

PROPOSED REGULATIONS - MARIJUANA HANDLERS PERMIT
 Comments Received During Public Comment Period
 September 21, 2016 through October 24, 2016

Date Received	Comment Submitted By	Organization	Section Addressed	Comment to be Considered	Changes Made Based on Comment (change made / no change)
9/25/2016	Mark Woodward	n/a	n/a	<p>Dear Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>My name is Mark Woodward, and I would like to comment regarding on-site consumption.</p> <p>I live in Ketchikan, and believe that the on-site consumption rule is crucial for our city to properly regulate the sale and consumption of cannabis. In fact, I believe it is very crucial for the state as a whole. Why? I believe that if the MCB does not offer on-site consumption then you will have cities, towns, and villages throughout the state scrambling to control the vast amount of tourists and state citizens who will attempt to consume cannabis in any area they choose. This will be particularly important in Ketchikan and the other Southeast cruise ship stops, as our research has shown that there is a very large demand for cannabis from cruise ship tourists right now. We have talked to dock workers, charter captains, wait staff, and other tourist industry workers here in Ketchikan, and all have commented on how they are bombarded daily by cruise ship tourists who are begging for cannabis. So if there is no place to legally consume, then you will see three things happen:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The consumption of cannabis in non-controlled areas, such as cabs and unregulated private vehicles who will offer "smoking tours". As the parent of two small children, I do not want the roads of Ketchikan packed with cars driven by impaired drivers. I am positive residents in Fairbanks, Anchorage, and throughout Southeast Alaska feel the same. 2. If the MCB does not offer on-site consumption, tourists will also be consuming cannabis in alleyways, trails, and other public areas in violation of Alaskan law. Additionally, if the MCB does not offer a legal on-site area, you will have unregulated, private residences spring up that offer a "safe" area to consume. What if these residences are near schools, churches, or day care centers? Will state and city law enforcement be able to control this? What about over consumption in an unregulated area? Additionally, if there is no on-site consumption regulation then what affect will that have on tourists trying to sneak cannabis back on board cruise ships, thus violating federal laws and severely impacting the cruise ship industry in Alaska. 3. If the MCB denies the on-site consumption rule, and #1 and #2 begin to occur, the state of Alaska and it's cities/towns/villages will create a black market for consumption with no regulation, no safety parameters, and no way to obtain revenue. This does not benefit anyone. <p>My business partner and I have applied for a retail cannabis shop in Ketchikan, and the key to its success is on-site consumption. We believe in our business plan because it's based on regulation, controlled consumption, and safety. We do NOT want the cruise ship passengers bringing cannabis back on board, so we have a plan to avoid that completely. Our city council believes in us and our plan, we even have the backing of the local ER doctor in our ability to provide cannabis in a safe, legal way with on-site consumption.</p> <p>I would be open for any discussion regarding this matter, either by phone, email, or even in person.</p>	
10/3/2016	Dale Fox	CHARR	700	This entire section is overkill in our opinion. The owners of marijuana establishments already have background checks. They are responsible for ensuring their business is run legally and ethically. There is no real need for detailed background checks of employees.	
10/3/2016	Dale Fox	CHARR	700 1A & B	It is tempting to say that felons should not be allowed to work anywhere. There are two problems with this knee jerk reaction. An amazing array of activities has been made felonies. Don't retain the records of your corporation properly, that is a felony. Get on a backhoe and divert storm water into a creek, that is a felony. I suspect most board members on the marijuana board think like I did that felons are the real bad guys but in the new age of felonies lots of things are felonies. The second problem you have a felony unless you to the industry why would we not allow the people to work and earn their spot in society.	
10/3/2016	Dale Fox	CHARR	700 2A	Bootlegger should probably should not be but tenders because they have shown a disregard for the law. However if an employer hired a former bootlegger it is their responsibility to ensure that all marijuana laws are followed.	
10/3/2016	Dale Fox	CHARR	700 2B	Deliberately providing alcohol to a minor in violation of 04.16.051 is indicative of a bad person especially if it is a pedophile. However a 21 year old brother buying a six pack for his 20 year old brother is still against the law but should not prevent the 21 year old from getting a job in this new industry.	
10/3/2016	Dale Fox	CHARR	700 G & G1	An industry member who unknowingly violates 04.16.052 and serves a beer to an undercover agent because they misread the ID or did the math wrong should not be eliminated from employment in this new industry. A mistake does not equal a criminal.	
