I think some clarification needs to be made. I think distilleries or brewery tasting rooms should be allowed to mix in or use non-alcoholic products (fresh fruit, juices, soda) with their product to help showcase the use of their product. The size of the serving portion and the number of tastes permitted should continue to be limited. As should the hours. This is not a bar, but a tasting room. The tasting rooms in both of these venues are very popular and closing them down would eliminate this aspect of their business model, in some cases I'm sure undermining the business to the point of collapse. However the line should be drawn in allowing either of these venues to mix in any alcoholic products they do not make. If the distillery makes gin then all the drinks they offer need to be gin based. And not contain any alcohol products which are not made directly on the premises. I also think the distilleries need to make a good faith effort to make their products available to the local bars and promote that fact; if they are only producing enough product to keep their own "tasting rooms" going, then that limits persons from having their product at other venues. If the distilleries made enough to supply local venues as well (even if it was very limited amounts and even at the risk of having to limit their own service at times) and the two could promote each other, that creates a community.

I also think there is merit in creating a middle ground license that should be examined. I believe this could help to calm some of the hate and discontent between those establishments forced to carry an expensive liquor license to be in business and the newer distillery business popping up who currently don't need any sort of license to serve their products. Create a license for tasting rooms which limit the holder of the permit from serving anything containing alcohol outside of products made on the premises. The cost and availability of these licenses could then be regulated. Obviously since the tasting rooms are limited to only serving alcohol products they make and are restricted in quantity served and hours of operation, the license cost should reflect this and be less expensive than a full service liquor license. Yes, it adds some expense to the new (and even old) businesses but it would certainly fill what is now a void and help remove the "gray area" that is up for current discussion. Perhaps examine some criteria for grandfathering in existing businesses? Because I would think that tasting rooms for beer or wineries would fall under the same guidelines as tasting rooms for distilleries. And distilleries or operations without tasting rooms, making for distribution and sales, would not be required to obtain such a license.

Thanks for the consideration and time

Terri

**From:** Lisa Good  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery rules  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 4:17:26 PM

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I live in Anchorage Alaska and am a registered voter. Here are my thoughts on the restrictions you are trying to place and have already placed on distilleries in Alaska. I believe the simple restriction of the very early closing time (which I think should be changed from 8 pm to 10 pm) and the serving limit of three ounces, both of which you have already imposed, is more than enough. I think it is ridiculous to not allow regularly used mixers, such as sodas or juices.

As for not allowing live music or other types of entertainment, that is not only ridiculous, it is also restricting entertainers from their livelihood.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lisa Good  
good@alaskan.com

**From:** Geri  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\): craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 4:25:25 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Geraldeen Stoll  
Juneau, AK

**From:** Mike Stoll  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 4:26:29 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Michael Stoll

Juneau, AK

**From:** Elke Saunders  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** public comment  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 4:34:08 PM

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I am writing to oppose the changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically opposed to subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

It is irresponsible to push straight alcohol on people and not allow them to mix their drinks. This is a matter of public safety.

Side note: this proposed change really shouldn't be under the scope of the alcohol control board, since they do not govern non-alcoholic substances.

3rd. I see this as gross government overreach, interfering with small business and locally made products, limiting them and giving advantage to large corporate and non-Alaskan owned bars. This law would be squelching a small craft product that tourists would enjoy and will keep all the money in the state. We need to encourage small, locally made products and businesses for local jobs and a healthy economy.

Although many people are probably not going to write, everyone I talk to thinks this change is punitive and outright ridiculous. Come on, guys. We can do better and encourage small business, not squash it out with meaningless regulations!

Elke Saunders  
1436 O Street  
Anchorage, AK 99501

**From:** Sam my  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Liquor mixers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 4:39:27 PM

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As an Alaskan, I support Alaskan distillers be allowed to serve their drinks with non-alcoholic mixers. It's obvious that's that's best for everybody.

**From:** Ann Gifford  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 4:45:05 PM

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Dear ABC Board,

Please do not prohibit distilleries from mixing their products with non-alcoholic ingredients in drinks that they serve in their tasting rooms. The idea that you would restrict distilleries to simply serving their products straight doesn't make sense to me. It seems more responsible to encourage people to sample liquor mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients than to offer them only shots of alcohol.

I do not believe that allowing distilleries to serve mixed drinks, serve food or provide entertainment in their tasting rooms gives distilleries an unfair advantage over bars and restaurants with liquor licenses. Distilleries are already significantly restricted in the amount of alcohol they can serve to each customer and in the hours they can serve. Those are adequate protections against unfair competition. Within those restrictions, creative start ups like Amalga Distillery in Juneau and Port Chilcoot in Haines have provided interesting and enjoyable new experiences for locals and visitors. Many of the people who visit these establishments, myself and my husband included, have little interest in spending time in local bars. Please don't throw up unnecessary roadblocks to the development of innovative businesses that showcase Alaska-made products.

Thank you for considering these comments and for the work you do for our State. Sincerely,  
Ann Gifford

--

Ann Gifford  
4350 Glacier Hwy.  
Juneau, Alaska 99801  
(907) 780-4912

**From:** Chef Stef  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:27:01 PM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Stefani Marnon



**From:** Marlys Schneider  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); %20craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:31:49 PM

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Dec. 28, 2017

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

I oppose the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

While I am in full agreement with limiting on-site alcohol consumption to 3 ounces I see no reason to restrict the use of non-alcoholic ingredients that may be mixed with the distillery's product. With or without mixers, the limit is still 3 ounces. Furthermore, I believe that controlling the use of non-alcoholic liquids is not part of the ABC Board's duties.

Please do not adopt the current proposed regulations. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marlys Schneider, Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** michele maley  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** craft distillers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 5:35:05 PM

---

Dear AMCO,

I support Alaska craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnished. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred ( and safe) way to consume them.

Michele Maley

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** Peggi Taken  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Don't change the guidelines for Alaska distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 6:00:38 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

**From:** Elizabeth Nudelman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Distilleries Against limiting mixers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 6:03:35 PM

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Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Elizabeth Nudelman <[emsnudelman@gmail.com](mailto:emsnudelman@gmail.com)>  
**Subject:** Distilleries Against limiting mixers  
**Date:** December 28, 2017 at 6:01:08 PM AKST  
**To:** [AMCO.Reg@alaska.gov](mailto:AMCO.Reg@alaska.gov)

I am writing to urge that you NOT make up interpretations outside of the clear and straight forward current statue and regulations that govern distilleries. I urge you against taking positions on longstanding statute and regulations based on short sighted complaints from competing license holders who wish to have your board side with and give special help to specific liquor license categories.

3 ounces of product is a relatively small amount, the tasting rooms are very different than a bar, the options are limited and these types of businesses really are not competing with a general category bar. The distilleries, at a time when Alaska really needs it, are bringing some young folks into the business world and into Alaska's economy. Do not over regulate Alaska and stamp out our kids who are trying to open small businesses with a small amount of alcohol.

And from a common sense standpoint coming out against mixer when the alcohol is clearly defined at 3 ounces begs the question of fairness.

Elizabeth Nudelman  
Alaska

**From:** matanuskamusic  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting rooms.  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 8:02:21 PM

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REALLY? This is a problem? Time to start following the money. See where that leads.

Sounds like a solution looking for a problem

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

**From:** Max Jewell  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** ABC board tasting room decision  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 8:11:04 PM

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Hi, I am a born and raised Alaskan. I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them. To me it seems ridiculous not being allowed to mix alcohol with the mixers that they are being served with. If the purpose of a tasting room is to taste, people should be able to taste the alcohol accurately to its intended use. No one drinks straight alcohol period! Please drop this proposed idea, for the sake of both the businesses and consumers.

Thanks,

Max Jewell

**From:** Lorayne Embretson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 8:45:24 PM

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ToL. The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I think the distillery industry is awesome in Anchorage and needs to stay that way! Don't hinder it please.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. We do not need more government overreach.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Lorayne Embretson

**From:** Quincy Bates  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 9:13:29 PM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Quincy Bates



**From:** Samuel Ohana  
**To:** [Tuck, Christopher \(LEG\)](#); [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 9:17:24 PM

---

**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Samuel Ohana

**From:** Ryan Johnson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillers  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 9:18:52 PM

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Let the distilleries sell their products in their stores! They who make the liquor and drinks put far more care and discretion into the products than any regular bar or bartender.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Brett Marengo  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:18:55 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

cheers,

Brett

**From:** Eileen S. Julian  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment about 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:26:38 PM

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To the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcohol Board,

I completely disagree with the recent interpretations you have made regarding distilleries and their ability to provide their products in a reasonable manner. Along the same line of thinking, it seems that you would argue that a grocery store cannot provide some cooked foods in their deli, because only a restaurant can provide that. There are huge differences in the ambiance and style between a full restaurant and a grocery store deli, and different clientele will prefer one over the other, but you would not pass a stupid law restricting a grocery store from selling some cooked foods, nor a restaurant from selling some bottled sauces or take-home breads. In the same way, a distillery is like a grocery store and the current interpretation you are making is beyond asinine. I can only guess that some restaurant owners (aka legit bars) feel that their business is threatened, but in truth the type of person who prefers the distinctly different atmosphere of a distillery usually does not choose to patronize bars--instead you would stifle a growing industry and restrict our Constitutional freedoms? I thought I lived in ALASKA, where we value freedom and choice and limited invasive government.

Please make the RIGHT choice--respect my freedoms. Respect business rights. Show intelligent, thoughtful decisions.

Sincerely,  
Eileen Julian  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** Ajay Nautiyal  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:36:17 PM

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To Whom it may concern,

I would like to let you know that I COMPLETELY disagree with the new regulations concerning distilleries. You should NOT be limiting what is served, or how it is served. You have better things to do with your time than creating stupid rules. My friends all think this is dumb--you are not listening to the public and I hope that you start listening. Your only job is regulating the ALCOHOL, not the other things with it. Why are you trying to destroy business in Alaska????

Ajay Nautiyal

**From:** Krishna Nautiyal  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** New regulations about distilleries  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:43:08 PM

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I am publicly voicing my unhappiness with the new regulations regarding what distilleries can or can not serve with their product. I think that they provide a good product for the community in a way that bars don't. I won't go to a bar, but I would go to a distillery. No bar is losing my business. Just as you have no business trying to stifle the sales at the distilleries --it doesn't make sense. All I can figure is that someone on the board is getting money from bar owners who think they are losing business. Shouldn't you represent the public ? This part of the public thinks you should stop adding stupid regulations that restrict business for no good reason.

Krishna Nautiyal

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Jagan Nautiyal  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** AAC304  
**Date:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 10:47:13 PM

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I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the Alcohol board and it's trend toward more regulations and less common sense. There is NO reason for the proposed changes. It doesn't make sense. You shouldn't limit what refineries can do. It's just not logical and I honestly can't understand why you are even considering a change. Please DON'T.

Jagan Nautiyal

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Richard Steele  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Support Alaska's distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:12:42 AM

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I have visited Juneau's Amalga Distillery several times and disagree that such endeavors should be hobbled by restrictive regulations limiting them to ingredients they make themselves.

Find a compromise. For too long Alaska's bars have morphed into seedy places. The distilleries add class and home-made product. Support them.

Richard A. Steele  
1507 2nd St.  
Douglas, AK 99824



**From:** Cynthia Phelps  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:50:41 AM

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To whom it may concern at the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely, Cynthia Phelps

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Elizabeth Jurgeleit  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:58:34 AM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

**From:** Ray Kern  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 6:17:07 AM

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I believe the statute is quite clear. A sample of the product. Anchorage distillery has a face book ad that says to give patrons straight alcohol is irresponsible. They are getting the same amount of alcohol if the drink is mixed. To allow them to create drinks is in completion with bars. This craziness about giving them the mixers is just getting around the plain language of the law.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** natalie monacci  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 8:15:26 AM

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Hello

I am against regulations to prevent Alaska's distilleries from serving cocktails in their tasting rooms. The new regulations proposed are overreach for government's sake and neither help the businesses owners nor the customers.

We Alaskans want to taste a distiller's product in the same fashion that the product is typically purchased for, in a mixed drink.

I personally have never once gone to a tasting room, distillery nor brewery, in place of going to a bar. They are not the same and any misinterpretation of 'competition' that may have led to these ridiculous regulations is a misstep for this board.

Thank you  
Natalie Monacci  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** CJ Shephard  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 8:16:19 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Sent from my iPhone

NEIL L.  
ATKINSON  
P.O. Box 33846  
Juneau, Alaska 99803

PHONE: (907) 789-9179 (H)  
(907) 723-9168 (C)  
EMAIL: takucana@outlook.com

TO: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

This correspondence is in support of the Board's proposed clarifications and enforcement of the language in 3 AAC 304.375 of the Alaska Administrative Code as it relates to Distilleries.

It appears that when the legislation was written authorizing the operation of a distillery (Sec. 04.11.170), it was an incomplete and erroneous adaptation of Sec. 04.11.130 Brewery License language. The only difference being brewers were allowed to sell 36 ounces of their product for onsite consumption while the distillers were allowed 3 ounces. When do you see a distillery barreling for distribution?

My main question to you is **"When does a Distillery with a tasting room become a Tasting Room at a distillery?"** From what is going on, one is in the business of distilling and distribution to retail outlets while the other's focus business is the sales of their product as cocktails.

Being in and associated with the alcohol industry for over 35 years and a partner in a beverage dispensary license (BDL) for 24 years, I well know the difficulties of obtaining and operating a BDL. As you know, the number of BDL's as well as some of the other licenses are restricted mainly by population. When that limit is reached, the cost of ownership of BDL goes up.

Several of the early pieces of correspondence from members of distillery community to be Board seem to indicate that for them to be successful, they need to operate like a BDL. Janilyn Heger of Skagway Spirits states "...times are changing, demographics of consumers are changing as our younger population become of drinking age. Tasting rooms .....are offering what the new customer base wants." Despite their claim that they don't want to be a bar, it sounds an awful lot like that's what they're doing. In an effort to get around the serving of a mixed drink issue, Amalga Distillery "barreled" at least one cocktail mixture. Is Amalga "barreling" any of their products for sale? By allowing distilleries to operate as a tasting room with a distillery, the State is allowing them to operate as a BDL circumventing other sections of the regulations.

While it has not made a major appearance, the issue of a distillery having more than one manufacturing license needs to be addressed soon. Using the liberal interpretation of the distillers, a licensee with two or more licenses could offer 3 ounces of Distillery A's product and 3 ounces of Distillery B's product. That's not that far away.

I assumed, obviously like many others, that a new distillery would operate like those we were familiar with in the past. Once production started, the distillers would approach the retailers in their area to get their product into the retailers. To get the product in front of the customers, they, with the BDL's, advertise tastings at the BDL's and special events. Oh wait!! That's not allowed by Sec. 04.16.015. If, as in this case, Amalga Distillery is not offering their product to all local retailers, BDL's included, are they not then in competition with the local retailers?

Another part of the distillery PR campaign is the so-called government overreach by the ABC Board. As the Alaska Distilling Industry is still basically in it's infancy, it will no doubt see many changes and clarifications in the laws and regulations that govern their operations just as they have in the other licensed operators. Comparing how other States handle their alcohol industry has no bearing on how Alaska manages ours. Every jurisdiction, be it Country, State, County, Borough, City or Township, has its own set of laws and regulations. Comparing how a Licensee is allowed to operate, in say, the State of Washington, to how a Licensee can operate in the same segment of the industry in Alaska, is like apples and oranges. Anyone with any time in the industry, would agree that the regulations we operate under today are vastly different than those of 10, 20, and 30 years ago, let alone those adopted at statehood. Like it or not, we all have to live with the interpretations of the Board. Remember the introduction of DRAM shop laws of the mid/late 80's?

