

From: [Yvette Birkholz](#)
To: [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Letter for the Alcohol Beverage Control Board
Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 11:53:59 AM
Attachments: [scan_f361960_2024-09-03-06-46-22 \(1\).pdf](#)

You don't often get email from yvette.birkholz512@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Please see attached letter

To Alcohol Beverage Control Board,

I am writing to protest the transfer of a liquor license from Garden Island Liquor Store to the Gas Line.

The Gas Line is across the street from an established neighborhood. Hamilton Acres has been an established neighborhood before it was a part of the city. I have lived adjacent to the Gas Line location for 60 years.

Many children walk to the Gas Line for snacks, sodas daily. Liquor should not be sold on the same premises.

Liquor is sold at about 9 locations nearby not fringing a neighborhood.

The Gas Line is close to Nordale School, which is a Home School, but many students are there everyday. The school should stop liquor at the Gas Line

The bottom line ^{is} the Gas Line is a horrible place for a liquor store and should never have been considered in the first place.

Thanking ^{you} for listening,
Barbara Johnson

From: [Katia K.](#)
To: [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Date: Thursday, September 5, 2024 9:22:45 AM

You don't often get email from tiakeston@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello AK Alcohol Control Board,

Is there a baseline expectation for the TAP instruction that can earn attendees their card (after an assessment)? The session I went to this week was too much about bars with their stories which led off topic and made it super hard to focus on the mandatory content. Despite the instructor's claim to have been active as one for 9-years, he could not answer about what the state law was for international purchases nor take interest to find out as an example of difficult to follow information.

Thank you,
Katia Keston

From: [Christy Fowler](#)
To: [Alcohol, CED AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#); [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#); [Gonzales, Gabriel \(CED\)](#)
Subject: Letter to ABC Board re Haines Borough's New Resolution petitioning ABC Board for SIX REPL's
Date: Sunday, September 8, 2024 9:23:35 PM
Attachments: [Haines Borough minutes Deputy Mayor Debra Schnabel 8.27.24.pdf](#)

Some people who received this message don't often get email from christytengs@hotmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

September 8, 2024

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Dear Board Members:

My husband, Bob Fowler, and I own the Pioneer Bar and Bamboo Room Restaurant in Haines, which have been in my family for 70 years.

This letter is regarding Alaska Statute 04.11.405 and the Haines Borough Assembly's recent Resolution #24-05-1111 to petition the ABC Board for an additional 6 Restaurant & Eating Place Licenses immediately following a denial of their petition for 10.

The resolution was once again hurried through, with the only committee addressing the issue prior to assembly vote, being a Tourism Board meeting which took place at NOON on a day with three cruise ships. Stakeholders were hard pressed to attend. The new resolution was next scheduled to go before the Commerce Committee, but the meeting was canceled. When I inquired whether it would be rescheduled, I was told by a borough official that it would not, as they "needed to get the resolution through the assembly on August 27th in order to make it into the ABC Board meeting on September 10th." This goes against the ABC Board's instructions to take more time for public input.

From what I understand, this statute was intended to address the needs of towns such as Soldotna and Wasilla, with an expansive outlying residential population regularly driving in to use the town's services. It is being misinterpreted by coastal communities to include cruise ship tourists, already addressed by Seasonal Tourism licenses. In Haines' new application, our borough used the same tourism numbers that were found suspect by the ABC Board at their previous meeting. In addition, our assembly members erroneously think they can sit on these licenses, then debate the issues, make their own guidelines, and award them as they see fit (see attachment with Deputy Mayor quotes).

This statute needs clarification. It is harming those of us with current licenses, who are being forced to defend their value. The fact that the new REPLs are FREE (except filing fee) is unfair, giving a competitive advantage to new businesses over those with a considerable investment in their license. That the statute is being wholly misinterpreted to include tourism numbers is wreaking havoc on those of us who have been playing by the rules all these years. Now we have been pitted neighbor against neighbor, as everyone is jumping on the bandwagon, feeling entitled to a free license just because they want one. Furthermore, it appears that these licenses, once granted, can be sold.

Few are considering the social impact of this. We, who have paid real money for our licenses, have good reason to be responsible purveyors. Why would someone with a free license be concerned about losing it, if they have no financial skin in the game?

We are hoping you will open a regulation project to clarify and define the new legislation. Here are some issues that need to be addressed:

1. Cities should not be able to double-count tourist population.
2. Define Visitor Population (aka *not* tourists), or take "Visitor population" off list of qualifying population numbers in language of new statute. Replace with "residents," as the statute was designed for towns with an expanded population of residents living in the area surrounding the town who utilize the town's services.
3. Clarify existence of seasonal tourism option.
4. Require stakeholder notification and involvement at the local level.
5. It's not fair that these REPLs could exist, let alone be FREE, and furthermore, could be SOLD – they should go away at sale/close of business.
6. Before making a decision to increase REPLs, in each case the ABC Board needs to know how many licenses are unused, for sale, etc. Don't allow new REPLs to be made available if the town has ANY for sale. Protect the current, law-abiding licensees from losing the value of their investments.
7. Require a certain and specific level of municipal discussion before a resolution can be passed to the State.
8. Consider capping the number of times a municipality can request, once denied. Protect the ABC Board from having to continuously reconsider and current licensees from having to continuously defend against a barrage of frivolous applications. Require a reasonable amount of time to pass before a municipality is allowed to reapply.

FIRST DO NO HARM. Please protect current licensees from having our livelihood affected by those who have no knowledge or understanding of our business.

Thank you for considering this request.

Christy Tengs Fowler
Pioneer Bar
Bamboo Room Restaurant
PO Box 190
Haines, AK 99827

851

01:31:33.860 --> 01:31:40.269

Haines Borough: and speaking to Sarah J's concerns and desires for more conversation.