10/3/2016	Dale Fox	CHARR	700 G & G1	Fingerprinting all employees is indeed overkill. I don't believe we need most of these regulations to protect the public. If any of these provisions receive the approval of the MCB the application for the Marijuana Handlers Card could easily contain a questionnaire asking the questions which must be answered properly or the applicant could be found guilty of perjury. The questionnaire approach would be faster and less expensive for the applicant and the state. We should not accept the most bureaucratic, expensive method, especially when no need has been established for these checks. Fingerprinting is not necessary.	
10/18/2016	Steven Cehula	n/a	n/a	<p>Dear Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>I am writing to you to express my concern over the regulations that are being proposed for the Marijuana Handlers Permit Card. I do not feel these regulations are conducive to helping this fledgling industry. I have multiple concerns, the first being that not every position in the industry is going to be in contact with cannabis and do not have access to the inventory control system and the regulations state all employees must receive a card, this is both unnecessary and stifling to running company. As an employer it should also be our right who we chose to hire as it is our money that will be affected. These regulations are also going to disqualify a large number of qualified people who have had minor run ins with the law or have had offenses that do not relate to the industry. It does not make sense to me why the Cannabis Industry should have more stringent and constricting regulations than that of the Alcohol Industry. The regulations pertaining to misdemeanors and felonies should not be the states business. Again it should be up to the employer to run their business and decide who they chose to hire at their discretion. Opportunities should be given to those an employer deems worthy. Last but not least AS 17.38.190(a), states that the "regulations shall not prohibit the operation of marijuana establishments, either expressly or through regulations that make their operation unreasonably impracticable." These draft regulations may approach the line of prohibiting marijuana establishments by making operations unreasonably impracticable and therefore unlawful. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Steven Cehula</p>	
10/18/2016	Garrett Parker	n/a	n/a	<p>Dear Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>My name is Garrett Parker, I'm was born and raised in Anchorage Alaska. I played football at Service high school and after signed a full scholarship to play at Jacksonville state university. I started a company down in Ecuador after college and have been here for 8 years. We have been featured on several tv shows such as house hunters international. Im moving back to Anchorage to get into the business and I understand that you are facing a lot of issues from the public. I want you to know that I'm well educated and understand that side of the road.</p> <p>I am writing to you to express my concern over the regulations that are being proposed for the Marijuana Handlers Permit Card. I do not feel these regulations are conducive to helping this fledgling industry. I have multiple concerns, the first being that not every position in the industry is going to be in contact with cannabis and do not have access to the inventory control system and the regulations state all employees must receive a card, this is both unnecessary and stifling to running company. As an employer it should also be our right who we chose to hire as it is our money that will be affected. These regulations are also going to disqualify a large number of qualified people who have had minor run ins with the law or have had offenses that do not relate to the industry. It does not make sense to me why the Cannabis Industry should have more stringent and constricting regulations than that of the Alcohol Industry. The regulations pertaining to misdemeanors and felonies should not be the states business. Again it should be up to the employer to run their business and decide who they chose to hire at their discretion. Opportunities should be given to those an employer deems worthy. Last but not least AS 17.38.190(a), states that the "regulations shall not prohibit the operation of marijuana establishments, either expressly or through regulations that make their operation unreasonably impracticable." These draft regulations may approach the line of prohibiting marijuana establishments by making operations unreasonably impracticable. Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>p.s If you ever want to come visit Ecuador, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Winter time is a great time to get out of the cold.</p>	
10/19/2016	Ron Pickett	Alaska Biotech LLC	n/a	<p>Dear Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>I am writing to you to express my concern over the regulations that are being proposed for the Marijuana Handlers Permit Card. I do not feel these regulations are conducive to helping this fledgling industry. I have multiple concerns, the first being that not every position in the industry is going to be in contact with cannabis nor do they have access to the inventory control system, yet the regulations states all employees must receive a card, this is both unnecessary and stifling to running a company. As an employer it should also be our right who we chose to hire as it is our money that will be affected. These regulations are also going to disqualify a large number of qualified people who have had minor run ins with the law or have had offenses that do not relate to the industry. It does not make sense to me why the Cannabis Industry should have more stringent and constricting regulations than that of the Alcohol Industry. The regulations pertaining to misdemeanors and felonies should not be the states business. Again it should be up to the employer to run their business and decide who they chose to hire at their discretion. Opportunities should be given to those an employer deems worthy. Last but not least AS 17.38.190(a), states that the "regulations shall not prohibit the operation of marijuana establishments, either expressly or through regulations that make their operation unreasonably impracticable." These draft regulations may approach the line of prohibiting marijuana establishments by making operations unreasonably impracticable.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Ron Pickett Alaska Biotech LLC</p>	
10/19/2016	Ken Ken	n/a	n/a	prop 2 states regulation like alcohol. bartenders and staff do not have required background checks, nor should cannabis worker.	