While I am no longer active in the alcohol industry, I still follow the happenings in the industry. If I were still in the business and unable to provide my customers with a new local product that is currently hot, I would be more than pissed. In my opinion, the distillers are operating outside the confines of their license. By promoting themselves as a destination drinking venue, they are then operating as a BDL. Quoting Ms. Heger again "Changing market trends should not be blamed on tasting rooms of any kind." I agree. Where I disagree is that Alaska has set lines of how alcohol can be sold. By allowing distilleries to mix cocktails, you are allowing them to cross into a different category of sales. Changing market trends do not change laws, you have to work within the license restrictions.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Neil L. Atkinson

**From:** Patrick Tilsworth  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 8:58:53 AM

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I am against the proposed regulation changes of the ABC board in 3 ACC 304.

The proposed changes make no reference to why the changes are needed or what the intent of the changes are for.....this needs to be clarified.

I do support the distilleries in the ability to serve samples of their product mixed with other manufactured products. Restricting what can be served as defined by the proposed regulations will only harm business as a whole.

Sincerely,

Patrick Tilsworth  
Fairbanks, AK



**From:** Rebecca Farrell  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 9:10:05 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Farrell  
Douglas, Alaska

**From:** Jennifer  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 9:11:52 AM

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The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Sewill

**From:** Gci  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries in Alaska  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 9:18:33 AM

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I very seldom go to bars, but when I am traveling in Alaska I will visit distilleries. They are clean, fun and have personality. They are great places to meet friends and enjoy a unique cocktail. They have become a destination and a boost to their local economies. Further restricting them at a time when the Alaskan economy is struggling makes no sense. Please support these new small businesses. Thank you,

Susan Hood Sisson  
200 Sunny Hills Drive  
Fairbanks, Ak 99712

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** jwendell  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** <no subject>  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 9:59:30 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

The late action by the Alaska ABC board regarding a restriction to distilleries' tasting room practices has demonstrated the relative ease that a few people can exercise to rewrite the Alaska Legislature's plans to create a new industry. Since the new Board members' appointment this year, several Legislative members have spoken publicly how their original intent for distilleries' tasting rooms was severely curtailed by the ABC board's vote in the fall of 2017. The board gave little if any chance for public discussion or advance notice of proposed changes that severely throttled this fledgling industry. Let's leave the last word on major policy changes to a more public process---in the Alaska State Legislature---and encourage new industries.

Jeanie Wendell-Vogel  
Skagway

**From:** Kelly Hansen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 10:10:55 AM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I grew up in Haines and have been living in Juneau for the last 7 years. It's a highlight for me to visit the distillery in Haines when I go. Since Amalga opened in Juneau, I personally visit downtown more and I end up eating out and shopping. I put money back into our town when I normally wouldn't have with the Amalga Distillery presence. Amalga is a clean, beautiful space where I get to see friends while enjoying their product. I am getting married this summer and look forward to sharing Amalga with my friends who visit.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes.

These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kelly Hansen

Sent from my iPhone

## Shayla Weeks Kaiser

Owner, Squirez

Auke Bay, Alaska 99801

(907) 723-2476

[chiodome@yahoo.com](mailto:chiodome@yahoo.com)

December 28, 2017

Dear Alaska Beverage Control Board, State of Alaska,

As owner of Squirez, LLC and of a full liquor license, I am against any legislation to re-write House Bill 309 to allow distilleries to sell mixed drinks as if they were a bar. They are getting away with breaking the law, and calling it a "loop hole". They say they don't want to be "a bar" but they continue to provide music, entertainment, and menus consisting of mixed cocktails, bloody Mary bars all including ingredients they do not manufacture which directly goes against your regulations, and allows them to compete and act exactly like a bar without the purchase of a full liquor license.

The investment distinction between a full liquor license and a distillery permit must be addressed. To obtain a full liquor license a buyer must invest \$200,000 to \$300,000 versus a distillery whose fee is \$1000. To allow a distillery to perform as a full liquor licensee such as myself, diminishes my investment, and anyone who owns one. Why would anyone purchase a full liquor license if we could do the same business by paying a mere \$1000 to be licensed as a distillery instead?

As a full license owner, the ABC Board provides regulations which I must follow or I would be fined, shut down, and possibly have my license revoked. In September, the Juneau Empire reported that "Recently, AMCO investigated (this issue), and McConnell issued an advisory notice: Serving mixed drinks violates the "distillery's product" section of HB 309. However, the distillers continue to do so without respect or regard for the law, and without consequence to them. This is grossly biased and unfair.

Despite the AMCO "operating with a skeleton crew" the law is the law, and I ask the board to hold distilleries accountable immediately. I support clarification of the current law, which does not allow distilleries to mix cocktails. I am against any new legislation that would allow distilleries to sell mixed drinks as if they were a bar.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Shayla Weeks Kaiser

**From:** Fritz Moser  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fw: AMCO letter regarding alcohol manufacturers  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 10:56:47 AM

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Hello, I think anyone selling drinks should have to buy a license to do so. Restaurants, bars, stores all have licenses to sell.

We all have had to do improvements to start business and pay for licenses. If this is the case you have no control, which is your departments job. Can I get my money back for my beer and wine license? That said I am friends with the owners of the Distiller in Juneau. Even the playing field and inforce the laws. Cheers Fritz Moser

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**From:** jared cure <jared@thenarrowsbar.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 28, 2017 6:48 PM  
**To:** takufritz@msn.com  
**Subject:** AMCO letter regarding alcohol manufacturers

Hey Fritz, here is the letter I am thinking for you. Feel free to make changes as needed. Please send out tonight or in the morning if possible. The deadline is tomorrow afternoon.

send to: [amco.regs@alaska.gov](mailto:amco.regs@alaska.gov)

Thanks!  
Jared

Dear AMCO Board,

I am writing to voice my concern with manufacturers operating tasting rooms as de facto bars. As an owner of a Restaurant/Eating Place license I was required to buy an existing license available based on population limits set by the state. Opening the doors for 11 new distilleries, 11 new breweries, and 11 new wineries to open in Juneau, all with tasting rooms, would be bad for the industry, and bad for the health and safety of our citizens.

The licensing statutes in section 04.11.170 are quite clear. The state's own legal counsel has pointed out on numerous occasions that serving cocktails and operating a de facto bar is in no way legal. I encourage the board to follow the advice of their counsel.

Manufacturing in the state has a bright future, but that needs to be a future where manufacturers produce a product that is then sold to holders of BDLs and Restaurant/ Eating Place licenses to dispense to the public.

Fritz Moser  
El Sombrero Restaurant

**From:** Tristan  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 11:01:45 AM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Tristan Berkey  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Jacqueline Martin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed changes to distillery regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 11:29:43 AM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my opposition to the proposed changes to the regulations for Alaska distilleries (in which they would not be allowed to serve their distilled product with mixers or other products).

The experience of visiting my local craft distillery, with a unique beverage developed and prepared before my eyes, is something that I appreciate. I love to share this experience with my friends and neighbors when we meet and enjoy delicious libations together.

I feel that the limited hours that craft distillery tasting rooms are allowed to be open combined with the limited amount of alcohol allowed per person contributes to an operation that is no more dangerous (and I suspect is less so) than that of bars and restaurants, which are open for longer hours and serve different recreational purposes within the community. In fact, I would not be more likely to visit a bar or restaurant in lieu of a distillery if it closed - in fact, less so. I enjoy the particular ambience of the distillery tasting room and a restaurant or bar just doesn't provide what I would miss if I was unable to enjoy the singular creations of my local craft distillery.

I strongly urge you to reconsider and remove the proposed changes with their increased distillery restrictions.

Sincerely,  
Jacqueline M. Martin  
3813 Old Nenana Highway  
Ester, AK 99725

**From:** Philip Martin  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 11:33:05 AM

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Dear AMCO:

I am writing in opposition to regulations that would restrict Alaska distilleries from serving the products they make with other mixers. I have very much enjoyed visiting the new distilleries that have sprung up in Fairbanks and I believe these start-up businesses should be given every opportunity to grow.

First of all, it is in Alaska's best interest to produce local products. That way, more of the profits stay in the community, rather than going to big outside companies that do not invest at all in our communities. I am not that interested in supporting Smirnoff -- I would rather buy local. Local distillery tasting rooms operate under pretty restrictive rules governing hours of operation, amount of alcohol they may serve, and activities that may occur within the premises. **THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN BROADEST POSSIBLE LATITUDE WITHIN THOSE GUIDELINES** to promote their businesses;

That said, there is really no good reason to impose further restrictions on distillery tasting rooms other than to protect the bar business. Speaking for myself, this is a non-issue. I don't go to bars much -- I don't like smoke, loud TVs or music, and I am not interested in "hooking up." I DO like going to the local distillery with friends, sharing a drink and a talk. I like going to see the work of local artists hanging on the walls. I like tasting new drinks created by the staff and learning more ways to use their products in delicious cocktails -- I doubt many bartenders are that keen on discussing their craft with patrons. If you shut down the distilleries with excessive regulations, I WILL NOT go to bars more often, I will just drink at home. I think I speak for many when I tell you there is no real competition between these types of venues.

I think it is a terrible idea to restrict Alaska distilleries from serving whatever mixers they want to in the samples they sell to their customers. That is simply advertising their product in the most effective way possible. The proposed regulations are an excessively heavy-handed punitive approach that threatens the viability of vibrant new businesses in our town. Please do not ruin this for us.

Philip Martin

3813 Old Nenana Hwy  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
[pdmartin1004@gmail.com](mailto:pdmartin1004@gmail.com)

**From:** Kathleen Sisson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [robborland@ursamajordistilling.com](mailto:robborland@ursamajordistilling.com)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 11:34:10 AM

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Please do not change regulations to prohibit distilleries from serving non-alcoholic ingredients with their products.

The proposed rules could effectively shut down tasting rooms which are interesting area attractions as well as pleasant community gathering spots.

The amount of alcohol served is limited and minimal, as are the hours tasting rooms can serve. Distilleries certainly are not taking business from local bars. They are a commendable local business which should be encouraged.

Kathleen W. Sisson  
Ester, AK  
907-479-6497

**From:** Don Larson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 11:50:02 AM

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Dear Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office

I am writing in opposition to 3 AAC 304. This new interpretation for distillery tasting rooms not only goes against the clear intent of the legislator but also will provide an increased danger to the public and harm a fledgling industry.

The legislature intended for distilleries to operate tasting rooms to showcase products produced onsite. Cocktails are the preferred way to consume distilled spirits so why have distilleries offer their product in a way it will not normally be enjoyed? This is akin to samples of frozen pizza at a grocery store being served uncooked. Very few distilled spirits are ever consumed neat. Even the finest single malt whiskeys are served with the addition of mineral water to enhance the flavor profiles. Under the current proposed interpretation the addition of water or even frozen water(ice) could be considered a violation.

Further, a tasting room that is only allowed to serve 3 oz of their product without mixers will be creating a danger to the public. As tasting rooms are not bars or restaurants they cannot offer food or entertainment along with their product. That means customers stay long enough to enjoy up to two cocktails and then promptly leave. Consuming two cocktails takes much longer than two shots which means that patrons are potentially driving before that 3 oz of alcohol have taken effect. This state has a big enough problem with drunk driving without creating businesses that serve 2 shots and a boot out the door and onto our roads.

In addition, any strict regulation to tasting rooms like the one proposed will stifle a new industry. Tasting rooms are the primary way to promote locally made products. Tourists are not coming to our state to experience the magic of a local liquor store where they may see a locally produced vodka or gin they have never tried, but may be willing to stop at a tasting room to try a local product before purchasing a bottle. The tasting room experience creates an pro-tourist atmosphere that will only bring more money in the economy.

Please reconsider your currently proposal for regulating distillery tasting rooms. Consider the intent of the legislature, the effects on the local economy, and the dangers of serving liquor straight.

