

**From:** [Alcohol Licensing, CED ABC \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**To:** [Alcohol, CED AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Regulation of Craft Brewery Tap Rooms in Alaska  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 14, 2019 9:08:18 AM

---

Thank You,

Mikal Milton  
Records and Licensing Supervisor  
Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office  
Phone: 907.269.0350  
[alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov](mailto:alcohol.licensing@alaska.gov)  
[marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov](mailto:marijuana.licensing@alaska.gov)



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

*Any guidance provided by this electronic communication is not a binding legal opinion, ruling, or interpretation that may be relied upon, but merely guidance concerning existing statutes and regulations. There may be other unique or undisclosed facts, circumstances, and information that may have changed any guidance provided in this communication.*

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** *This communication is intended for the sole use of the individual or entity to whom it is addressed, is covered by the Electronic Communications Privacy Act (18 USC § 2510-2521), and may contain Confidential Official Use Only Information that may be exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act (5 USC § 552). If you are not the intended recipient, you are prohibited from disseminating, distributing, or copying any information contained in this communication.*

*The State of Alaska cannot guarantee the security of e-mails sent to or from a state employee outside the state e-mail system. If you are not the intended recipient or receive this communication in error, please notify the sender by reply e-mail and delete the original message and all copies from your computer.*

---

**From:** Craig Faanes <[cafaanes@yahoo.com](mailto:cafaanes@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 09, 2019 7:08 PM  
**To:** CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored) <[amco.regs@alaska.gov](mailto:amco.regs@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Regulation of Craft Brewery Tap Rooms in Alaska

To Whom It May Concern

Hello. My name is Craig Faanes. I am a resident of Sarasota, Florida so perhaps my comments will carry no weight with you. I will hope for a break in the dark clouds and that my comments and concerns will matter to you.

I am a native of the great state of Wisconsin where beer is one of the three main food groups. We learn early about the wonders of beer and we also learn how to appreciate it. For the longest time I only drank beer from established breweries (Pabst, Miller, etc) because they were a known quantity.

In July 2015 while on a fishing trip to Seward with my wife, she and I along with my daughter who lives in Wasilla, had the pleasure of eating dinner and more importantly having a beer at the Seward Brewing Company in Seward. This was the first time in my life that I consumed a craft beer. Until that day

I assumed that all craft beer was the wildly hoppy stuff that brewers filled with grapefruit to mask the taste of the hops inside.

Instead I tried a pint of their Redfish Ale and from the moment it passed my lips I was hooked. There was something new to my Wisconsin-trained palate in that craft beer; something known only to me and to the brewer. Since that first pint in Seward I have been hooked on craft beer - hooked to the point that I simply refuse to drink any of the established beer brands (Budweiser, Miller) any longer. To me there is craft beer and then there is every thing else.

In June 2017, my daughter, and my son-in-law who live in Wasilla, stopped in the Arkose Brewery in Palmer where we tried several of their beers. My experience with their Belgian Tripel reinforced the impression I developed in Seward in 2015 - nothing is better than craft beer. While quaffing a pint of beer at Arkose, my son-in-law and I made a pledge to one day drink a beer in each of the 45 recognized craft breweries in Alaska.

As a resident of Florida this challenge is no easy task. However as of today I have traveled to Alaska numerous times in the last two years and right now I am 8 craft breweries short of having enjoyed a beer in each of the 45 craft breweries in Alaska. I plan to visit one in Gakona in June and 7 in the Panhandle in August and thereby complete my quest to drink a beer in everyone of them - and I will do it while spending a lot of money traveling from Florida and staying in hotels, driving rental cars, and flying on Alaska Airlines.

Recently I learned of the Alaska rule/legislation that severely restricts breweries that operate only as a tap room (as does Arkose or Bleeding Heart or Matanuska in Palmer or Baranof Island at Sitka). That restriction hobbles these businesses from being opening early and staying open late on any given day of the week. Its my understanding that my friends at Baranof Island cannot by state law remain open later than 8 pm in the evening and cannot open earlier than 12:00 noon each day. Despite that rule/law, any bar in town can open earlier and stay late later and that is just not fair. Worse yet, by state law these same tap rooms cannot serve more than 36 ounces of beer to an individual in any one day.

It is not fair to you, to Alaskans, to tourists and most importantly it is not fair to hard working brew masters of many of the craft breweries in Alaska who work their butts off to produce absolutely superb craft beer. If I was in Sitka or at the Black Spruce Brewing Company in Fairbanks right now I could not have more than three 12-ounce glasses of craft beer. Yet, if I was to walk down the street to the nearest Corner Bar in either of those towns or any other town (including Anchorage) that serves Budweiser (which is not brewed in Alaska!) I could drink an entire half-barrel (16 gallons) of a non-craft beer and I could do it with no restrictions on the volume consumed. Furthermore I could drink it almost any time of the day or night rather than

being hobbled by a noon to 8 pm curfew.

