



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development**

ALCOHOL AND MARIJUANA CONTROL OFFICE

550 W 7TH AVENUE, STE 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501
Main: 907.269.0350

To: Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
Date: February 3, 2026
From: Kevin Richard, Director
RE: Director's Report

• **Introduction**

- This report summarizes the activities of the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) from the last board meetings held in December 2025.

• **Discussion Topics**

○ **AO 360**

- Administrative Order 360 was issued on August 4th, 2025. This order rescinded and replaced AO 157 and AO 266. There are multiple goals and outcomes associated with this AO, culminating in a reduction of the number of regulatory requirements by 15% by December 31, 2026, and 25% (cumulative) by December 31, 2027.
- The ABC Board has been provided with draft decisional document and reform plan. AMCO will submit the approved plan to the Dept. before February 13, 2026.

○ **Licensing**

- Sonya Irwin will update you on the progress that has been made since the December 2025 board meetings. There is a vacant Licensing Examiner 2 position, and we're working to create another available position.

○ **Enforcement**

- Investigator Joe Bankowski will update you on the activities of the AMCO Enforcement Unit since the December board meetings. The recruitment waiver has been submitted for the Fairbanks position.

○ **Administrative**

- The AMCO Administrative Unit is fully staffed with the hire of an Administrative Assistant II.

○ **Legislative Review**

- Currently, AMCO is monitoring the following bills in preparation for the upcoming legislative session:
 - HB 37: Alcohol Warning Signs On Lic. Premises
 - Sponsor: Representative Gray
 - Current Status: (H)L&C
 - HB 68: Alcohol: Sale, Warning Signs
 - Sponsor: House Labor & Commerce
 - Current Status: (H)HSS
 - HB 155: Alcohol Sales: Local Option



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- Sponsor: Representative Foster
- Current Status: (H)CRA
- HB 182: Alcohol License: Live Music/Entertainment
 - Sponsor: Representative Holland
 - Current Status: (H)RLS
- **Topics to be Considered**
 - **3AN-24-04842CI Zip Kombucha LLC, et al v. Kevin Richard, et al**
 - The superior court has ruled that language in AS 04.09.320(e)(1), AS 04.09.320(g)(1), AS 04.09.330(e)(1), AS 04.09.330(g)(1), and AS 04.09.700 to be unconstitutional under the First Amendment of the US Constitution and Article 1, Section 5 of the Alaska Constitution.
- **Next Board Meeting**
 - The next Alcoholic Beverage Control Board meeting is scheduled for April 14th in Nome, AK. If required, a special meeting may be scheduled at the discretion of the Chair.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Richard".

Kevin Richard
Director
Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office
kevin.richard@alaska.gov