852

01:31:40.500 --> 01:31:51.940

Haines Borough: As I see this happening. If we are approved for 6 additional licenses, it will be the Assembly's prerogative of how those

853

01:31:52.010 --> 01:31:53.940

Haines Borough: are distributed or not.

854

01:31:53.970 --> 01:31:57.639

Haines Borough: And so, if we are allowed the 6

855

01:31:57.950 --> 01:31:59.730

Haines Borough: additional

856

01:32:00.135 --> 01:32:17.214

Haines Borough: beer and wine licenses that we've requested there, I think, will be a time for us to develop a policy that will guide us in how we want to distribute those those licenses, and we have time for that to settle the issues within our own community.

857

01:32:17.880 --> 01:32:32.340

Haines Borough: remember, we don't necessarily even have to distribute them. But I think it's important for us to know why we would be wanting to, and what the criteria would be. So I think that we have time for that. So I support this, and I would then move

858

01:32:32.420 --> 01:32:38.249

Haines Borough: to adopt the draft. Substitute resolution 24, 0, 5, 1. 1.

859

01:32:38.860 --> 01:32:40.549

Haines Borough: Is there a second? Okay.

860

01:32:41.410 --> 01:32:49.620

Haines Borough: Motion by Schnabel, second by Loomis to adopt resolution 24, 0, 5, 1. 1 other assembly discussion at this time. Yeah.

861

01:32:50.278 --> 01:32:52.590

Haines Borough: Just a couple comments

862

From: [Linda Smith](#)
To: [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Gas line /garden Island Liquor
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 3:32:37 PM

You don't often get email from 99701smitty@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

My name is J. R. Smith, I live across the street from the Gas Line. I recently have been hearing that Garden Island wants to move the Liquor license from Illinois to College Rd. What is going to happen to Garden Island . I want to express my feeling toward this move,

I really don't think we need another liquor store as we already have numerous liquor stores from Wendell Street Bridge to Home /Depot. I have taken the time to count them ,

1. Gavora Mall Wine and Liquors
2. Safeway Liquor
- 3 Fred meyers liquor
4. Walmart Liquor
- 5 Brown Jug Liquor
6. The Cabin
7. Latitude 66

Numerous Food establishments that serve Liquior

1. Fire House Pizza
- 2 Bakery/ Sushi
- 3 The Banks
- 4 Fryer Tucks

Also to mention all the Pot Stores in the area

1. Good Cannabis 1
2. Good Sense
3. Pipe and Leaf

This all within a mile radius and you want to add another liquor store in this area. This is a residential area that does not need another liquor store and all the negative consequences that come with it. I as well as many residents in this area stand against this move.

J, R, Smith
907-45-7229

From: [CED AMCO REGS \(CED sponsored\)](#)
To: [CED ABCB AMCO \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: FW: Public Comment - Business License Requirement for Applications- late add to mailbox
Date: Wednesday, October 16, 2024 11:28:21 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[Public Comment - Business License Requirement for Applications.pdf](#)

For mailbox.

From: Sarah Oates <soates@alaskacharr.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 12, 2024 9:52 PM
To: Alcohol, CED AMCO (CED sponsored) <alcohol@alaska.gov>; CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored) <amco.regs@alaska.gov>
Subject: Public Comment - Business License Requirement for Applications

CAUTION: This email originated from outside the State of Alaska mail system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good evening, AMCO team:

Attached is Alaska CHARR's public comment in response to the proposed regulation changes to add a business license requirement for applications.

I just found that this was stuck in my outbox from yesterday morning, possibly from disconnecting from the internet at my office to bring my laptop to Kodiak for meetings. I hope the board will consider these comments in response to the project.

Thank you for your hard work.

Best,

Sarah Daulton Oates

President & CEO

Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant, & Retailers Association

Alaska CHARR Future Hospitality Leaders Program

Alaska CHARR Educational Fund

O: 907.274.8133 | C: 907.229.9972

www.alaskacharr.com





Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant, and Retailers Association
1503 W. 31st Avenue, Suite 102
Anchorage, AK 99503
Office (907) 274-8133
www.alaskacharr.com

October 11, 2024

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
amco.regs@alaska.gov

Re: Opposition to Proposed Regulatory Changes Regarding Business License Requirement for Applications

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

The Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant, and Retailers Association (CHARR) – as a representative of Alaska’s alcohol industry as a whole – opposes the regulation project regarding business license requirement for applications.

A business license is required for any business to operate in the state of Alaska, per AS 43.70 and 12 AAC 12. The Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing is the division charged with enforcing AS 43.70 and 12 AAC 12, not the ABC Board or Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO).

Many businesses in Alaska hold business licenses for the entities’ names but do business under multiple doing business as (DBA) names. If AMCO is intending to add the business license field to its online application portal and flag if the DBA for the registered business license deviates at all from the DBA entered in the application, it will cause a significant amount of additional, duplicative work for an AMCO staff that is already overworked and short-staffed, and for an industry that is already regulated by many government agencies.

For example, if a chain enters its DBA with AMCO as “Alaska’s Best Store #123” but business license only has “Alaska’s Best Store” as the DBA, will the AMCO employee have to request a correction from the applicant, and will the applicant be required to reapply and/or pay fees for a new business license or DBA change? Again, business licensing is already regulated by another division within the same department (Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development) as AMCO, so why is the board considering adding duplicative work to its overtaxed staff? This seems both unnecessary and outside the scope of AMCO’s legal purview.

In short, Alaska CHARR respectfully requests that you close this regulation project without taking action.

Thank you for your consideration and interest in continuing to support and responsibly regulate the industry.

Respectfully,

Sarah Daulton Oates
President & CEO