10/19/2016	Robert Brandon	n/a	n/a	<p>We are farmers not criminals. Stop Fucking with us! If you need direction, or speak to the department of agriculture. I'm sure they have some ideas how to regulate farmers.</p> <p>When we voted for prop 2, cannabis was to be regulated like alcohol, bartenders and liquor store clerks are not required to submit to criminal background checks. Forcing things like this is not what we voted for, is it fair to change the requirements for HANDLING A PLANT and not change requirements for handling a known poison like alcohol?</p> <p>I ask that you consider the intention of the voters when considering this, did the voters ask for more stringent regulations than liquor, or for similar regulations?</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Robert Brandon</p>	
10/20/2016	John Mclay	n/a	n/a	<p>I have many friends and family members that have spent much in dollars and effort to be able to cultivate cannabis in our state of Alaska. I do understand the need to regulate this new public industry but, some of what is being required is far beyond that of alcohol regulations and new requirements are seemingly added regularly.</p> <p>Recently, I was made aware that a new regulation requiring background checks to work for a cultivator as handler is in place.</p> <p>I am in awe, shocked that requirements are above and beyond alcohol control. A lot of personal investments have gone far too long in meetings, hearings and approvals for a product that has supported our communities - large and small - in Alaska for decades/generations.</p> <p>As a life long Alaskan, I watch our state and, city of Anchorage especially, holding back what could be an excellent source of tax revenue from citizens that are willing to put their dollars, effort and time at risk to comply with regulations and run a legitimate establishment. This product is nothing new to Alaska.</p> <p>It's time to let businesses harvest what could be a thriving industry supporting our budget with millions of dollars that would otherwise be only supporting behind the scenes entities, as it has for more than my lifetime of 47 years.</p> <p>Sincerely, John R Mclay</p>	

10/20/2016	Jeremiah Emmerson	Alaska Small Cultivators Association	n/a	<p>Greetings Joe, AMCO Board, and Staff!</p> <p>More Notice of Proposed Changes is Required</p> <p>Before I mention anything about the handler background checks, I want to request that proposed amendments or any regulation changes be published on the AMCO website at least 10 days prior to the next MCB meeting. There has got to be a copy of these proposed changes so that we can disseminate and respond.</p> <p>Right now, we have 7 days until the meeting and there is no agenda or packet posted on the MCB website.</p> <p>We cannot properly review proposed regulation changes and comment in a feasible time frame if we have to wait until a few days before the meeting.</p> <p>Setting all conspiracy theories aside, I realize you are short staffed and this may be difficult, however, something has got to change so the community can be involved in the regulations and amendments. Please take steps to remedy this issue.</p>
10/20/2016	Jeremiah Emmerson	Alaska Small Cultivators Association	n/a	<p>Handler Background Checks</p> <p>I oppose any background check for any employee, agent, or subcontractor working in a cannabis establishment.</p> <p>#1- This should be left up to the business owners you are trusting with a license. This should be their responsibility and the state should not waste precious time and money worrying about an employee's background. The business owner wants to protect their investment and I cannot fathom that any of them would hire a high risk employee who would bring harm to them.</p> <p>#2- Surveillance, tracking, and high security deals with diversion. A business owner can review all the tracking data and surveillance tapes to find out if any of their employees are breaking the rules. So can the MCB.</p> <p>#3- Background checks are not required for alcohol establishment employees.</p> <p>#4- Many employees in this industry, may come from what once was a criminal endeavor. Today, it's legal. If we want to reduce the recidivism rates, we employ people, not discard them. A job can lead to sanity and a better future. They will be tax-paying contributing members of society. Putting up roadblocks such as this will inevitably lead to more black market sales and less tax revenues for our communities.</p> <p>#5- This will cause delays in the implementation of the industry. Now business owners will have to wait for their employees to get background checks. They may also have to foot the bill in some situations.</p>
10/20/2016	Jeremiah Emmerson	Alaska Small Cultivators Association	n/a	<p>Current Revenues/Can We Hire More Staff</p> <p>Looking into the amount of licenses the MCB has listed on their website, if we take a look at active and delegated licenses we have the following:</p> <p>44 Standard Cultivators, 11 Limited Cultivators, 16 Retailers, 2 Testing Facilities, 1 Extracts Facility, and 3 Manufacturing Facilities.</p> <p>That comes to about \$406,000 in just licensing fees and application fees, before excise and sales tax on harvest.</p> <p>I would like to see the MCB release a statement of all revenue received in 2016 and expenses paid out during 2016 implementing the marijuana industry.</p> <p>If we can get these figures we can learn more about why we don't have more staff -or- we can use this information to press the governor to unlock the hiring freeze for the MCB as we realize, yes you are overworked and we need more staff.</p> <p>Financial reports would help.</p> <p>Warm Regards, -- Jeremiah Emmerson Executive Director & Chairman</p>