Don Larson

--

~~~~~

Don Larson  
PhD Candidate, ABD  
President Alaska Herpetological Society

Institute of Arctic Biology  
University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Fairbanks, AK 99775

Office: 270 AHRB  
907-474-6067

[djlarson@alaska.edu](mailto:djlarson@alaska.edu)

**From:** Chris Prussing  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:00:52 PM

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Alaska needs all the industry it can get, especially industries started by Alaskan residents hiring local people.

To crimp distilleries just because a couple of bar owners whine, is, to be blunt, stupid and short-sighted.

The member of the Board are not beholden to the bar industry. Serving 3oz of liquor to distillery visitors is nowhere near in the same league of regulation required for a bar, with all the potential for alcohol abuse and disturbances that a bar represents.

Thank you for your consideration of this message.  
Chris Prussing

**From:** Christy Wiskeman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:04:43 PM

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To The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

The purpose of this email to to express that I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

For the past three years the distilleries in the state of Alaska have been serving mixed drinks in accordance with the current regulation. There have been zero issues with this practice. As a citizen I am concerned that without mixers, visitors to distilleries will simply down two shots of alcohol quickly and then get behind the wheel of a vehicle. Currently, with mixers, folks take their time with their drinks and linger over their drinks avoiding quick inebriation. Two drinks are often spread out over a couple of hours visiting with friends at a distillery, making for much safer practices regarding public safety than doing shots and leaving.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with a local state representative regarding the proposed changes to the current regulation, and I learned that when the code was passed by state representatives that it was done so with the understanding that mixed drinks would be served. Not only do your proposed changes to the regulations cause public safety concerns, but they are also going against the intent of the law.

The proposed changes are likely to affect the amount of business the tasting rooms see, which will hurt a budding new industry in our state. For citizens that do not wish to simply down two shots of alcohol and be on their way, visiting a tasting room will no longer hold appeal, reducing the opportunity for the business owners in this new Alaska industry to earn enough revenue to stay open. Purposefully creating this affect at a time when the Alaska economy is already hurting and many people are losing their jobs and having to leave the state seems incredibly irresponsible and short sighted. Alaska communities are in desperate need of jobs, changes to the regulations will diminish the opportunity for distillery owners to provide jobs in their communities. Furthermore, the state of Alaska is in dire need of the revenue that distilleries across the state can generate, if allowed to continue to operate in the responsible and safe way they have been operating for the past three years.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Christina Wiskeman  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** mukasama@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** We need taxes and jobs! Kill the ABC proposal to stifle Alaska's craft distilleries.  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:06:13 PM

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I am opposed to regulations that would prohibit distilleries from serving spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients. This goes against standard practices for distilleries in the Lower 48, and would unfairly penalize the entrepreneurial businesses just starting out in our communities. These homegrown craft distillers will never challenge Alaska's bigger bars and restaurants or the big national distillers, so it seems extremely unfair to put additional regulations on them (that larger establishments don't need to follow) that could put them out of business.

It is also a very poor time to be hurting any small businesses in our state. Alaska is in a recession. These small distilleries provide jobs for Alaskans and much needed tax revenue for our state, which is seeking additional sources of revenue to offset declines in oil prices and production. These craft distilleries also support Alaska's tourism and agriculture industries.

This proposed regulation is unnecessary and unfair. Let's support Alaska's small businesses and entrepreneurs, not stamp them out.

--

Jana and John Peirce  
1820 Lilac Ave., Fairbanks, Alaska 99712



**From:** Claudia Sutton  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan Distillery regulation  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:07:48 PM

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I just read this and agree wholehearted with this Op-Ed.

The details are in this Op-Ed by the head distiller at Port Chilkoot Distillery in Haines and the founding president of the Distiller's Guild of Alaska, but here are the basics:

"Help support the growth of Alaska's distillery industry by taking action against the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes. Alaskans opposed to the AMCO prohibiting distilleries from serving non-alcoholic ingredients with their product can submit comments on the issue to [amco.regs@alaska.gov](mailto:amco.regs@alaska.gov) by 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 29."

And here is more background:

"The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board's proposed... regulations would prohibit distilleries from serving our spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients, which is standard practice for distilleries in the Lower 48. This would mean no more featuring our gin in a gin and tonic or our vodka in a Moscow mule. We would only be allowed to serve you 3 ounces of product as a shot,... This would be a devastating blow for craft distilleries across the state.

"The distillery industry is important to our state. Alaska is in a recession, and any growing industry should be supported, not be burdened by unnecessary additional challenges. These distilleries provide jobs for Alaskans, tax revenue for the state and complement the tourism and agriculture industries.

"We urge you to provide public comment and let the ABC Board know that regulating non-alcoholic ingredients is not its job. We love what we do and love sharing it with Alaskans and visitors to the state. We pour our heart and soul in to our communities and now we're asking for you to support us and help save Alaska's distillery industry."

Sent from my iPad

**From:** Laurel Shoop  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code.  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:16:56 PM

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Greetings,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

John Bonney, co-founder, Foundation Brewing Company says this about Craft Breweries and it applies to distilleries too.

"Craft breweries will continue to be proven economic engines, and more local governments and developers across the country will figure that out. When we were looking for a location for our brewery five years ago, we found that there could be many administrative roadblocks from local governments, or developers who owned buildings. And they had no interest in working with us, mostly because they had no idea what we were, why we were doing it, or what it was going to look like. However, just in the past year, we now have both private developers and towns in Maine actively courting breweries to come and set up shop. They have figured out that not only can a brewery bring manufacturing, and the jobs that go with it. But they also have positive ripple effects in the local economy. They do this because you can't experience a beer, or a **tasting room**, over the internet. You have to go there, see it, feel it, and taste it for yourself. **This creates foot traffic, anchor points in neighborhoods, around which other small businesses can then come in and flourish.** My friend, Heather Sanborn, co-owner of Rising Tide also here in Portland, calls it '**manufacturing tourism.**' She's right, and it's going to become a critical part of the revitalization of many neighborhoods and towns across the country."

Please do not stifle economic development in Alaska with government red tape. This opportunity for manufacturing tourism is an economic opportunity for all.

Thank you for listening.

Laurel Shoop  
Juneau, Alaska

512 East Fifth St.  
Juneau AK 99801

Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1600  
Anchorage AK 99501

**Subject line:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
Submitted via e-mail to: amco.reg@alaska.gov

Dear Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO)/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board's (ABC Board) proposed regulation changes to Title 3 of the Alaska Administrative Code (AAC), Chapter 304, Section 375, public noticed on November 20, 2017.

I do not support the ABC Board's proposed regulation change to 3 AAC 304.375(c) and the new proposed subsections 3 AAC 304.375(d) – (e), and I offer my comments as to why below.

#### Definitions

In the Alaska Statutes (AS) at AS 04.21.080(20), “manufacture” is defined as meaning the creation of alcoholic content by use of fermentation with natural or artificial sugar or yeast or distillation. Therefore, it is unnecessary to revise 3 AAC 304.375(c) to use the word “distilled” rather than “manufactured”, as the statutory definition of manufacture already includes distillation.

Secondly, there is not currently a definition of “distillery’s product” in the AS or the AAC. Therefore, under the current statutes at AS 04.11.170, “distillery’s product” could be interpreted to include products other than alcohol produced at the distillery for purposes of combining them with distilled product to create cocktails. Distilleries that produce fruit juices, bitters, syrups, and carbonated beverages in-house that can be used as mixers with their alcohol should be allowed to continue to do so and to mix such products with their alcoholic products to create cocktails.

It is the distillery industry’s standard business model elsewhere in the United States to highlight what can be done with the distillery’s alcoholic beverages by selling cocktails in their tasting rooms. Alaska’s distillers based their business model on the industry standard when working with the Alaska State Legislature to develop new state statutes to allow for licensing for distilleries and tasting rooms. Distillers spend significant time and effort to develop cocktails they believe will showcase the unique characteristic of their distilled products and to show

customers what they can do with the distilled products when they purchase them. Changing the regulations now to require distilleries to change their business model to one in which they can only sell shots of straight alcohol and separately serve non-alcoholic ingredients to be used as mixers negates the effort they've put in to refining recipes and providing responsible tasting room settings.

While the consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight, some customers could become significantly impaired if they consumed a full 3 ounces of straight alcohol. If shots of alcohol and mixers can only be served separately, there is no guarantee that customers would not skip mixing in the non-alcoholic ingredients with the alcohol and drink it straight. Allowing the distillery employees to mix cocktails for their customers would result in more responsible serving situations.

Therefore, I believe it is unnecessary, and would be detrimental, to add the new subsections to 3 AAC 304.375 to define "distillery's product" as a distilled spirit made on the premises and to prohibit distilleries from combining any non-alcoholic ingredients with their distilled spirits.

#### Authority

The ABC Board's powers and duties under AS 04.06.090 are to control the manufacture, barter, possession, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the state. It is, therefore, unclear under what authority the ABC Board is proposing to regulate the non-alcoholic ingredients that distilleries manufacture and use in their tasting rooms. Please clarify from where the ABC Board derives that authority.

#### Legislative Intent and Future Action

Alaska State Legislators who sponsored House Bill (HB) 309 which resulted in the statutory changes allowing for distillery licenses and tasting rooms indicated in their August 15, 2017, letter (see enclosed) to the AMCO that their intent in crafting that legislation was to allow distillery tasting rooms to both provide small samples and sell mixed drinks/cocktails. The legislators believe, as do I, that the distillers have been operating in compliance with the law as intended and that the AMCO/ABC Board's recent reversal of interpretation of the law is doing a disservice to the distilleries, their businesses, and the business model on which they based their development. The AMCO/ABC Board's proposal to rewrite the regulations to match its current interpretation of the law would codify that disservice.

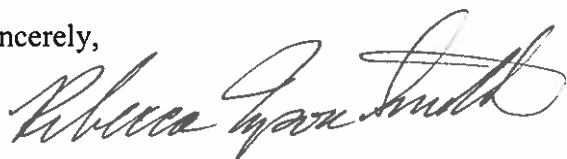
Furthermore, it is my understanding that Representative Chris Tuck intends to introduce legislation in the upcoming Session which would clarify, in statute, the legislative intent to allow the sale of mixed drinks/cocktails in distillery tasting rooms. If such legislation is passed and signed, the AMCO/ABC Board's proposed regulatory changes, if finalized, would be in conflict with statutes and would need to be revised again. The time it would take to realign regulations with statutes could result in continued confusion for distilleries about how they are allowed to

operate and could further damage their businesses' bottom-lines, at a time when stability in the economy is critical.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I am opposed to all of the proposed changes to 3 AAC 304.375. The proposed changes will limit the distillery industry's ability to grow, harm other small businesses they support, and slow economic growth at a time when Alaska needs to look beyond our traditional industries toward the future. Therefore, I urge the ABC Board to not adopt any of the proposed regulations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Rebecca Tyson Smith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Rebecca Tyson Smith

Enclosure: Legislative Letter, August 15, 2017

Cc: Amalga Distillery (via e-mail)  
Representative Chris Tuck, Alaska State Legislature (via e-mail)  
Representative Sam Kito III, Alaska State Legislature (via e-mail)  
Representative Justin Parish, Alaska State Legislature (via e-mail)  
Senator Dennis Egan, Alaska State Legislature (via e-mail)

# Alaska State Legislature

Official Business



State Capitol  
Juneau, Alaska  
99801-1182

August 15, 2017

Erika McConnell  
Director, Alaska Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office  
550 West 7th Ave, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Director McConnell,

It has come to our attention the Alaska Alcohol & Marijuana Control office has issued an advisory notice to Alaska's distillers regarding distillery licenses and what practices are permitted in their tasting rooms.

In the 28th Alaska Legislature we sponsored HB 309 which clarified that distillers can sell and give away samples of their product under certain conditions.

We can assure you there has been no misinterpretation of the statute by the distillers and they are acting in accordance with the Legislature's intentions. Considering that many of the products sold by the distillers are intended to be mixed with other ingredients before consumption, it was assumed any sales or free samples would likely be mixed with other ingredients as well.

The Legislature worked closely with Alaska's distillers in crafting this legislation and they are well aware of what the law intends. We would also draw your attention to the well-publicized celebration ceremony of the new statute, when samples of mixed drinks using Alaska's craft spirits were provided without question.

Alaska's distillers have been making honest efforts to comply with the law as they understand it. This apparent sudden reversal of policy by your office does a great disservice to their business efforts and the intent of the law as it was passed.

Erika McConnell, Director  
Alaska Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office  
August 15, 2017  
Page 2

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact our offices directly if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



Harriet Drummond  
Alaska State Representative



Scott Kawasaki  
Alaska State Representative



Jonathan Kreiss-Tompkins  
Alaska State Representative



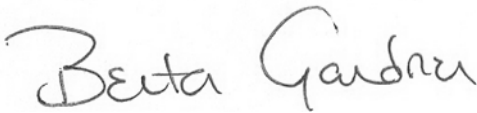
Chris Tuck  
Alaska State Representative



Click Bishop  
Alaska State Senator



Dennis Egan  
Alaska State Senator



Berta Gardner  
Alaska State Senator



Peter Micciche  
Alaska State Senator

cc:

All Alaska distilleries

**From:** Louie"s Douglas Inn  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery License Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:32:00 PM

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Dear AMCO Board Members,

My name is Abby Williams, along with my parents, James and Arbe Williams we own Beverage Dispensary License #3695, and operate Louie's Douglas Inn a bar in Juneau.

I am concerned with the recent business operations of many distilleries across our state. It seems to me as though they are operating under the privileges associated with a Beverage Dispensary License, by serving mixed drinks in what is supposed to be a tasting room of their product and only their product. It has been my experience that in conjunction with serving mixed drinks, distillery operators are also providing their customers with live music.

It is my understanding and interpretation of the statutes that the privileges associated with carrying a distillers license is that the license holder may serve 3oz of their product, and only their product, and that they are not licensed to serve mixed drinks or have live music or any type of entertainment in their rooms made solely for sampling their distilled liquor.

I feel the AMCO board members have a responsibility to keep intact the integrity of the three tier system, and that in all fairness, if an operator wants to operate with the same privileges associated with a Beverage Dispensary License, then it is their responsibility to purchase one.

Something that should also be of major concern If distillers can continue to operate as defacto bars, is the likely chance we will see a rise in distilleries and tasting rooms around the state. In Juneau alone, we could see an additional 10 or 11 establishments that serve liquor, not to distill and then distribute to retailers but to serve mixed drinks to customers in their tasting rooms. If the board doesn't see that as a community health and safety issue then what's the purpose of the regulations in the first place?

As a new business owner in my 30's, I love nothing more than to see my entrepreneurial peers succeed. Successful businesses mean a successful community, and its a win win for all.

However, I ask that the AMCO board of directors take a long hard look at the original interpretation of and privileges associated with owning a distillers license and ask themselves if allowing distillers to serve mixed drinks and have live entertainment in their tasting rooms will keep intact an even playing field for all involved in the industry.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Abby Williams  
[907-723-9732](tel:907-723-9732)



**From:** Sarah Robinson  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** State laws and distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:32:47 PM

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Dear AMCO,

I live in Fairbanks, AK where we have several distilleries and taprooms.

They are great local businesses who give back to the community in soooo many philanthropic ways I hate to see sooo many rules imposed on them that are taking regulations to a whole new level and really making it difficult and far more expensive to run a small business in our community.

I have worked for 3 non-profits here in Fairbanks over the last 8 years and Hoo Doo Brewery and Ursa Major Distillery have always been eager and kind enough to donate things every time I have asked for donations for different fundraisers. They are giving back and improving our community with donations and events that are fundraiser for other non-profits.

I also go to these businesses monthly and have a drink with friends or colleagues. They are nice, safe, clean family friendly places to socialize. From time to time I even bring my child with me and other friends do too, because they are not bars largely due to the regulations already placed on them. There is a two drink minimum, they are only open until 8pm and there is no food served so people just stop in grab one drink on their way home.

All the new regulations or the way these regulations are being newly interpreted and applied will in the end harm rather than help these small businesses who have a position role and value in our community.

Please take a closer look at what ANCI really needs to regulate and impose on these businesses.

Sincerely,

Sarah Robinson

**From:** Tania  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:34:04 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

Recently I was on Montana and visited a distillery tasting room. As here there is a two drink limit. I sampled a cocktail I'd never heard of before, enjoyed it, and spent money on a bottle of their product to bring back as a gift.