I am writing to you as a concerned Alaska visitor and a concerned lover of craft beer to not only ask but beg you to reconsider the restrictions that have been placed on craft breweries like Kassik's in Kenai primarily because of the influence exerted by the bar industry in your state. If bars are so worried about the craft breweries perhaps they should consider serving craft beers with their array of conventional beers. I would imagine they would be shocked by how quickly Budweiser will take a back seat to Gummi Bear from Kenai River Brewing Company or Fairbanks Lager from the Silver Gulch Brewing Company.

Bottom line is that I believe it is patently wrong for the craft brewing industry in Alaska to be saddled with massive restrictions that the bar industry does not endure. Its unfair and its uncompetitive, and most importantly it is unamerican.

Thank you for considering my concerns for your craft beer industry and for the excellent beers it produces. If I can be of any help in getting these restrictive regulations changed or loosened I will happily do so. If testifying before a state legislative committee about my impressions of the craft beer industry in Alaska will help, especially after I have had a beer in every craft brewery, I will happily fly to Juneau at my own expense to testify on behalf of the craft beer industry regarding rule changes that can put craft breweries and taprooms in the same league as, say, the Asylum Bar in Ketchikan.

Should you have any questions or desire additional feedback please contact me at this email address or at the snail mail address or phone number below. You are lucky to have such wonderful craft breweries in Alaska. Liberate them and help them grow. Please stop coddling to the bar industry that would happily keep them in the dark and out of sight.

Craig Faanes  
1502 Romallo Lane  
Sarasota, Florida 34232  
941-685-3368

**From:** [Sarah Oates](#)  
**To:** [Alcohol, CED AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Shared Tasting Rooms for Multiple Manufacturing Licenses  
**Date:** Thursday, June 20, 2019 5:22:20 PM  
**Attachments:** [Shared Tasting Rooms.pdf](#)

---

Good afternoon,

Please review and consider the attached letter regarding shared tasting rooms for multiple licensed premises.

Thank you,

**Sarah Daulton Oates**

President & CEO, Alaska CHARR

Office: 907.274.8133

Cell: 907.229.9972

[www.alaskacharr.com](http://www.alaskacharr.com)



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail.

Alaska Cabaret, Hotel,  
Restaurant, and Retailers Association



1503 W. 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Suite 202  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
(907) 274-8133 • Fax (907) 274-8640  
Toll Free In Alaska (800) 478-2427

June 20, 2019

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
[amco.regs@alaska.gov](mailto:amco.regs@alaska.gov)

Re: Shared Tasting Room for Multiple Manufacturing Licenses

Dear members of the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board:

At its February 19, 2019 meeting, the ABC Board formed a subcommittee to gather information and make a recommendation to the entire Board about combined drink/sampling limits in a situation when a licensee holds multiple manufacturing licenses that have a shared tasting room/area.

With the understanding that the public's health and welfare will not be negatively impacted by the following proposal, as the current licensees who are impacted by this have strict policies and procedures in place to prevent overconsumption and preserve public safety, Alaska CHARR makes the following recommendation to the ABC Board:

As long as a licensee continues to demonstrate, through monthly reports to the Alaska Department of Revenue and biennial reports to the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office, that no less than 90% of its manufactured alcohol products from each license type are distributed through wholesale licenses, then Alaska CHARR supports that licensee retaining the ability to sell the equivalent of three drinks (36oz of beer, 18oz of wine/mead or 36oz of cider, 3oz of distilled spirits) per person per day for each manufacturing license type that it holds.

If a licensee fails to demonstrate that it has met the 90% threshold, then it is limited to the equivalent of three total drinks (individually 12oz of beer or cider, 6oz of wine or mead, 1oz of distilled spirits) of the products that it produces per person per day, regardless of the number of manufacturing licenses that it holds.

I hope that the ABC Board will make a determination during the July meeting in order to provide clear guidelines for licensees, as this is becoming an increasingly popular business model. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Sarah D. Oates', is written over a light green circular scribble.