10/20/2016	Thomas Holohan	n/a	n/a	<p>Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>As a lifelong Alaskan and supporter of legal cannabis in Alaska, please do not make acquiring a handlers permit any more difficult for persons seeking employment in our communities.</p> <p>Alaska needs a diversity in employment options and requiring people to pay for an independent back ground check only makes it more difficult for these people to get employment in this new industry.</p> <p>Regulate like Alcohol.</p> <p>Thank you, Thomas Holohan</p> <p>Sent from my iPhone</p>
10/20/2016	Christina Griffith	n/a	n/a	<p>I don't believe that adding background checks for Marijuana Handler Cards is productive or fair. Each employer will do their own background checks and should be able to decide who they hire and who they do not hire. Everyone deserves a second chance at life if an employer is willing to give them one. It is not for the government to continue to hold people back from gainful employment. This does not happen in the alcohol business and should not happen in the marijuana business.</p> <p>Christina Griffith an alcohol drinker and not a pot smoker. I just believe that fair is fair.</p>
10/20/2016	Pat Graika	n/a	n/a	<p>Good Afternoon. I just want to take this opportunity to express my concern regarding the Federal background check for the marijuana handler's permit. Is this not the business owners decision to hire whom they feel is most qualified for a position in their operations? I thought the cannabis industry was being guided by the regulations of the alcohol industry. I cannot remember that a Federal Background check is required for a TAMS or TIPS permit. I feel that this is yet another unnecessary added regulation to a highly regulated industry.</p> <p>Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.</p> <p>Pat Graika</p>
10/20/2016	Chris Euscher	R.C. Tinderbox	n/a	<p>Hello, my name is Chris Euscher and my husband and I have been approved to open a cultivation facility in Anchorage called R.C. Tinderbox, the reason why I am reaching out to you today is in regards to a motion to request all persons getting their handlers card get a background check as well, we feel this is an over reach of regulation, most jobs in Alaska do not require a background check for jobs, it is left to the discretion of the employer, for this reason we do not support the new drafted regulation for the handlers card background check. People make mistakes and they pay for those mistakes, we do not as a society need to keep punishing them, there are jobs that could be done like trimming that a person could do at a low entry level, please do not get me wrong, we will do everything in our power to hire responsible and trustworthy people for the safety of our community and our business. We just feel people deserve a second chance to be and do better in life.</p> <p>Chris Euscher CEO R.C. Tinderbox 7801 King St. Anchorage, Alaska 99518 907-349-5067 907-349-5069 fax 907-306-1572 cell</p> <p>The information in this message is privileged and confidential. It is intended only to be read by the individual or entity named above or their designee. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, you are on notice that any distribution of this message, in any form is strictly prohibited. If you have received this message in error, please immediately notify the sender and delete or destroy any copy of this message.</p>

10/20/2016	Jim Dyer	JKD Brand, LLC	n/a	<p>Dear Marijuana Control Board & Staff:</p> <p>Following are my comments regarding the attached proposed/draft regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are several positions available in the Cannabis Industry that do not handle marijuana or have access to the inventory control system. • Businesses located in remote areas where there is a limited workforce will struggle to find employees. People who live in these areas and need a good job will be disqualified from earning a living. • If a person is texting and has an injury accident they will be charged with a felony. I'm not sure how precluding this person from working in the Cannabis Industry preserves public safety. We are broadly disqualifying a large group of people without any discretion from earning a living who have already been punished for a crime. This would also prevent these folks with prior convictions from continuing their rehabilitation in a constructive manner through gainful employment. • Employers should be allowed to run their business and decide who they choose to hire. The employer will conduct their own background checks and complete interviews. If the employer is satisfied with what they have learned through the interviewing process and wants to give that individual an opportunity they should be allowed to do so. Gainful employment will enable continued rehabilitation for reformed persons with prior convictions. • There are no such regulations in the Alcohol industry that would preclude anyone convicted of a felony from working as a bartender or even a bar manager. Alcohol related employees are required an alcohol education class and pass a test in order to work in the industry. The Marijuana Handler Card requirements should more closely echo the alcohol regulations. • AS 17.38.190(a), states that the "regulations shall not prohibit the operation of marijuana establishments, either expressly or through regulations that make their operation unreasonably impracticable. The draft regulations may approach the line of prohibiting marijuana establishments by making operations unreasonably impracticable. <p>Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my written comments in this fashion.</p> <p>Sincerely, Jim</p> <p>Jim Dyer Vice President – Operations JKD Brands, LLC</p>	