If I'd not been able to stop in, browse and try the product I wouldn't have brought anything back. Instead Montana's small business industry, and statewide economy, received a small injection from my paycheck.

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. In this time of a shrinking economy in our state diversification of industry is paramount. Deliberately undermining a demonstrably vibrant and growing sector is antithetical to what our state needs and what a commercial oversight body should do.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written. I am also contacting my Representative, Senator and the Governor's office to communicate my concerns about how this affects entrepreneurship in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Tania Clucas

**From:** Steven G  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [representative.Sam.Kito.III@akleg.gov](mailto:representative.Sam.Kito.III@akleg.gov)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:40:06 PM

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Good Day Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Best Regards,

Steven Gabelein

**From:** Nicole Eiseman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:43:55 PM

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Please allow these new business to flourish. In an state economy that has struggled to diversify, you should be applauding the work of these distilleries, not punishing them. If you feel you must change the rules, then do it for new business, not those operating under current licenses.

Thank you,  
Nicole Eiseman  
Ester, Alaska

**From:** shawk1919  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:46:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [Drawing\\_1514583698664.png](#)

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Subject line: Public comment for 3 AAC 304

To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. In this time of a shrinking economy in our state diversification of industry is paramount. Deliberately undermining a demonstrably vibrant and growing sector is antithetical to what our state needs and what a commercial oversight body should do.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written. I am also contacting my Representative, Senator and the Governor's office to communicate my concerns about how this affects entrepreneurship in Alaska.

Sincerely,  
Shannon Vargas

**From:** cb Wiskeman  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 12:53:10 PM

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To whom it may concern,

Please add my voice to the growing chorus of Alaskans opposed to changing how distilleries can provide their products.

I am a long time customer of one of Fairbanks' fine distilleries. It is a joy to go each week and try their specials. The wonderful folks working at the distillery gladly take time to teach customers how to make their specialty drinks, which is a great factor in deciding to purchase a bottle. Taking away a distillery's ability to mix cocktails will severely impact their overall sales and reduce the need for mixologists. So not only will their sales suffer tremendously, it will put people out of work in the midst of a serious recession. This is a lose/lose for Alaska.

My understanding of AMCO is that it is ultimately an agency designed to keep Alaskans safe. This proposed change to how regulations are being interpreted seems to go directly against safety. Would you rather I go into a distillery and have two mixed drinks over the course of an hour while I socialize with staff and patrons, or should I walk in and take two shots of straight spirits, buy a bottle, and proceed to the next distillery? Your proposed interpretation of the law seems to promote the second option.

Please do not destroy this budding, all-Alaska industry. Distillers have taken loans, hired staff, and built their business on the original intent of the law. My understanding of the intent of the law comes from an interior legislator who I have spoken with while drinking cocktails in a distillery. The law may need clarification, but I believe it's intent is clear and things should remain as they have been until/unless this issue is addressed by the law-making body.

Sincerely,  
Robert Bryan Wiskeman  
1867 Fiddle Way  
Fairbanks, Ak 99709

**From:** Molly E Tedesche  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:13:48 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

**RE:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304

I am a voting resident of the Fairbanks North Star Borough in Alaska. I am writing because I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Molly Tedesche  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** Erin Parcher-Wartes  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:18:34 PM

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To: The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

While traveling, my husband and I enjoy visiting distilleries and breweries we've never before been to. I don't drink beer, but enjoy the various version of root beer & ginger beer many breweries are now offering. Distilleries, on the other hand, I actually get to partake in their primary product. My beverage of choice a gin and tonic, with lime, never lemon.

I don't need to tell you, gin is not just gin. There are so many varieties, some I enjoy more than others. I will never buy a new product unless I've had the opportunity to try it. But here's the rub, I don't like gin straight up. I find it disgusting. Add a little tonic, and a good squirt of fresh lime juice, and its manna.

If a distillery is barred from offering samples of their product, mixed in a way that most consumers enjoy, their new customer base is more difficult to grow. Additionally, I know the local distilleries in Fairbanks have become important gathering places. With a drink limit of 3 ounces, its a comfortable place to meet with friends, where you know you won't find drunkards lounging in corners or at the bar. Something our community needs...comfortable, clean, sometimes family friendly. I would never host a birthday gathering at a local bar, but I might invite a few friends to meet me after work or on a weekend to enjoy a drink, or two, a few nibbles we've brought in ourselves, and some good company.

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. In this time of a shrinking economy in our state diversification of industry is paramount. Deliberately undermining a demonstrably vibrant and growing sector is antithetical to what our state needs and what a commercial oversight body should do.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written. I am also contacting my Representative, Senator and the Governor's office to communicate my concerns about how this affects entrepreneurship in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Erin Parcher Wartes  
Fairbanks, Alaska



**From:** Maureen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:28:15 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I'm an anchorage voter who is opposed to the proposed changes to limit the distilleries.

This is unwelcome governmental over regulation and obvious pandering to special interests.

We anchorage citizens love to visit the distilleries as a special way to enjoy a cocktail-please don't ruin it for us.

We should have the freedoms to continue to enjoy this choice

Maureen Peterson

7402 huntsmen circle anchorage

Sent from my iPhone



# Haines Chamber of Commerce

*"Working Together to Build Business & Community"*

219 Main Street, Suite 14  
PO Box 1449 · Haines, AK 99827  
907-766-2202

chamber@haineschamber.org · www.haineschamber.org

Dec. 29, 2017

To whom it may concern:

The Greater Haines Chamber of Commerce requests that while you are determining what business is allowed in distillery tasting rooms, please consider the impact that your decisions will have on a community. If you pass new legislation that prevents existing business activity, please give businesses an adequate grace period to adjust to the new legislation.

A sudden change in or reinterpretation of regulations will appear aimed at stifling the distillery industry. Please consider the impacts that your decisions will have on a community, large or small, and work with industry instead of destroying it. Instead of swift changes that shut down businesses over night, please give businesses time to adapt and the opportunity to reduce the impact made by your decisions.

If you are not from a small community, it may be difficult for you to understand that one small business makes a huge difference. Allowing a grace period for a small distillery in a small town to adapt to new laws shows that you are concerned with industry success, which is also a large part of our economic development and tourism appeal.

The distillery tasting room, as it has been operated for 3 years, is one of the few year-round establishments in Haines. A change that is suddenly enforced will cripple what little year-round economy that our little town has worked very hard to develop. If you must make changes to the way distilleries currently operate their tasting rooms, please allow a grace period for distilleries to adapt to your changes.

Sincerely,

John Hagen, President

**From:** helen harmon  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:38:37 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Helen Harmon

Live Each Day Thankfully!

**From:** Philip Fitzgerald  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [rep.adam.wool@akleg.gov](mailto:rep.adam.wool@akleg.gov); [Kawasaki, Scott Jw \(LEG\)](#); [Guttenberg, David \(LEG\)](#); [Thompson, Steve \(LEG\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Tasting Room Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:52:08 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you today regarding the proposed regulation changes for distillery tasting rooms in Alaska. I am strongly opposed to regulations that would not allow distillery tasting rooms to serve their product with appropriate non-alcoholic mixers. I believe this would be a significant blow to a small but growing industry in Alaska. I do not see any harm to the public in allowing the distilleries to serve their product with mixers, and my understanding of this issue is that it is mainly driven by complaints from the bar and restaurant industry. I strongly believe that government regulations should serve the public good, not simply serve to protect existing powerful businesses against innovative new businesses. Tasting rooms in Alaska are already heavily regulated in terms of hours they can operate and amount they can serve.

Craft brewing and distilling serve as drivers of tourism, as shown by this New York Times Travel article about the Bayview neighborhood in San Francisco;

"But the neighborhood, home to a tight-knit community of families and community activists, is coming into its own as a hub for creative, genre-bending craft alcohol producers. Raw industrial spaces are being transformed into production facilities and tasting rooms, decked out with murals by local street artists, and are drawing crowds from all over San Francisco and beyond."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/11/10/travel/five-places-to-go-in-san-francisco-bayview.html>.

As Alaskans struggle with a changing and shrinking economy, it seems like very poor form for a regulatory agency to place unreasonable restrictions on a group of small innovative businesses.

Thank you for your time.

Philip Fitzgerald

POB 82374

Fairbanks Alaska 99708

**From:** Karen Stomberg  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Alaskan Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:54:13 PM

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Thank you for considering my opinion. It seems both short sighted and not in the best interests of Alaskan commerce or community to revise regulations for local distilleries to allow them to serve only 3 oz of alcohol as a shot — not in cocktail form.

It makes no sense in terms of how alcohol is served in any other alcohol serving establishment— or how people responsibly enjoy alcohol served with mixers.

The only outcome I can see from such a regulation is to inhibit the growth of a local industry.

Please reconsider this awkward regulation. Fairbanks distilleries provide cozy places for friends or groups to gather for a limited amount of a delicious local product— frequently with local artists work displayed and for sale.

Win win!!

Karen Stomberg  
4076 Birch Lane  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Sent from my iPhone  
Karen Stomberg  
(907) 590-2605  
karstomberg@gmail.com

**From:** The Hacketts  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery alcohol regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:57:08 PM

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I support the current practice of allowing Alaska distilleries to serve sample mixed drinks for the limited purpose of showcasing their distilled products. This is a small, labor-intensive industry in Alaska, as considerable work and capital are required to even become operational. As such, there are only a few distilleries operating in the State.

A distillery's function is a manufacturing one. It differs in purpose from a bar or restaurant which sells mixed beverages as a principal focus. The serving of already -regulated amounts of distillery products is like taking a fabric swatch from a store to match the colors in your home. It's only a sample. Consideration should be given to those enterprising Alaskans who have chosen to pursue this industry in our State.

Thank you--  
Wilma Hackett  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

**From:** ken tape  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:57:09 PM

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My name is Ken Tape and I live in Fairbanks.

I am opposed to the AMCO prohibiting distilleries from serving non-alcoholic ingredients with their product. In other words, let the distilleries serve their alcoholic creations. It's the obvious thing to do, and it's ridiculous that this is even an issue in the first place.

**From:** Skip Elliott  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Mixers at tastings  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 1:58:33 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

The State of Alaska should not be regulating non-alcoholic beverages that have already passed FDA screening.



**From:** jared cure  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery tasting room comments  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:02:08 PM

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AMCO Board,

I own and operate BDL License #76 as The Narrows Bar. I am concerned with the direction the manufacturing licenses have been going in the state. Tasting room laws have been misinterpreted by these manufacturers and they are now operating as de facto bars. Mixed drinks, comfy seating, and live entertainment is more of a bar than a manufacturing facility. Small, unadulterated samples of the product was the intent of the law. On site consumption should be left to BDL and Restaurant licenses.

Under current rules we will allow 1 distillery per 3000 people in a community, as well as 1 per 3000 for breweries and another 1 per 3000 for wineries/cideries. With current BDL licenses limited to 1 per 3000 this could effectively quadruple the number of on site consumption locations in a community. How is this in the best interest of public safety? AMCO is already under staffed and unable to effectively monitor the current licensees.

It's my understanding that a distillery must produce 80% of it's own product. Your own product is when you produce alcohol from something that isn't alcohol. Currently most of the distilleries in the state are primarily buying 190 proof neutral grain spirit and flavoring it. How is it that buying pre made 95% alcohol is considered their product? While making gin and vodka from neutral grain spirit is a common industry practice, and the dirty secret of the "craft distillers", it isn't real manufacturing. The 20% of alcohol allowed that was not the distilleries product was there to allow this industry practice, not for it to become their entire program.

I would also be curious to see who is selling these distilleries their neutral grain spirit? It's my understanding that some of it comes from out of state and some from in state. Does AMCO board member Bob Klein sell any neutral grain spirits around the state? If so, how many distilleries in the state are buying alcohol from Bob Klein to then call their own product.

The board should follow the advice of their legal counsel and stop all mixed drinks and entertainment. Keep manufacturers doing their job, manufacturing a product for bars and restaurants to sell for on premise consumption.

Thank you  
Jared Cure  
The Narrows Bar

**From:** Justin Stiefel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Notice of Proposed Rule Making for Distillery Licenses  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:03:37 PM

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to regulations for Distilleries.

By way of background I am licensed to practice law in the State of Alaska. I advise new startup distilleries around the world and I speak and teach on the process of designing, planning, budgeting and operating distilleries. In addition I assist with technical review for legislative language drafting and regulatory changes. In my work in and for the industry I always am looking for what is in the best long term interest of the industry as a whole.

I would like to comment on the proposed changes under this Notice and their potential impact on the industry in Alaska.

1) The attempt to exclude flavoring of alcohol from the 80% distillation requirement of the current rules demonstrates a lack of understanding about how the industry operates and how finished distilled spirits products are actually made or produced. First, all distilleries must obtain a Distilled Spirits Premises (DSP) registration and permit from the federal government. To produce any distilled spirits product a DSP operator must follow certain processes for each product. Each product must undergo formula and label approval by TTB before it can be bottled. By their very nature and under federal law there are some products that don't require the additional step of distillation once they reach the neutral (190) proof standard. For example, to make a flavored vodka the DSP must follow the prescribed rules for flavoring that product. That is a different process than the making of regular vodka. By its very nature it requires the addition of flavoring, otherwise it won't comply with federal law.

Likewise, there are 3 ways to make Gin under federal law, one of which is called a "Compound Gin" in which neutral spirits are macerated with botanicals rather than being redistilled.

There is an entire industry associated with "liqueurs", "cordials" and what the TTB calls "pre-packaged cocktails" whereby real value-added processes are used, including at times addition of flavorings and sugars, in order to call those products a "liqueur", "cordial" or some other type of finished product.

I would urge you to review the Federal TTB Beverage Alcohol Manual, Chapter 4 (link here <https://www.ttb.gov/spirits/bam/chapter4.pdf>). Upon that review you will see all finished spirits products are broken down first by Class, then by Type under those Classes. By reviewing the chart you will see what TTB requires in order to call a product by a certain name (ie Flavored Whiskey, Flavored vodka, Raspberry Liqueur, Recognized Cocktails, etc).

It is possible and entirely legitimate, and a regular business practice, for a licensed distillery to convert a product from one Class and Type to another Class and Type with the addition of flavorings or additives, because that is what the law actually allows and requires. It is not evil, or secretive, or shortcutting or any other negative thing you can think of. It is how the products are

required to be made. It is an entirely legitimate business practice for a DSP to acquire neutral grain spirits for the purposes of blending or flavoring to turn it into another Class and Type of products. The proposed change would make the actual operations of a distillery so restrictive so as to make the industry non-viable. Likewise, the proposed language does recognize the value of rectification and redistillation because in an attempt to make this changes the wrong words and language are being used.

Alaska distilleries already operate at a competitive disadvantage simply based on their geography. The cost to get raw and intermediate materials to Alaska is expensive. The proposed change from

“manufactured” to “distilled” for 100% of the products would result in a 90% increase in the cost basis for the production of certain product types. This is because of the require to ship raw materials and how much of those raw materials are discarded after the mash, fermentation and distillation process. Your proposed language change would immediately make most, if not all, of the distilleries in Alaska non-viable economically. Rather, to be consistent with federal law the proposed change should be made from “manufactured” to “produced”.

The proposed rule change for this section does not recognize this reality and would essentially exclude any Alaska distillery form participating in the fastest growing segments of the market: Liqueurs, cordials, flavored vodkas, flavored whiskeys, and the like are some of the fastest growing segments of spirits products in the US. This proposed rule will make it nearly impossible for Alaska distilleries to participate, and if they can find a way to make it work, it will make the production cost of those items so high relative to other products in the same category segment that it will make their products non-competitive, and therefore unsuccessful.

