



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

Department of Commerce, Community,  
and Economic Development

ALCOHOL AND MARIJUANA CONTROL OFFICE

550 W 7<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, STE 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501  
Main: 907.269.0350

Friday, June 20, 2025

To: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board  
From: Kevin Richard, Director, AMCO  
RE: Board Guidance on Hotel or Motel Endorsement and Large Resort Endorsement

Members of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board,

The AMCO office requests guidance from the Board on interpretation of the Hotel and Motel Endorsement (AS 04.09.430) and the Large Resort Endorsement (AS 04.09.440). Specifically, how does the board interpret the statute as it impacts the presence of minors on a licensed premise under AS 04.16.049.

Regarding the large resort endorsement, AS 04.16.049(h)(2) does allow for the presence of persons under 21 in the areas of a licensed premises covered by a large resort endorsement, but excluding the areas of the premises originally covered by the licensee's beverage dispensary or beverage dispensary tourism license where alcohol is being served, for the purpose of travel, travel lodging, or outdoor recreation activities provided by the large resort if the person is (A) at least 16 years of age or (B) under 16 years of age and a parent or legal guardian of the underaged person consents. AMCO has interpreted that to mean that persons under 21 years of age can freely move about the licensed premises, excluding areas where alcohol is being served.

The hotel or motel endorsement under AS 04.09.430 does not have the same language in AS 04.16.049(h) to allow for persons under the age of 21, barring exclusions for employed persons. A person under 21 would need to be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or spouse who has attained 21 years of age on licensed premises. "Accompanied" is not defined. AMCO Enforcement interprets this as a hotel or motel endorsement licensee to require thoroughfares that are excluded from the licensed premises to allow for minors to travel through the hotel or motel without crossing into licensed premises.

**Is it the will of the board that applications for the hotel or motel endorsement be required to have unlicensed premises as avenues for unaccompanied minors to move through the hotel or motel?**

Sincerely,

Kevin Richard  
Director



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**SB 15 AS 04.16.049(h)**

AS 04.16.049(h) is amended to read:

(h) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, a person under 21 years of age may be present

(1) on the licensed premises of a

(A) common carrier dispensary, destination resort, or outdoor recreation lodge for the purpose of travel, travel lodging, or outdoor recreation activities provided by the licensee if the person is

(i) at least 16 years of age; or

(ii) under 16 years of age and a parent or legal guardian of the underaged person consents

(B) theater if the person is

(i) at least 16 years of age; or

(ii) under 16 years of age, is accompanied by a person who is at least 21 years of age, and parent or legal guardian of the underaged person consents;

(2) in the areas of a licensed premises covered by a large resort endorsement, but excluding the areas of the premises originally covered by the licensee's beverage dispensary or beverage dispensary tourism license where alcohol is being served, for the purpose of travel, travel lodging, or outdoor recreation activities provided by the large resort if the person is

(A) at least 16 years of age; or

(B) under 16 years of age and a parent or legal guardian of the underaged person consents.



## AS 04.09.430 HOTEL OR MOTEL ENDORSEMENT

### Sec. 04.09.430. Hotel or motel endorsement.

(a) A hotel or motel endorsement authorizes the holder of a beverage dispensary license or a beverage dispensary tourism license that is a hotel, motel, resort, or similar business premises that caters to the traveling public as a substantial part of its business to sell or serve alcoholic beverages on the licensed premises, including in a dining room, banquet room, and other public areas approved by the board, and in guest rooms.

(b) The biennial fee for a hotel or motel endorsement is \$200.

(c) The holder of a beverage dispensary license or a beverage dispensary tourism license that is a hotel, motel, resort, or similar business premises that caters to the traveling public as a substantial part of its business shall apply for a multiple fixed counter endorsement under [AS 04.09.420](#) to sell or serve alcoholic beverages at a secondary location located in a building different than the licensed premises for the beverage dispensary license or a beverage dispensary tourism license if the different building

(1) is located on the same property as, adjacent to, or attached to the originally licensed premises;

(2) principally caters to guests of the hotel or motel; and

(3) principally encourages the tourism trade at the hotel or motel.