Sarah D. Oates  
President & CEO  
Alaska CHARR

**From:** [Shelley Christopherson](#)  
**To:** [Alcohol, CED AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Creekbend in Hope Complaint  
**Date:** Friday, June 21, 2019 4:40:38 PM

---

Greetings ABC Board,

I just wanted to file a formal complaint about the Creekbend Cafe in Hope and their live music events that happen in the 'Acres' area behind the cafe. I was present in Hope during the events last weekend (June 14th & 15th). I was shocked at the amount of people who were flooding Hope for the consecutive shows. The show was sold out and then Creekbend opened up 100 more tickets at the door for people who drove down despite the sell out. I am wondering if there is a limit to people attending these events? It seemed to over take the town. There were 30-40 cars parked alongside the road, many who were sleeping in their cars overnight, illegally 'camping'. I walked around at the break, and there were many patrons openly drinking alcoholic beverages at their cars, and walking around the downtown area of Hope with them. The noise decibel level was quite high. We have two small kids and it is difficult to fall asleep due to the loud music penetrating our cabin until late at night (11:00 PM). I have safety concerns for the amount of people in our small town, and the level of alcohol consumption happening. There were also limited port-a-potties, with long lines (and therefore people hitting the woods) which is a trespassing and health concern

The two nights of music in a row is extremely uncomfortable for us who live downtown. We are wary as they have two consecutive days of music this weekend as well (June 21 & 22).

Thank you for considering the residents of Hope when you are handing out any permits for these events, or extending their liquor license. I don't mind them having 1 or 2 big events a summer, but their raucous, loud, party scene multiple days in a row, multiple weekends in a row is too much for the neighbors to bear.

[Shelley Christopherson](#),  
Cabin on 5th St Hope

**From:** [Rhianne Christopherson](#)  
**To:** [Alcohol, CED AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Hope Ak Creekbend Noise  
**Date:** Friday, June 21, 2019 8:38:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Members of the board,

I have been corresponding with Joe Hamilton going on two summers now with concerns my family has regarding the noise produced by Creek Bend Co in Hope, AK. Not only is the volume of the music impacting our lives here there is clearly a safety issue with the population the venue is bringing to Hope and the lack of noise ordinance and law enforcement presence. If you are not aware there has been a recent alcohol induced hit and run in our community. The troopers are doing what they can to get down here, however the issue at hand continues to be just that a safety and risk to our community in Hope. Please see the most recent email I have sent to Jos Hamilton. I am asking you to assist with the problem as we have voiced our concerns and asked to have volumes lowered and crowds more control with the owner who is not responding. I would like to see the board support and protect our community. Thank you!

Best regards,

Rhianne Christopherson  
907-223-9202

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** **Hamilton, Joe (CED)** <[joe.hamilton@alaska.gov](mailto:joe.hamilton@alaska.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Jun 21, 2019 at 9:52 AM  
**Subject:** RE: Hope Ak Creekbend Noise  
**To:** Rhianne Christopherson <[rhiannechristopherson@gmail.com](mailto:rhiannechristopherson@gmail.com)>

I denied a permit for last weekend. We advised him that he had to team up with a beverage dispensary license and now things could get worse. There is no time limit for the music. The trooper was correct, write letters to the Board, not an investigator, but to the Alcohol Beverage Control, chairman Bob Klein. You can email them at [alcohol@alaska.gov](mailto:alcohol@alaska.gov), this goes directly to board members. This weekend the music should stop at ten pm.

Joe



***Joe Hamilton***  
***Special Investigator 1***

***Enforcement Unit***  
***Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office***  
***550 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 1600***

***Anchorage, AK 99501***  
***Office (907) 269-0063***

**From:** Rhianne  
Christopherson

Cell (907) 441-2534  
[joe.hamilton@alaska.gov](mailto:joe.hamilton@alaska.gov)

[mailto:[rhiannechristopherson@gmail.com](mailto:rhiannechristopherson@gmail.com)]

**Sent:** Friday, June 21, 2019 8:39 AM

**To:** Hamilton, Joe (CED) <[joe.hamilton@alaska.gov](mailto:joe.hamilton@alaska.gov)>

**Subject:** Hope Ak Creekbend Noise

Good morning Joe,

I just wanted to take the opportunity to touch base with you regarding the Creek Bend Ak noise in Hope. I did take your advice and contact the troopers, trooper Howard to be exact, to voice our concerns about the noise in Hope. He stated to continue to voice concerns to the alcohol board as well.

Unfortunately the noise still continues to be a problem in Hope from Creek Bend. We are not able to keep our windows open at night as the noise penetrates through closed windows. We use white noise machines to assist with drowning out the noise so our two young kids can get to sleep, ages 3 and 5 years old. We aren't able to sit on our deck without being overwhelmed by the noise.

We have voiced our concerns to the owners without any changes or interest in addressing community concerns. There are more concerning things I'd like to mention such as the recent hit and run following a concert, which the troopers did respond to. This is very concerning as we are active biking, running, and hiking throughout the community as are our young children.

There are also only two port-a-potties at the Creek Bend music venue and with our property in close proximity to the venue we worry about individuals toileting in the woods. In addition to these worries I'd like to include the dangers of forest fires, drunk drivers, general nuisance and disruption.

This is the second summer that we are filing complaint/concerns and would really appreciate support to help decrease these concerns and safety risks.

Thank you for your time and best regards,



Rhianne Christopherson

907-223-9202

--

Sent from Gmail Mobile