It is unclear why this change is necessary other than to make Alaska distilleries less competitive than their counterparts in other states. This is counterproductive if the state wants to have a thriving distillery industry.

2) The newly proposed 3 AAC 304.375(d) applies too-restrictive of a reading of the Alaska statute that authorizes certain activities at distilleries. Specifically if the Legislature had intended that the 3 ounces that can be sold to a customer under AS 04.11.170(e) were to be “without mixers”, “unadulterated” or “without the addition of any other juice, flavoring or mixed item” the Legislature would have written that limiting language in. AS 4.11.170 is drafted in such a way that when the Legislature intended that something would not be allowed, they prohibited it. For example, the Legislature did not intend for live entertainment, and so it crafted the statute specifically to state that prohibition. The current language of AS 04.11.170 mentions nothing about selling distillery branded hats, shirts or glassware, or the ability to offer tours to customers. Because the statute does not specifically prohibit those activities under the propose reading of the Cannons of Law it is reasonably assumed that they can engage in such activities. The same inference must be made for adding non-alcohol mixers to the distillery products for consumption on site. In short, if it is not specifically prohibited by the statutory language, then it is allowed.

Under the justification given to the Board dated September 13, 2017 the agency staff noted

*that, “there is nothing in the legislative history, including available testimony (before House Labor and Commerce) and submitted supporting documents, that indicates that the words “the distillery’s product” as they appear in the text of the statute can reasonably be interpreted as “mixed drinks” or “cocktails.” I note, also, that of the several distilleries that submitted statements in support of the bill (attached), all expressed an interest in having the same opportunities to offer samples of their product that breweries and wineries have, and none of them mention cocktails or mixed drinks.”*

This is an incorrect reading of how the Alaska statutory language is put together. Under this reading the holders of Beverage Dispensary Licenses cannot add any juices, mixers or other items to alcohol because the words “cocktail” or “mixed drinks” don’t exist for that license type in the statute either. Under the license for Beverage Dispensaries at AS 04.11.090(a) only the following words are used: “A beverage dispensary license authorizes the holder to sell or serve on the licensed premises alcoholic beverages **for consumption on the licensed premises** only.” I have added in **BOLD** the emphasis on the words “for consumption on the licensed premises” because that matches almost exactly the language for distilleries at AS .04.11.170(e) where the 3 ounces can be sold “for consumption on the premises”. If the regulations are now going to be interpreted against distilleries to say that the clear legislative language means nothing can be added to the spirits for on premises consumption, that same logic must be applied against any bar, restaurant, hotel, motel, resort or common carries that serves spirits. Otherwise the action of the board may be legally challenged for being arbitrary and capricious for apply two different standards for the same legislative language against two different classes of people. Rather, it should be presumed the Legislature knew the effect of the language would be to allow mixers to be added to alcohol by distilleries because that is how the statute for Alcohol Beverage Dispensaries has operated for years without the need for further legislative clarification. The Legislature simply took language it had already used to allow a certain activity and applied it for a new user group.

Further, most alcohol beverage control agencies across the US, and legislative bodies for that matter, have come to the realization that very few consumers drink spirits straight. They prefer to have them mixed for a variety of reasons, one of which is to dilute them. It is not wise public policy to encourage the consumption of 3 ounces of unmixed or unadulterated spirits. The addition of other liquids creates the dilutive effective that slows or inhibits over-intoxication in the eyes of policy makers. Here it seems the Alaska Board wants to adopt a policy that encourages the consumption of 3 ounces of straight, high proof spirits with no allowance for dilution. That is not good public policy.

Finally, part of the experience of being in the distillery tasting room is to learn how the sprits are best used. This necessitates the mixing and training of customers if they are going to want to buy a bottle of spirits to take home. Buying a bottle of wine or a bottle of beer requires no training. Showing customers how to properly use and mix spirits for making their own drinks or cocktails at home is essential to having a successful tasting room.

If the Board is concerned about a person getting a “distillery” license under the guise of a distillery so as to be able to really only sell mixed drinks, the Board should instead develop a sales test that requires a distillery to generate at least same significant amount of their annual revenues from the sale of products other than the 3 ounce drinks. This would include bottle sales to go, merchandise and wholesale distributed products. For example, the Board could instead adopt a regulation that states, “no more than 50% of the distillery licensee’s annual gross sales can come from the sale of

products by consumption on the premises as allowed under AS 04.11.170(e)." This way the Board can insure that the proper intent of the distillery license is being followed in a balanced way.

3) Overall it appears it was the intent of the Legislature to want to have Alaska distilleries be successful. Otherwise it would not have worked to enacted HB 309 to allow for more activities and more options for growth. After studying distillery models all across the US I can tell you success can only come from properly allowing a distillery to be creative in how they make their products (which does not always require distillation) and through the sales of some amount of mixed or unmixed spirits on the premises for consumption. Every step the Board takes to make it harder for a distillery to operate puts Alaska distilleries at a competitive disadvantage relative to the rest of the distilleries across the US. While many other states are working to make their distillery statutes and regulations more usable and more business friendly, these proposed rules are moving Alaska in the opposite direction. It makes Alaska a less attractive place to do business in this industry.

The Board should be looking for ways to make it easier to operate and to have more Alaska-made distilled spirits being sold into the market or exported out of the state. That can only happen when they are allowed to operate and compete effectively. At a time when Alaskans are wanting to diversify their economy the Board should be taking a lead role to make this new industry more successful, not more burdened.

The Alaska mentality is about less government interference and more free market activity. The proposed rules would make Alaska one of the least complete and most unattractive places for distilleries to open and operate, and if the same rules had been imposed on the Alaska beer industry 20 years ago just as it was getting started, you would see fewer Alaska beer products in the marketplace today, fewer local jobs, less local investment and fewer Alaska beer exports.

Justin Stiefel  
CEO  
Heritage Distilling Company, Inc.  
Gig Harbor, WA and Eugene, OR

**From:** Sam Palmersten  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** message in support of Alaskan craft distillers  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:06:55 PM

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I support Alaskan craft distillers be allowed to serve their distilled spirits with non-alcoholic mixers and garnishes. I believe this is the best way to showcase their products and the preferred (and safer) way to consume them.

Thanks so much, we appreciate your support!

**From:** Tesla Cox  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:18:23 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Tesla Cox

Juneau, AK 99801

**From:** Ken  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed alcohol regulation.  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:19:55 PM

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State of Alaska Dept. of Commerce  
Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO)  
Re: Proposed revisions to 3 AAC 304.375.

Director McConnell and Members of the Board:

I am concerned about the proposed wording of changes to Alaska's alcohol regulations. I assume the proposed changes are intended to clarify AMCO's position on sales of mixed drinks at distilleries; however, as drafted, the regulation has an unintended consequence: prohibiting distilleries from serving liqueurs they produce. Rhubarb, high bush cranberry and salmonberry liqueurs are unique and reminiscent of Alaska. It will be unfair if distilleries which produce liqueurs are treated differently than distilleries which produce whisky, vodka or gin.

The vast majority of distilled alcohol is blended or flavored. Even the largest distilleries buy product from other suppliers to blend with their own. Some alcoholic beverages cannot be produced without mixing alcohol from other distilleries. Hood River Distillers, the oldest distillery in Oregon, produces about 625,000 gallons of Pendleton Whisky each year. Pendleton Whisky is blended Canadian whisky and cannot be produced without sourcing a major part of its alcohol content from Canada. Oregon law accommodates this type of competitive industry.

If the proposed regulation is only intended to clarify restrictions on drinks served at distilleries, it should be revised to avoid broader restrictions on the industry. If this regulation is adopted as written, I believe Alaska will be unique with its prohibition on blending or flavoring with ingredients not produced on-site. Business is already hard – in Alaska it's even harder and more costly. Please don't add regulation which puts Alaskan distilleries at a greater competitive disadvantage in the U. S. market.

Thanks for considering my comments.

Ken Williamson

Informational links:

<https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liqueur>  
<http://www.tastings.com/Spirits-Categories/About-Liqueurs.aspx>  
<http://www.licoresmaduro.com/the-basics/spirits/liqueur/types>  
<http://www.licoresmaduro.com/the-basics/spirits/liqueur/the-production>  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liqueur>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pendleton\\_Whisky](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pendleton_Whisky)



**From:** Kasey McNamee  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:21:41 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Kasey McNamee

Juneau, AK 99801

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** bullwinkles1@gci.net  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** AMCO  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:36:24 PM

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Dear AMCO Board,

My name is Mitch Falk, my wife, Lynette Anderson and I own 2 Restaurant/ Eating licenses in Juneau and operate as Bullwinkle's Pizza. It has been brought to my attention that distilleries operating in Juneau and other parts of the state of Alaska have been circumventing the law and intent of the distillery license by operating as defacto bars without the appropriate license that all other operators must purchase. I feel this is a very slippery slope we are traveling and if this practice is allowed to continue we will be inundated with many more of these so called distilleries operating as bars.

Sincerely,

Mitch Falk  
President  
Bullwinkle's Inc  
907-463-5252



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** Stephen Gasche  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Alaska Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:41:14 PM

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Please allow Alaska Distilleries to continue their business practices as they exist now. A distillery should be able to mix their product with non alcoholic mixers and limit the number of beverages to two. This is responsible business and does nothing to interfere with establishments with full liquor licences. They are helping to vitalize the Alaska economy.

Stephen Gasche  
426 Gold St  
Juneau, AK 99801.

**From:** Ben Muse  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Allow Alaska distilleries to serve their products with non-alcoholic ingredients.  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:42:05 PM

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I would like to express my opposition to proposed new regulations limiting the products holders of distillery licenses may serve customers.

Specifically, I think it would be a bad idea to prevent distilleries from serving their product mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients.

That would prevent distilleries from serving cocktails to their guests. The ability to serve their products in cocktails allows distilleries to let their customers see how the products taste in the way that people typically drink them.

I know that enjoying a cocktail with a local, craft distilled product is a draw for visitors. I live in Juneau, and just this week several of my holiday guests have enjoyed visiting a local distillery and enjoying cocktails. They have also purchased some of the distillery's product. I see these businesses as a source of growth for local economies.

The distilleries are strictly controlled in the hours they can operate and the volumes of alcohol (3 ounces total) that they can serve their visitors. I think they are more likely to complement, than to compete with, local bars.

Sincerely

Ben Muse  
Juneau, Alaska

**From:** Patty Brown  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery rules  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:51:00 PM

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December 29, 2017

Submitted at 6:50 P.M. Eastern Standard Time, 2:50 Alaska Standard Time

Imposing any laws that prohibit distilleries from serving distilled spirits with non-alcoholic ingredients makes no sense. I can't even imagine where pressure to impose these rules would come from. The traditional use of distilled spirits is in mixed drinks. The businesses that have not only figured out the craft itself, distilling plants into drinks, they have created spaces, set up in smallish communities in some cases, and followed all the serving regulations for a number of years should be allowed to continue to make their contribution to Alaska's financial health. It is proven that money that circulates within the state is what has the greatest effect on growing our economy. The more hands the money goes through the better—for stability, for employment, for diversity.

The people operating distilleries in the state are making their contribution to marketing Alaska as a place with diverse people and resources. Tourists, locals, both seasonal and year-round, use the distilleries as a meeting place, Just as school gyms in the villages help the communities stay healthier, the distilleries in Alaska that serve mixed drinks and encouraging moderation, slowing down to enjoy where we live, and, in Haines, ours is promoting another strong strand of our economy—art.

There is no reason to restrict the use of mixers made on the premises. Alaska has taken pride in being a state free of unnecessary rules. Why start imposing them now when this brand-new strand of locally-based economies is thriving under the rules in place for the past three years?

Patricia Brown  
P.O. Box 984  
Haines, AK. 99827

**From:** gretch.dierking@gmail.com  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#); [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:57:38 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Gretchen Dierking

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Bruno Grunau  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comments regarding Distillery Regulations 2017  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:57:51 PM

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Dear board members,

Please consider that, in an oil state that is facing perilous financial troubles, it is imperative that we give freedom to entrepreneurs across the state to strengthen our economy. The local distillery industry is a relatively new and thriving industry in our state and we need to do everything we can to SUPPORT this industry.

This industry is already burdened with stifling regulations - there is NO NEED to increase these burdens. Please oppose the proposed distillery regulations that would prohibit distilleries from serving spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients. Mixing distilled products with non-alcoholic ingredients is standard practice across the US and to prohibit such a standard practice is unnecessary and a fine example of government overreach.

Please OPPOSE this proposed regulation to restrict distilleries from serving mixed drinks with their own product.

Thank you for considering my opinion.

All the best,  
Bruno Grunau  
3613 Keystone Rd  
Fairbanks AK 99709  
907-687-2351

**From:** Pamela Garcia  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 2:58:03 PM

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Hello,

In regards to distilleries, I believe they need to be regulated as such that they do not function and pose as bars. It seems to me that a distillery should function much like the Alaska Brewery has. Make alcohol to distribute for sale, with the inclusion of tasting room where people can taste the alcohol that they will then buy in bottled form to take home. The tasting also allows customers to know their preference for when they purchase the company's alcohol in a liquor store or bar. The Alaska Brewery does not have seating, nor entertainment or social functions. It does not directly compete with other local bars.

In contrast, the Amalga Distillery has been functioning as a quasi-bar. It has a huge seating room that is over and beyond a so-called tasting room. It directly competes with the downtown bars for after-work customers. It has become a popular hang-out for locals to drink as they can purchase hard alcohol beverages at a lower price. This doesn't seem to align with the intention of a tasting room, as people aren't for the most part going to the Distillery merely to taste. It has become a social venue where people go to enjoy several drinks. People can drink there and then also buy alcohol in bottles to take out the door. The same is not true for bars. Why do distilleries get to enjoy both privileges?

Liquor licenses are a limited commodity in Juneau, which make them very expensive.

Allowing several distilleries to open up and function as quasi-bars, without the purchase of a liquor license, seems like a slap in the face to bar owners who have had to go through the process of purchasing a liquor license. It seems a circuitous way to have a bar, albeit with shortened hours. Why limit liquor licenses and then allow more hard-liquor beverages to be sold through the guise of distilleries?

I hope that the ABC board will stand behind the original intentions and regulations for distilleries and uphold distilleries to stricter limitations to how they function.

Respectfully,  
Pamela Garcia  
5045 N. Douglas Hwy  
Juneau, Alaska  
907-957-6559

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To the lover of wilderness, Alaska is one of the most wonderful countries in the world.

[John Muir](#)



**From:** Dale Whitney  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:04:44 PM

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I oppose new regulations limiting the ability of distilleries to serve their products any way they see fit. To the extent there is any ambiguity in the statute, the government should interpret it in favor of the regulated entity, even in the heavily regulated industries.

I do not believe there is any ambiguity in the statute. A distillery's regulated "product" is distilled alcohol. Whether it is served in a glass, a cup, or a bowl, with water or ice, with a lime or ginger ale or a little umbrella or an olive is none of the government's concern until the legislature, in its wisdom, expressly prohibits these things, as it has TV screens and chairs at the bar.

As an investor in Juneau's downtown tourist district, I am troubled by arbitrary restraints being placed on local businesses by, of all things, the Department of Commerce. Alaska's economy needs help right now. The legislature has tried to help by allowing businesses here to serve tourists the same types of products and experiences that they can experience in other states that compete with us for tourist dollars. The Board should be helping and promoting new industries, not imposing random and arbitrary rules that unnecessarily chill the willingness of Alaska businesspeople to innovate and compete with other states.

Sincerely,

Dale Whitney  
PO Box 23293  
Juneau, AK 99802

**From:** Carl Dierking  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:06:37 PM

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**To whom it may concern;**

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Carl and Becky Dierking