(d) The holder of a hotel or motel endorsement may stock alcoholic beverages in guest rooms, for sale and consumption only in the guest room. Alcoholic beverages stocked under this subsection must be stocked by an employee who is 21 years of age or older, may not be supplied or resupplied during hours that the sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited as provided under [AS 04.16.010](#)(a) and (d), and must be stored in a unit using a key or combination lock system within the guest room. A key lock system must be designed to prevent the removal of the key unless the unit is locked. Except for the licensee, or an agent or employee of the licensee, a key or combination enabling a person to obtain alcoholic beverages stocked in a guest room may be provided only to a guest who occupies the room and who is 21 years of age or older.

(e) The holder of a hotel or motel endorsement shall exercise control over conduct of the



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business in all areas of the licensed premises.

(f) The holder of a beverage dispensary license or a beverage dispensary tourism license who engages in activity under this section without an endorsement under this section commits the offense of unendorsed hotel or motel service.

(g) The holder of a hotel or motel endorsement who fails to comply with the requirements of this section commits the offense of hotel or motel endorsement noncompliance.

(h) Unendorsed hotel or motel service is a violation and is punishable by a fine of \$500.

(i) Hotel or motel endorsement noncompliance is a violation.



## AS 04.09.440 LARGE RESORT ENDORSEMENT

### Sec. 04.09.440. Large resort endorsement.

(a) A large resort endorsement authorizes the holder of a beverage dispensary license or a beverage dispensary tourism license that is a large resort to sell or serve alcoholic beverages from multiple locations on the resort property to guests for consumption in areas on the site of the large resort, including a dining room, banquet room, guest room, open air venue, and ingress or egress route between those areas.

(b) The biennial fee for a large resort endorsement is \$200.

(c) The holder of a large resort endorsement shall apply for a multiple fixed counter endorsement under [AS 04.09.420](#) to sell or serve alcoholic beverages from multiple locations within the large resort's property. The locations do not need to be located in the same building or on the same parcel, but must be within the boundary of the large resort, as that term is defined in (h) of this section.

(d) The holder of a large resort endorsement may sell or serve alcoholic beverages only from locations on the site of the large resort.

(e) For federal income tax purposes, the profit and loss from the licensed business conducted at locations on the resort under a large resort endorsement, other than guest rooms, must be combined or consolidated with the profit and loss from the licensed business conducted under the multiple fixed counter endorsement.

(f) The holder of a large resort endorsement shall exercise control over conduct of the business in all areas of the licensed premises.

(g) A holder of a beverage dispensary license with a large resort endorsement may stock alcoholic beverages in guest rooms, for sale and consumption only in the guest room. Alcoholic beverages stocked under this subsection must be stocked by an employee who is 21 years of age or older, may not be supplied or resupplied during hours that the sale of alcoholic beverages is prohibited as provided under [AS 04.16.010](#)(a) and (d), and must be stored in a unit using a key or combination lock system within the guest room. A key lock system must be designed to prevent the removal of the key unless the unit is locked. Except for the licensee, or an agent or employee



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of the licensee, a key or combination enabling a person to obtain alcoholic beverages stocked in a guest room may be provided only to a guest who occupies the room and who is 21 years of age or older.

(h) In this section, “large resort” means a resort that offers both outdoor recreational activities and overnight lodging to the public and is located on a site consisting of at least 10 contiguous acres containing one or more parcels of real property owned by the licensee or leased by the licensee, or a combination of parcels owned by the licensee and leased by the licensee.

(i) The holder of a beverage dispensary license or a beverage dispensary tourism license who engages in activity for which a large resort endorsement is required under this section without an endorsement under this section commits the offense of unendorsed large resort service.

(j) The holder of a large resort endorsement who fails to comply with the requirements of (c) —  
(g) of this section commits the offense of large resort endorsement noncompliance.

(k) Unendorsed large resort service is a violation and is punishable by a fine of \$500.00

(l) Large resort endorsement noncompliance is a violation.