**From:** Travis Naibert  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Regulating mixers at distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:07:59 PM

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Dear Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am writing to voice my opposition to the Board regulating non-alcoholic drinks and mixers served at distillery tasting rooms in Fairbanks and across Alaska. The proposed rules will not increase public safety and are only a burden on business owners and customers who enjoy trying locally made spirits mixed into cocktails. Many people prefer to drink distilled spirits in cocktails because it slows down the drinking experience compared to taking shots, and allows for the product to be enjoyed in unique ways. This slower drinking actually discourages taking multiple shots and jumping behind the wheel of a car, and the more enjoyable tasting experience supports further sales to this growing industry of Alaska small businesses, something the state should be focused on.

The ABC Board is not mandated to regulate non-alcoholic beverages. I support the Board in regulating distilleries and other entities serving alcohol in Alaska as it relates to public health and safety, but I strongly believe the proposed distillery regulations considering mixed drinks is outside the Board's directive to make regulations in a "manner that will protect the public health, safety, and welfare" as spelled in the statutes available on your own website.

Thank you,  
Travis Naibert  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** Mike Bly  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:09:06 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Michael Bly

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Jamie Smith  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Input on 3 AAC 304.375  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:09:07 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to address impending legislation regarding the singling out of distilleries through imposing unnecessary curtailing of activities on their premises.

Over decades of my residency in Alaska as a practicing visual artist I have had many exhibitions (and subsequent openings) of my work in alternative venues such as breweries, ice cream parlors, bookshops, cafes, auto dealers and, for the past couple years now, distilleries.

There is simply no supportable justification to enact such burdensome restrictions. It is a mutually beneficial arrangement that increase exposure for both parties, while occasionally providing some small measure of financial compensation, and furthermore enhances a positive experience for clients – both residents and visitors alike.

Additionally the use of such statutory regulations imposing limits on the crafting of their libations (ex: mixing drinks) is equally discriminatory and needlessly onerous.

I support local businesses and encourage fostering creative relationships within our community. You folks should as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jamie Smith  
PO Box 82252  
Fairbanks, AK 99708  
(907) 378 - 6018  
[jamienuggets@gmail.com](mailto:jamienuggets@gmail.com)

**From:** Love Ann Truitt  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Please support Ak Distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:14:32 PM

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My name is LoveAnn Truitt. I live at 1815 Mark Alan Street, Juneau, Ak. 99801. Phone 907/780-8663

Please support distilleries in using mixers in their samples. I support this and I would like you too for the over economic health and benefit to our community. These businesses add to our community and help keep Juneau a vibrant and progressive place to live and do business.

Sincerely ,

LoveAnn Truitt

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Casey Clark  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on ABC Board Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:20:59 PM

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Hello,

I am writing to submit a comment about the ABC Board's recent changes to the interpretation of regulations regarding beverage service at distillery tasting rooms. I am strongly opposed to the ABC Board's new policies, which act to serve the personal interest of a few, while stifling a burgeoning young industry and hurting the majority of Alaskans. Tasting rooms are a critically important part of a distillery's business and should be allowed to serve the company's products in a way that reflects how most people would consume them, in the form of cocktails, rather than as shots of straight liquor. Quite frankly, the latter option seems like a public safety hazard, as people visiting a tasting room who consume two shots of alcohol would undoubtedly spend much less time there, and might be more likely to drive away with some degree of intoxication. In these troubled economic times, the decision by the Board to actively suppress the growth of Alaskan small businesses is despicable. I hope the Board will choose to do the right thing and allow this young industry to thrive and grow, benefitting all Alaskans, rather than smothering it in its infancy.

Best regards,

Casey Clark  
Fairbanks, AK

**From:** Sharon Alden  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regs  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:25:18 PM

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Please support and don't limit what distilleries can add to their drinks. These businesses are a good addition to our community and should not be thwarted with bad regulations.

Thank you,

Sharon Alden

159 Kniffen Rd

Fairbanks, Alaska. 90712

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)



**From:** Ken  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment for draft regulations on distilleries  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:30:54 PM

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Hello,

I am writing with concerns regarding the proposed regulation changes governing what is able to be served at Alaska's craft distilleries.

Please do not stifle small, growing businesses in Alaska with the proposed regulation changes. There are numerous reasons to support the current practices that are happening at distilleries throughout the state, including the following:

1. When alcohol is served as part of a mixed drink rather than a shot, it encourages the drinker to drink more slowly. The alcohol is not processed as quickly, and as the drinker spends more time sitting at a fun, entertaining place after they have had the limit of their drinks, they are more likely to be sober when leaving the establishment.
2. The restrictions on hours of operation and number of drinks any person can consume, along with a massively different atmosphere, already mean craft distilleries are not the same thing as a bar. There is certainly concern from those who hold liquor licenses for traditional bars, but the reality is that the crowds are different, the hours are different, and the competition is minimal. If you wish to improve public safety, start with more limitations on traditional bars who often do not follow the current laws regarding serving additional alcohol to those who are intoxicated.
3. When the laws were drafted and written, no one expected the insane interpretation that the new regulations would institute. That is why the serving of mixers and garnishes wasn't addressed in the laws...no one ever thought they would be interpreted in the most limiting capacity ever, that by saying a distillery can only serve a certain amount of their own product means they can't pour it into a soda or juice. No one regulates the serving of those products...because they aren't alcoholic. The law doesn't have to address them because they aren't the purview of the regulations in question.

There are many other reasons to allow distilleries to serve mixed drinks. That being said, I think it is very reasonable to limit the alcoholic beverages served to those produced by that distillery. However, please do not institute limits on the mixers, garnishments, or other non-alcoholic items that are being served. They are a positive rather than a negative.

Sincerely,  
Ken Carr

**From:** Philip Dierking  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:35:20 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Phil Dierking

**From:** Melissa Sikes  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery Regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:43:20 PM

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Dear AMCO Board Members,

I am opposed to the AMCO prohibiting distilleries from serving non-alcoholic ingredients with their product.

I do not support any new regulations that restrict the ability of distilleries to present their products in the manner that they are consumed. Since distilleries are already limited in the quantity of their produced alcohol product that can be included in a mixed drink to consumers each day and the hours that they are open, distilleries do not compete with Bars or restaurants for customers.

In fact, Bars and restaurants are customers of our State's distilleries. Please allow distilleries to present their products to Bar owners, Bartenders, restaurant owners, and servers, as well as to individuals, in the manner in which they will be consumed.

I support only AMCO regulations that DO NOT RESTRICT the ability of distilleries to mix cocktails.

If you push forth these restrictions, you are not representing this Alaska resident who supports our distilleries and their progress in the State of Alaska. It would be clear to me who owns you and your vote on that board.

Thank you,

Melissa Sikes  
(930 Fitz Court)  
PO Box 10243  
Fairbanks, AK 99710

**From:** Lynn McAloon  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [rep.adam.wool@akleg.gov](mailto:rep.adam.wool@akleg.gov)  
**Subject:** Public comment re distilleries 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:48:27 PM

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**To:** The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Lynn McAloon  
PO box 3  
Cantwell, AK 99729  
907-322-4094

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Skagway Spirits  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment from Skagway Spirits Distillery  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:49:09 PM

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2) The newly proposed 3 AAC 304.375(d) applies too-restrictive of a reading of the Alaska statute that authorizes certain activities at distilleries. Specifically if the Legislature had intended that the 3 ounces that can be sold to a customer under AS 04.11.170(e) were to be “without mixers”, “unadultered” or “without the addition of any other juice, flavoring or mixed item” the Legislature would have written that limiting language in. AS 4.11.170 is drafted in such a way that when the Legislature intended that something would not be allowed, they prohibited it. For example, the Legislature did not intend for live entertainment, and so it crafted the statute specifically to state that prohibition. The current language of AS 04.11.170 mentions nothing about selling distillery branded hats, shirts or glassware, or the ability to offer tours to customers. Because the statute does not specifically prohibit those activities under the propose reading of the Cannons of Law it is reasonably assumed that they can engage in such activities. The same inference must be made for adding non-alcohol mixers to the distillery products for consumption on site. In short, if it is not specifically prohibited by the statutory language, then it is allowed.

*Under the justification given to the Board dated September 13, 2017 the agency staff noted that, “there is nothing in the legislative history, including available testimony (before House Labor and Commerce) and submitted supporting documents, that indicates that the words “the distillery’s product” as they appear in the text of the statute can reasonably be interpreted as “mixed drinks” or “cocktails.” I note, also, that of the several distilleries that submitted statements in support of the bill (attached), all expressed an interest in having the same opportunities to offer samples of their product that breweries and wineries have, and none of them mention cocktails or mixed drinks.”*

This is an incorrect reading of how the Alaska statutory language is put together. Under this reading the holders of Beverage Dispensary Licenses cannot add any juices, mixers or other items to alcohol because the words “cocktail” or “mixed drinks” don’t exist for that license type in the statute either. Under the license for Beverage Dispensaries at AS 04.11.090(a) only the following words are used: “A beverage dispensary license authorizes the holder to sell or serve on the licensed premises alcoholic beverages **for consumption on the licensed premises only.**” I have added in **BOLD** the emphasis on the words “for consumption on the licensed premises” because that matches almost exactly the language for distilleries at AS .04.11.170(e) where the 3 ounces can be sold “for consumption on the premises”. If the regulations are now going to be interpreted against distilleries to say that the clear legislative language means nothing can be added to the spirits for on premises consumption, that same logic must be applied against any bar, restaurant, hotel, motel, resort or common carries that serves spirits. Otherwise the action of the board may be legally challenged for being arbitrary and capricious for apply two different standards for the same legislative language against two different classes of people. Rather, it should be presumed the Legislature knew the effect of the language would be to allow mixers to be added to alcohol by distilleries because that is how the statute for Alcohol Beverage Dispensaries has operated for years without the need for further legislative clarification. The Legislature simply took language it had already used to allow a certain activity and applied it for a new user group.

Further, most alcohol beverage control agencies across the US, and legislative bodies

for that matter, have come to the realization that very few consumers drink spirits straight. They prefer to have them mixed for a variety of reasons, one of which is to dilute them. It is not wise public policy to encourage the consumption of 3 ounces of unmixed or unadulterated spirits. The addition of other liquids creates the dilutive effective that slows or inhibits over-intoxication in the eyes of policy makers. Here it seems the Alaska Board wants to adopt a policy that encourages the consumption of 3 ounces of straight, high proof spirits with no allowance for dilution. That is not good public policy.

Finally, part of the experience of being in the distillery tasting room is to learn how the sprits are best used. This necessitates the mixing and training of customers if they are going to want to buy a bottle of spirits to take home. Buying a bottle of wine or a bottle of beer requires no training. Showing customers how to properly use and mix spirits for making their own drinks or cocktails at home is essential to having a successful tasting room.

If the Board is concerned about a person getting a "distillery" license under the guise of a distillery so as to be able to really only sell mixed drinks, the Board should instead develop a sales test that requires a distillery to generate at least same significant amount of their annual revenues from the sale of products other than the 3 ounce drinks. This would include bottle sales to go, merchandise and wholesale distributed products. For example, the Board could instead adopt a regulation that states, "no more than 50% of the distillery licensee's annual gross sales can come from the sale of products by consumption on the premises as allowed under AS 04.11.170(e)." This way the Board can insure that the proper intent of the distillery license is being followed in a balanced way.

Regards,

Gary, Lucas and Janilyn Heger

--

Skagway Spirits LLC  
Located in scenic Skagway, Alaska  
phone 907.983.2040  
fax 907.983.2030

**From:** Stephen Courtright  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:52:13 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

**From:** Erin Tilly  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Do NOT kill Alaska"s distilleries!  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:53:45 PM

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I adamantly do NOT support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. This proposal flies in the face of the small government ideals that so many Alaskans treasure. It also makes zero sense economically. In the midst of a multi year recession, why the everloving FUCK are you trying to stifle a promising new revenue source? One that targets both locals AND the tourism industry? These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I DEMAND the ABC Board not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Erin R Tilly. Small business owner, ACTIVE voter, and born and raised Alaskan.



**From:** Monica Southworth  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [craftedforalaska@gmail.com](mailto:craftedforalaska@gmail.com); [rep.justin.parish@akleg.gov](mailto:rep.justin.parish@akleg.gov)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:56:03 PM

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I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Monica Southworth

**From:** Kerndt Stokes  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 3:57:01 PM

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Hello, my name is Kerndt and I work in the hospitality industry in Alaska. I live in Juneau and have worked in bars and restaurants for around a decade. I strongly oppose limiting craft distilleries by not allowing them to showcase their product. Sampling gin or vodka without mixing it is not for everyone. Quality drinks can show what the product can be. From another side of the coin I feel that a pleasant tasting room can add to the vibrant downtown business scene that benefits everyone.

Thank you, Kerndt Stokes

**From:** taelyn coffee  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Amalga Distillery  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:02:14 PM

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To whom this may concern,

The Amalga Distillery is a place of ambiance, comfort and convenience. It is locally owned and operated and can bring in a huge revenue if given the chance to make it on their own terms. I realize that this has always been a open interpretation regulation but can't it stay that way? Amalga's cocktails are creatively crafted, regulated in terms of amount per customer and invites a range of demographics. I believe this place of business will go very far if mixed drinks are served. Do you want to fight for something petty like this or allow for money to keep flowing into our economy? Please reconsider allowing the practice of mixed drinks.

Thank you for your time.

**From:** Jennifer Jenkins  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Tasting rooms  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:05:41 PM

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to address impending legislation regarding the singling out of distilleries through imposing unnecessary curtailing of activities on their premises. The use of such statutory regulations imposing limits on the crafting of their libations (ex: mixing drinks) is needlessly onerous.

I support local businesses (including local distilleries AND bars) within our community. I ask you to do the same.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**From:** Ezra Milless  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Please allow the distilleries to continue!  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:06:36 PM

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Let the companies continue to keep mixing drinks in house!

**From:** John Bursell  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:06:50 PM

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I am writing to voice my concerns about the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." As you are aware the craft distillery industry is new to our state. These young businesses developed their business plans in accordance with regulations that allowed tasting rooms to serve their product in the fashion they are typically consumed- as a part of a mixed drink. Changing the rules midstream to disallow this practice has the appearance of 'taking sides'. Our State is already experiencing serious financial challenges, and tightening regulations on one industry in an attempt to benefit another will only serve to stifle this fledgling industry which will otherwise likely play an important role in helping to improve our financial situation. My personal experience with our local distillery (Amalga Distillery) has been that it seems to bring costumers out who, after sampling the distillery's product, move on to the location bars. I have seen that the distillery is a 'feeder' business working to support the local bars, and shouldn't be seen as a competitor to these bars. This topic reminds me of the concerns that bars would lose much of their business when the State disallowed smoking on their premises. As you are aware, the smoking regulation has not negatively impacted the business in bars in general, and even ended up as a net positive for many businesses (not to mention for the bar employees and nonsmoking patrons). In closing, I hope that after reviewing all of the information on the subject, you will not make the proposed regulation changes that will stifle the distillery industry.

John Bursell MD

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Anna Gonwa Ramonda  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\); craftedforalaska@gmail.com](#)  
**Subject:** Amalga Distillery  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:14:05 PM

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Dear AMCO,

I am writing this email to beg you to pretty please not vote to prohibit distilleries from mixing spirits with non-alcoholic ingredients. The beverages these distilleries make are works of art. I have personally seen how the creativity and imagination used to create these drinks have sparked the creativity of other artists in our community! I hope you will take this into consideration before casting your vote.

Sincerely,  
Anna Gonwa Ramonda

**From:** Adam Keele  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:17:55 PM

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Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board:

I am NOT in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product." (There are undoubtedly other sections I am in disagreement with, yet after over an hour of reading, I have not found the sections pertaining to other regulations in which I take issue.)

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public.

In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans. If Alaskans and tourists are allowed to buy as much as they wish at bars and restaurants, there should be no difference for locations that make their own alcoholic beverages on site at much greater capital costs than said bars and restaurants. These are archaic laws that stifle growth and stand against a free market, and represent a double standard in the name of public safety. Many other "more liberal" and regulated states have much less regulations of this nature, and everyone benefits from this as years of case studies have shown. The crowds that frequent breweries, wineries and distilleries are more often not the same that frequent bars. I personally, 9 out of 10 times, do all my on-premise alcohol consumption at the source, and prefer to avoid the bar crowds. Most breweries and distilleries are family-friendly environments that aren't grossly loud and rowdy.

I also do not favor the such restrictive hours currently either, in addition to the on-site consumption volumes.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Adam Keele,  
Alaska Resident and Alaska Air National Guard Service Member

P.S. I also do not support the salary increases of 2 AAC 06.015.



**From:** Heather Krawiec  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:18:04 PM

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To the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

I am dismayed at the overreach that the AMCO seems to be displaying on the newly developing distilling industry in Alaska. For the last few years distilleries have developed a welcomed addition to the small business community with every effort to be compliant to the rules that the AMCO laid out. To let the distilleries grow as they have, complying to your rules, then changing the interpretation of the rules is disruptive to many hard working Alaskan lives. I feel your responsibility is to the safety of Alaskans consuming alcohol and marijuana. Instead, this measure seems to be with the goal to destroy the blossoming distillery industry.

Distilleries provide a welcome location for the community to gather. No one gets drunk and belligerent. The atmosphere is ideal for conversation and interaction, unlike a bar where TVs and music volume impede conversation and excessive drinking is often encountered. It's so civilized because of the distilleries complying to the rules imposed by the AMCO. We Alaskans appreciate this new social atmosphere. The distillers are artists of flavors. Mixing their spirits in specialized drinks is them showcasing their product as they intended. That would be lost with your proposed changes.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Heather Krawiec  
6369 Abraham Road  
Fairbanks, Alaska

**From:** Rob Borland  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Supplemental comments on distillery regulations  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:20:14 PM

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If the board decides to pass this regulation restricting distillery tasting rooms even more, a law suit will ensue. Director McConnell and Asst Attorney General Milks are **WRONG** in what they are trying to do. It's obvious that someone is pulling strings behind the scenes to get this overly restrictive language passed. This has passed the point of ridiculousness. Please carefully consider the following, from a **REAL** attorney:

The newly proposed 3 AAC 304.375(d) applies too-restrictive of a reading of the Alaska statute that authorizes certain activities at distilleries. Specifically if the Legislature had intended that the 3 ounces that can be sold to a customer under AS 04.11.170(e) were to be "without mixers", "unadulterated" or "without the addition of any other juice, flavoring or mixed item" the Legislature would have written that limiting language in. AS 4.11.170 is drafted in such a way that when the Legislature intended that something would not be allowed, they prohibited it. For example, the Legislature did not intend for live entertainment, and so it crafted the statute specifically to state that prohibition. The current language of AS 04.11.170 mentions nothing about selling distillery branded hats, shirts or glassware, or the ability to offer tours to customers. Because the statute does not specifically prohibit those activities under the propose reading of the Cannons of Law it is reasonably assumed that they can engage in such activities. The same inference must be made for adding non-alcohol mixers to the distillery products for consumption on site. In short, if it is not specifically prohibited by the statutory language, then it is allowed.

Under the justification given to the Board dated September 13, 2017 the agency staff noted that, *"there is nothing in the legislative history, including available testimony (before House Labor and Commerce) and submitted supporting documents, that indicates that the words "the distillery's product" as they appear in the text of the statute can reasonably be interpreted as "mixed drinks" or "cocktails." I note, also, that of the several distilleries that submitted statements in support of the bill (attached), all expressed an interest in having the same opportunities to offer samples of their product that breweries and wineries have, and none of them mention cocktails or mixed drinks."*

This is an incorrect reading of how the Alaska statutory language is put together. Under this reading the holders of Beverage Dispensary Licenses cannot add any juices, mixers or other items to alcohol because the words "cocktail" or "mixed drinks" don't exist for that license type in the statute either. Under the license for Beverage Dispensaries at AS 04.11.090(a) only the following words are used: "A beverage dispensary license authorizes the holder to sell or serve on the licensed premises alcoholic beverages **for consumption on the licensed**

**premises** only." I have added in **BOLD** the emphasis on the words "for consumption on the licensed premises" because that matches almost exactly the language for distilleries at AS .04.11.170(e) where the 3 ounces can be sold "for consumption on the premises". If the regulations are now going to be interpreted against distilleries to say that the clear legislative language means nothing can be added to the spirits for on premises consumption, that same logic must be applied against any bar, restaurant, hotel, motel, resort or common carries that serves spirits. Otherwise the action of the board may be legally challenged for being arbitrary and capricious for apply two different standards for the same legislative language against two different classes of people. Rather, it should be presumed the Legislature knew the effect of the language would be to allow mixers to be added to alcohol by distilleries because that is how the statute for Alcohol Beverage Dispensaries has operated for years without the need for further legislative clarification. The Legislature simply took language it had already used to allow a certain activity and applied it for a new user group.

Further, most alcohol beverage control agencies across the US, and legislative bodies for that matter, have come to the realization that very few consumers drink spirits straight. They prefer to have them mixed for a variety of reasons, one of which is to dilute them. It is not wise public policy to encourage the consumption of 3 ounces of unmixed or unadulterated spirits. The addition of other liquids creates the dilutive effective that slows or inhibits over-intoxication in the eyes of policy makers. Here it seems the Alaska Board wants to adopt a policy that encourages the consumption of 3 ounces of straight, high proof spirits with no allowance for dilution. That is not good public policy.

Finally, part of the experience of being in the distillery tasting room is to learn how the sprits are best used. This necessitates the mixing and training of customers if they are going to want to buy a bottle of spirits to take home. Buying a bottle of wine or a bottle of beer requires no training. Showing customers how to properly use and mix spirits for making their own drinks or cocktails at home is essential to having a successful tasting room.

If the Board is concerned about a person getting a "distillery" license under the guise of a distillery so as to be able to really only sell mixed drinks, the Board should instead develop a sales test that requires a distillery to generate at least same significant amount of their annual revenues from the sale of products other than the 3 ounce drinks. This would include bottle sales to go, merchandise and wholesale distributed products. For example, the Board could instead adopt a regulation that states, "no more than 50% of the distillery licensee's annual gross sales can come from the sale of products by consumption on the premises as allowed under AS 04.11.170(e)." This way the Board can insure that the proper intent of the distillery license is being followed in a balanced way.

Please do the right thing and be on the right side of history. You, the board are the ones in charge here, not McConnell, enforcement officers, or Milks. Don't let this thing get steered from the bottom up.

Respectfully,

Rob Borland

Ursa Major Distilling

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Slainte Mhath! (To good health)

**From:** Brian Haugen  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Distillery regulation  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:20:21 PM

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By not allowing distillers to serve non-alcoholic drinks you are stifling business opportunities within this state. The board is also demonstrating to the public how government regulation can be abused. This board is losing credibility with the very public it is supposed to be serving.

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** Caitlin Kirby  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment for 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:23:55 PM

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## The Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office/Alcoholic Beverage Control Board—

I am the tasting room manager for Port Chilkoot Distillery. This places me in the unique position of being directly impacted by any changes made to the current regulations. My position also allows me to see firsthand how our tasting room runs and affects our community.

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

I have only seen positive results come from our ability to serve mixed drinks. During the summer we boost business for the neighboring restaurants by providing a fun and unique environment for people to wait for a table. We also are more than happy to send people to the other bars in town once they have reached their limit of 3 oz, and I have heard direct feedback from other bartenders confirming that they have patrons come specifically from our tasting room, seeking out our spirits in other locations.

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

My personal opinion is that spirits should be served in the way most people will later consume them. Most people don't drink straight, warm gin. This also affects our bottle sales. I have had numerous people decide to buy one bottle over the other based solely on their drinks. Mixed drinks are also a safer way to consume spirits, as they are diluted and will take longer to drink.

I love my job, and I love creating new drinks for our local winter crowd. The tasting room is seen as a local hangout for people who want somewhere to relax, and specifically not feel like they're in a bar. Stopping us from mixing drinks will cause the closure of our tasting room for the winter, taking away this safe and comfortable environment. This will also cause my position and potentially others to become unnecessary in the off season. I shop locally, so any pay I lose over the winter will

also be lost to the rest of the town.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Caitie Kirby

**From:** Elizabeth Weigel  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment 3AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:25:11 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I am not in support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."

The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.

I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. I believe the majority of Alaskans are not in support of this proposal. These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I urge the ABC Board to not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Jones  
Sent from my iPhone



**From:** Sally Kieper  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** stop reinterpreting the statutes on tasting rooms  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:28:29 PM

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Hello,

Please support our Alaskan distilleries and craft breweries and their tasting rooms. They are wonderful places of community. I agree they should close at 8pm and be limited in the quantity they serve.

They should be allowed to have special events. Yes, they must follow the rules, and not have live music or gaming. Do not further restrict them on this.

The distillery tasting rooms should be allowed to serve mixed drinks; that's what tasting rooms are for.

In short, please do your jobs: public safety, not interfering with small businesses.

Thank you,  
Sally Kieper

**From:** delia varkret  
**To:** [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** public comment regarding proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304  
**Date:** Friday, December 29, 2017 4:34:13 PM

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## To the Alcohol Beverage Control Board:

I am writing to address proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code, dealing with the:

(1) 3 AAC 304.375 (c) - change in terminology from "manufactured" to "distilled" . The definition should remain as manufactured on site in order to be issued a license.

(2) 3 AAC 304.375 (d and e) is a new subsection that defines what a licensee, agent or employee may serve on the licensed premises. I urge the board to delete this new subsection and allow the distilleries to decide what may be served on premises, to include cocktails mixed with products manufactured on site. . I do not drink my alcohol straight and don't intend to start doing so now. Not allowing distilleries to do so would put them out of business and eliminate a place for me to go enjoy with friends.

(3) 3 AAC 304.375 (e) is a new subsection that defines "distillery's product. Please continue to allow distillery staff to serve mixed drinks.

I support local businesses and encourage fostering creative relationships within our community. You folks should as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Delia Vargas Kretsinger  
1728 Old John Trail  
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Alcohol Beverage Control Board and Director McConnell

Public Comment for: Proposed Regulation Change to **3 AAC 304.375 Distillery License**

I support the use of the Regulation project to clarify the Law and its intent.

A Distillery is a tasting room only:

Bottled product is available for sale in the retail environment outside the tasting room at a Package store.  
Only alcohol that is originally distilled in the distillery

I believe the intent of the proposed regulation is correct. However, it may not be clear enough given the history of some distillers flavoring others distilled product. Any purchase of an alcohol product and then further processing should **not be considered** the distillers product and should NOT be included in the 80 percent from section (b) of **3 AAC 304.375**.

Distilleries are not allowed to serve Mixed Alcohol Beverages by combining their product with any other alcoholic or non-alcoholic products. Sampling rooms were never meant to be bars serving fancy cocktails to regular clientele on a nightly basis. This is clearly stated in plain and simple language in Section 04.11.170 distillery license, as the Board's own attorney has pointed out on multiple occasions.

There is a clear legal opinion that this unacceptable condition. It has been allowed to continue since August thus violating Title 04 with no consequences. Enforcement should be allowed to do their jobs and deal with these violations. The weak language and the resulting lack of enforcement has created confusion for all involved and is a disservice to all licensees in the State.

The addition of the capability to sell 3.0 ounces on premises was added to the distillery license to allow a customer on site to taste the product and expose new customers to the product with the hope of expanding the call for the brand in retail package stores and bars. This is very clear and concise language. There was never any intent to allow these "tasting rooms" to become bars, participating in regular and/or hosted events.

Items of concern just in Juneau that could affect existing BDL's (bars) and REPL's (restaurants are as follows:

A tasting room/retail license under a manufacturing license (\$1000) is a free add-on license. BDL's have paid market value for their license which can exceed \$250,000.

The number of allowable licenses in Alaska is based upon population size. While Juneau exceeds this number which you utilize the one BDL/3000 persons and one REPL /1500 persons. This means Juneau should only have 11 fully-licensed bars and 21 fully-license restaurants. This cap directly influences the market value for each license. Thus allowing more BDL's hurts the existing investments that have been made and provides an uneven playing field after large investments have been made to insure compliance with the existing laws for BDL and REPL licensees.

To also allow barreling of mixed drinks was also not the intent thus any and all language should be very clear as to what is expected in the future and what the sanctions against the violator will be.



Finally the Chairman of the Board has always recused himself because he is affiliated with a distillery and that is conflict of financial interest. However, he should not have any say in this matter. The Vice Chair should take over when this item comes up on the agenda. Since there is a history of 2-2 votes in this and other areas, and there is no tie-breaker because of the even number, I know that the Director can be assigned to be a voting member when this situation occurs. That is what should happen with this item as she represents the department, its enforcement of the Regulations and has clearly showed with legal opinions and logical facts as to what should occur with this and many other items that are brought forward.

Finally I appreciate all that you do, but make this very clear for all to understand so we can eliminate this bending of the rules and regulations as people see fit to do! The same for many other interpretations that have come forward in the past year after items have been interpreted by this board, license owners, department directors and legal counsel for 30 – 40 years. This must stop as that many people cannot be wrong for that many years! Thank you.



George H. Tipton  
BDL and Package Store License and Restaurant Owner  
2050 Sea Level Drive Suite 102  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901  
Cell 907 617 3372  
ghtipton@kpunet.net





December 23, 2017

Dear Alaska State Alcohol Beverage Control Board,

This letter is to support the clarification of what a "distillery" can and cannot do in their tasting rooms. Right now, there are a few that interrupt the law to mean they can act as a bar or cocktail lounge so people can enjoy their wares with mixers instead of just sampling a shot. Three one ounce mixed drinks will cause patrons to linger longer, especially if it is a comfortable atmosphere and there is an entertainment venue.

There is a distiller here in Juneau where one can't find their product in the local liquor stores or bars. You would think a manufacture of alcoholic would want to sell their product on the open market. This should be basic marketing strategy for any startup company. Then again if your tasting room is popular, why bother.

I can sympathize with those that hold a beverage dispensary license. Most of them paid dearly for this privilege. They also have costs in their premises and inventory. One argument I've read from distillers in the newspapers is that they have invested heavily in their equipment, which is true. But it should not mean they can take advantage of a \$1,000 production license to directly compete with the retail sector.

I have no problem with the entrepreneurship of the people wanting to distill alcohol. More power to them. But they need better guidance and set boundaries on how to operate their tasting rooms. It is my wish that the ABC board do this soon to keep the production, distribution and retail entities separate.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.

Mike Allen



POB 211122  
Auke Bay, AK 99821  
907-790-4118





# Municipality of Skagway

GATEWAY TO THE KLONDIKE

P.O. BOX 415 SKAGWAY, ALASKA 99840

(PHONE) 907-983-2297 – Fax 907-983-2151

[WWW.SKAGWAY.ORG](http://WWW.SKAGWAY.ORG)

December 22, 2017

Erika McConnell, Director  
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office  
550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. McConnell,

The Municipality of Skagway supports the ability of distilleries to mix distilled spirits with non-alcoholic ingredients, as has been the standard practice since the passage of HB309 in 2014.

HB309 allows the sale of not more than three ounces a day of the distillery's product to a person for consumption on the premises, with certain restrictions, but is silent on the issue of mixing this product with non-alcoholic ingredients; non-alcoholic ingredients have not in the past been regulated by AMCO.

The distillery industry has been growing steadily and contributes tax revenue to the State of Alaska and to local communities. Inhibiting a distillery due to a new interpretation of state code could affect this revenue stream, and thereby could affect communities on a local level.

The Municipality of Skagway supports local businesses and their contributions to the success of the community, and for this reason supports efforts to allow local distilleries to operate in a way that has become the industry standard in the State of Alaska and across the nation.

Sincerely,

Emily A. Deach  
Acting Borough Manager



| Submitted By                                                                                                                                                                | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| <p>1/1/2018 2:57:09 PM<br/> Jeremiah<br/> <a href="mailto:jeremiah_christian@hotmail.com">jeremiah_christian@hotmail.com</a><br/> Anchorage, AK, US<br/> Anonymous User</p> | <p>If you want small businesses to grow, you should be loosening regulations instead of tightening them. With all of these restrictions, you will cause these businesses to close their doors. If these were big companies they could handle the restrictions, but since their margins are so low, they can't afford to go straight distribution.</p> <p>Personally I'm not going to go into a tasting room to do shots and then leave.</p> <p>Please don't pass this, I just want to support local and your making it harder.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <p>12/29/2017 4:09:21 PM<br/> Lori Neufeld<br/> <a href="mailto:lorisneufeld@hotmail.com">lorisneufeld@hotmail.com</a><br/> Fairbanks, AK, US<br/> Anonymous User</p>       | <p>Dear Director McConnell and AMCO Board, I appreciate your time and the opportunity to make a comment on the proposed changes to the distillery tasting room regulations. Regulating both the marijuana and alcohol related businesses in Alaska is a huge undertaking. Many small businesses are now able to make a good go of it and are generating revenue in our cities, boroughs and the state. It is our hope that regulations do not stifle these efforts.</p> <p>I do not support any new regulations that restrict the ability of distilleries to present their products in the manner that they are consumed. Since distilleries are already limited in the quantity of their produced alcohol product that can be included in a mixed drink to consumers each day and the hours that they are open, distilleries do not compete with bars or restaurants for customers. In fact, bars and restaurants are customers of Alaskan distilleries. Please allow distilleries to present their products to bar owners, bartenders, restaurant owners, and servers, and to individuals, in the manner in which they will be consumed.</p> <p>I support only AMCO regulations that DO NOT RESTRICT the ability of distilleries to mix cocktails.</p> <p>Thank you,<br/> Lori Neufeld<br/> Fairbanks, Alaska<br/> <a href="mailto:lorisneufeld@hotmail.com">lorisneufeld@hotmail.com</a></p> |
| <p>12/29/2017 3:55:12 PM<br/> Christopher Larrick<br/> <a href="mailto:dreamworkschris@gmail.com">dreamworkschris@gmail.com</a></p>                                         | <p>Considering that most individuals consume their distilled spirits mixed rather than straight, it is appropriate that distillery tasting rooms be</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| Submitted By                                                                                                                              | Comment                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| Fairbanks, AK, US<br>Anonymous User                                                                                                       | allowed to serve drinks as their patrons would typically consume them. There is no good compelling reason for these changes. All it will do is inconvenience distillery operators and their customers with no public benefit. This is pointless regulation and should not be adopted.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| 12/29/2017 3:54:39 PM<br>Lynnwood, WA, US<br>Anonymous User                                                                               | <p>I adamantly do NOT support of the ABC Board's proposed regulation changes in 3 AAC 304 of the Alaska Administrative Code. I'm specifically speaking out against proposed subsections (d) and (e), which define what a distillery can serve on its premises and what is considered to be a distillery's "product."</p> <p>The consumption limit of 3 ounces at a distillery remains the same, regardless of whether the alcohol is served mixed or served straight. Furthermore, it is not the responsibility of the ABC Board to regulate non-alcoholic ingredients. Adopting the proposed changes would further limit distilleries and provides no benefit to the general public. In fact, this proposed regulation change is government overreach that will directly impact small business owners and Alaskans.</p> <p>I am publicly voicing my opposition to the proposed changes. This proposal flies in the face of the small government ideals that so many Alaskans treasure. It also makes zero sense economically. In the midst of a multi year recession, why the everloving FUCK are you trying to stifle a promising new revenue source? One that targets both locals AND the tourism industry? These limitations will stifle the distillery industry, small businesses and economic growth at a time when Alaska needs it most. I DEMAND the ABC Board not adopt the proposed regulations as they are currently written.</p> <p>Sincerely,<br/>Small business owner, ACTIVE voter, and born and raised Alaskan.</p> |
| 12/29/2017 3:45:22 PM<br>Erin Tilly<br><a href="mailto:erintilly@gmail.com">erintilly@gmail.com</a><br>Lynnwood, WA, US<br>Anonymous User | <p>Feel free to remix/cut + paste...</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern:</p> <p>I am writing to address impending legislation regarding the singling out of distilleries through imposing unnecessary curtailing of activities on their premises.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |



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|                                                                                                                                                                       | <p>Over decades of my residency in Alaska as a patron of the arts, I have attended many exhibitions in alternative venues such as breweries, ice cream parlors, bookshops, cafes, auto dealers and, for the past couple years now, distilleries.</p> <p>There is simply no supportable justification to enact such burdensome restrictions. It is a mutually beneficial arrangement that increase exposure for both parties, while occasionally providing some small measure of financial compensation, and furthermore enhances a positive experience for clients – both residents and visitors alike.</p> <p>Additionally the use of such statutory regulations imposing limits on the crafting of their libations (ex: mixing drinks) is equally discriminatory and needlessly onerous.</p> <p>I support local businesses and encourage fostering creative relationships within our community. You folks should as well.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> |
| <p>12/28/2017 2:40:20 PM<br/> Amber Jackson<br/> <a href="mailto:layout.in.life@gmail.com">layout.in.life@gmail.com</a><br/> Lynnwood, WA, US<br/> Anonymous User</p> | <p>This new proposal is a bad idea and should not pass. Since there is already restrictions on the amount of liquor consumed on premise per customer, including restrictions on non-alcohol mixers seems unnecessary and excessive. The restrictions on businesses producing alcohol are already overly strict in Alaska and negatively impacting possible growth for the market.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <p>12/27/2017 1:10:50 PM<br/> Jacquie Braden<br/> <a href="mailto:jacquie.braden@gmail.com">jacquie.braden@gmail.com</a><br/> Bilbao, PV, ES<br/> Anonymous User</p>  | <p>Small distilleries provide economic opportunity and cultural benefit to Alaskan communities large and small. By limiting these small businesses in their ability to sell their product, connect with community, and grow into successful local ventures the State is doing a great disservice to entrepreneurial spirit that makes our state great. Please vote to allow tasting rooms to properly showcase the fruits of their efforts.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <p>12/26/2017 10:47:22 PM<br/> Sheila Dufford<br/> <a href="mailto:arctic-pair@gci.net">arctic-pair@gci.net</a><br/> Fairbanks, AK, US<br/> Anonymous User</p>        | <p>I do not have any issues with sections 3 AAC 304.375 (c) and (e). I think you are getting way too nit-picky with section 3 AAC 304.375 (d). Many people would rather taste the product with non-alcoholic ingredients, the way the would mix it themselves and should be allowed. But regulating whether the employee can mix it</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

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|                                                                                                                                                                | <p>or the customer has to mix it on the premises really stupid. Talk about regulatory over-reach and minutia that really effects nothing, but inconveniences the customer and makes the state regulators seem like idiots. The only result is in dirtying more glasses to be washed or plastic cups to be thrown away. It is just a wasteful regulation.</p> <p>I did not see it in this regulation, but I heard that there was consideration in regulating other activities at distilleries, like the First Friday Art displays or other charitable fund-raisers. If this is under consideration. I would oppose that regulation also.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>12/18/2017 4:09:19 PM<br/>Sue Sprinkle<br/><a href="mailto:suesprinkle@alaska.net">suesprinkle@alaska.net</a><br/>Anchorage, AK, US<br/>Anonymous User</p>  | <p>It's been a long couple of years and we've seen huge investments put into local distilleries, tap houses (and pot businesses). They've been great for the local economy. And now, just as they have become hugely successful, it seems that you want to say that they're "too fun" — and that "fun" should be illegal. How silly that sounds. Straight out of the 19th century.</p> <p>I wonder if it's a matter of trying to shut down the competition.</p> <p>As a woman, I find the distilleries (and tasting rooms) clean, bright, and safe to enter alone — an amenable place for a cocktail or a business meeting (unlike many of our traditional bars). In addition, the limited hours are helpful in keeping the clientele enjoyable and more than likely curtails the number of DUIs. If you take "the fun" out of these businesses, I believe you'll see a huge drop in taxes via the loss in purchased alcohol. That would be cutting your nose off to spite your face — and that wouldn't be very "fun."</p> |
| <p>12/13/2017 6:28:27 PM<br/>Seattle, WA, US<br/>Anonymous User</p>                                                                                            | <p>No, Please don't take away my favorite distillery. Who likes to drink that stuff straight?! There is already a limit on the amount you can drink, therefore mixing should be allowed!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <p>12/13/2017 3:25:49 PM<br/>Mary Ver Hoef<br/><a href="mailto:mary.verhoef@gmail.com">mary.verhoef@gmail.com</a><br/>Fairbanks, AK, US<br/>Anonymous User</p> | <p>I am a resident of Fairbanks, Alaska, and feel it is very important to allow distilleries across our state to mix and serve their product with a variety of other items. It is extremely helpful to taste and understand how the different alcohols taste with mixers, to appreciate the complexity of flavors and also for inspiration for making</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

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|                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>mixed drinks at home. The same goes for wines and foods (ie; wine and cheese pairing tastings are really helpful to we consumers!) and beers and snacks.</p> <p>It is a very good business model, and helpful for we customers, to have social events at tasting rooms across Alaska. This is a way for small Alaska businesses to assist each other - supporting local artists , musicians, and farmers. Allowing a wide range of activities to be organized and occur in tasting rooms is good for the entire Alaska economy.</p> <p>In short, I oppose the proposed changes of 3 AAC 304.375 (c) , 3 AAC 304.375 (d) and 3 AAC 304.375 (e) and any other measures that limit the business activities, social gatherings and events, and products served at Alaska distillery, winery, and brewery tasting rooms.</p>                                                                                                                               |
| <p>12/13/2017 9:11:21 AM<br/>William Howell<br/><a href="mailto:beeronthelastfrontier@gmail.com">beeronthelastfrontier@gmail.com</a><br/>Anchorage, AK, US<br/>Anonymous User</p> | <p>I am opposed to this proposal to change the status quo of Alaska's distillery tasting rooms. In order to properly taste the products being produced, the public should be able to consume them in mixed drinks. The use of non-alcoholic mixers is perfectly appropriate. Requiring the public to consume distilled spirits "neat" is irresponsible and contrary to both the spirit and letter of law.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <p>12/6/2017 6:42:48 PM<br/>Hannah Bochart<br/><a href="mailto:hbochart@gmail.com">hbochart@gmail.com</a><br/>Skagway, AK, US<br/>Anonymous User</p>                              | <p>I am a long time Alaskan resident and registered voter. I have recently become concerned about the proposed ban on allowing Alaska distilleries from providing mixed drinks to their clientele. The proposed law seems shortsighted and potentially harmful to local business. One of Alaska's biggest struggles is providing a functioning and unique economy for its citizens. Distilleries prove to be a singular and popular experience for both tourists and locals and are a boon to local economies. Restricting their ability to draw in business by forcing them to provide straight alcohol only runs the risk of having a negative impact on our economy. The point of distilleries are to demonstrate how consumers would use them in their favorite cocktails. Without the opportunity to sample spirits in their proper context deprives customers of making an informed choice. And asking customers to mix their own cocktails is</p> |

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|                                                                                                                                                                         | <p>absurd and will unquestionably lead to a decline in business.</p> <p>Distilleries already function under several restrictions that prevent them being any competition to local bars. Having a 3oz limit puts them squarely in the context of a sampling space only. Furthermore, forcing tasting rooms to provide spirits in shot form only eliminates customers with sensitive palates or low alcohol tolerances.</p> <p>Likewise, preventing said businesses from hosting First Friday art events, or as it was put "fun," etc, does nothing but hamper community events. I have heard no clear argument as to why this proposal is even in place. Community events do nothing but boost the market for local artists and creators. Again, a boost for our often struggling economies.</p> <p>Alaska would do well to look a successful business models from the lower 48. Distilleries have been a staple there and operate under much looser guidelines that Alaska ever has. Belatedly changing the letter of the law to punish an already successful business model smacks of antiquated ideals and only serves to hold Alaska back from being a 21st century state.</p> <p>In conclusion, our economy, at the local and state level, is already in jeopardy, and retroactively implementing restrictive and nonsensical laws upon local business people is counterintuitive to Alaska's prosperity. It is unconscionable that the state would take baseless, illogical action that yields no new business prospects and actively punishes local business owners and job creators.</p> <p>I hope you will take time to read this letter and consider its points.</p> |
| <p>11/27/2017 4:35:10 PM<br/> Anne M. Burtness<br/> <a href="mailto:anne.burtness@gmail.com">anne.burtness@gmail.com</a><br/> Fairbanks, AK, US<br/> Anonymous User</p> | <p>Greetings. Thank you for this opportunity to comment on A DISTILLERY LICENSEE IS PERMITTED TO DO FOR SERVICE FOR ONSITE CONSUMPTION IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BOARD.</p> <p>Why has the board decided that a distillery can only serve the alcohol that it produces?</p> <p>I can not find a logical reason for this change,</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>besides that the local restaurants and bars feel that the distillery business should not be allowed to compete with their business.</p> <p>I finding it very interesting that the board, will not allow a distillery the option to provide their alcohol they produce in a cocktail with accompanying liquors. The distillery provides the consumer the opportunity to taste what they produce. How many people do you know that drink their alcohol without other items added. It is my opinion, people that frequent distillery do not usually visit bars in Fairbanks. The distillery is allowed to provide 2 drinks, and usually people visit for about an hour and then go to another destination. I do not believe that 2 distilleries in Fairbanks are draining the income of the other bars and restaurants in town.</p> <p>I am recommending, that this proposed licence allows spirits to be served with the distillery's product. So that cocktails can be served, allowing the customer to taste the product in their preferred cocktail.</p> <p>Anne Burtness<br/>1418 Turner St.<br/>Fairbanks, AK 99701</p> |
| <p>11/27/2017 3:05:26 PM<br/>Mary Burtness<br/><a href="mailto:mcburtness@gmail.com">mcburtness@gmail.com</a><br/>Seattle, WA, US<br/>Anonymous User</p>           | <p>I want to go on record in support of distillery tasting rooms being allowed to mix ingredients together with their products.</p> <p>It is the mission of your board to safeguard the community, not stifle small Alaska businesses. It would seem much less safe to allow just sampling straight up alcohol. As it is now, these businesses are providing a place to enjoy their local product in addition to other products made or grown in Alaska. I have been to several places and they are very diligent about not serving more than two drinks, so the customers are not consuming like a bar, which makes it even more safe.</p> <p>Please do not pass these regulations</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <p>11/22/2017 9:08:26 AM<br/>Margaret Billington<br/><a href="mailto:maggieb@acsalaska.net">maggieb@acsalaska.net</a><br/>Anchorage, AK, US<br/>Anonymous User</p> | <p>I usually drink wine or beer, but when I decide to have something distilled I certainly don't have a straight shot. I have a cocktail, a cocktail like you can find at a tasting room at a distillery or a bar or someone's home. Only being able to drink the product by itself is meaningless to me. The state's distilleries opened their doors with</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|                                                                                                                                                             | this concept in mind: people want their product as part of a complete taste experience. The owners have invested a great deal of money to make this happen. They use local produce in their spirits, thus supporting Alaskan agriculture. The very narrow interpretation of what a distillery can and cannot do will not only damage (or kill) that industry, but will also harm Alaskan agriculture. |
| 11/21/2017 9:27:07 AM<br>rick mensik<br><a href="mailto:rickmensik@yahoo.com">rickmensik@yahoo.com</a><br>Fairbanks, AK, US<br>Anonymous User               | This is a beginning . I do not understand how these distilleries are able to operate just as a beverage dispensary licensed premise. They should purchase a license if they expect to operate a bar.                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 11/20/2017 8:40:46 PM<br>Fairbanks, AK, US<br>Anonymous User                                                                                                | Thus is absolutely ridiculous. Please allow the distilleries the choice of mixing their products with other products.<br>Consumers deserve choices.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 11/20/2017 8:01:17 PM<br>Kim Huffington<br><a href="mailto:huffingtonkm@aol.com">huffingtonkm@aol.com</a><br>Anchorage (North Star), , US<br>Anonymous User | We need less government regulations, not more. Alaska has many more bigger issues than to regulate distillery's to the point of closing. The 2 drink limit is fine, but, please, allow them to mix cocktails and have first friday events, etc.                                                                                                                                                       |