10/20/2016	Maureen & Pete Eberhardt	MoMo's Bakery	n/a	<p>There are no such regulations in the Alcohol industry. Alcohol employees take an alcohol education class and pass a test. The Marijuana handler permit should be the same.</p> <p>Employers should be allowed to hire whom they like. The employer will run a background check and complete the interviews. If they decide to give the individual a chance, they should be allowed to do it.</p> <p>There are many employment opportunities in the Cannabis industry that do not require handling marijuana. A lot of the positions will be minimum wage. To expect employees to not only pay/take the marijuana permitting class, then pay for the handlers card, then pay for fingerprints, then pay for a background check and have a totally clean record, is way over the top!</p> <p>AS 17.38.190(a) states that the regulations will not prohibit the operation of a marijuana establishment through regulations. These draft regulations are unreasonable and impractical. If these regulations were used in the alcohol/restaurant industry, we would lose half the staff!</p> <p>Please do not pass these drafts.</p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to read and hopefully share our thoughts on this subject.</p>	
10/20/2016	Jim Cehula	n/a	n/a	<p>Dear Mr. Samaniego:</p> <p>With regard to the budding marijuana industry, I am concerned the will of the voters is once again being ignored either through ignorance or subterfuge by excessive and unneeded regulation. Specifically, I am concerned with the current regulations required to obtain a Marijuana Handler's Permit Card. The regulations are counterproductive to supporting this new industry and taking away opportunities for employment of people interested in the Cannabis industry. I fail to see the benefit of disqualifying potential employees who have criminal records. It does not make sense why the Cannabis Industry should have more stringent regulations than those of the alcohol or tobacco industry.</p> <p>Please try to convince the legislature that the Cannabis industry regulations should more closely mirror Alcohol industry regulations.</p> <p>Thank you.....Jim Cehula</p>	
10/20/2016	DJ Summers	Alaska Journal of Commerce	n/a	<p>Hi Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>The Anchorage Cannabis Business Association had a meeting last night around marijuana handler cards, and since they're concerned I figured I would follow up and learn as much as I could.</p> <p>I reviewed a draft of the marijuana handler card rules and they seem to have some concerns about the prohibitions on who may hold a handler card, which includes:</p> <p>(1) has been convicted of a felony and either</p> <p>(A) less than five years have elapsed from the time of the person's conviction; or</p> <p>(B) the person is currently on probation or parole for that felony.</p> <p>(2) has within the preceding five (5) years been found guilty of</p> <p>(A) selling alcohol without a license in violation of AS 04.11.010; or</p> <p>(B) selling alcohol to a minor in violation of AS 04.16.051 or AS 04.16.052; or</p> <p>(C) a misdemeanor crime involving a controlled substance other than a Schedule VI controlled substance, violence against a person, use of a weapon, or dishonesty.</p> <p>(3) has within two years before submitting an application, been convicted</p> <p>These match the statutes for license applicants. Do you they also match the alcohol handler card requirements? Has it been the intent of the board to transfer the license applicant requirements to holders of handler cards?</p> <p>Thanks as always for your time, DJ</p>	
10/20/2016	Crouse921	n/a	n/a	<p>Anyone who wants to clip weed should be allowed. Why does anyone need a background check to clip weed. LET THE PEOPLE CLIP WEED!!</p>	
10/20/2016	Jane Stinson	Enlighten Alaska	n/a	<p>Please accept my comments stated below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers should be allowed to run their business and decide who they choose to hire. The employer will conduct their own background checks and complete interviews. If the employer is satisfied with what they have learned through the interviewing process and wants to give that individual an opportunity they should be allowed to do so. Gainful employment will enable continued rehabilitation for reformed persons with prior convictions. • There are no such regulations in the Alcohol industry that would preclude anyone convicted of a felony from working as a bartender or even a bar manager. Alcohol related employees are required an alcohol education class and pass a test in order to work in the industry. The Marijuana Handler Card requirements should more closely echo the alcohol regulations. • AS 17.38.190(a), states that the "regulations shall not prohibit the operation of marijuana establishments, either expressly or through regulations that make their operation unreasonably impracticable. The draft regulations may approach the line of prohibiting marijuana establishments by making operations unreasonably impracticable. • There are several positions available in the Cannabis Industry that do not handle marijuana or have access to the inventory control system. • Businesses located in remote areas where there is a limited workforce will struggle to find employees. People who live in these areas and need a good job will be disqualified from earning a living. • If a person is texting and has an injury accident they will be charged with a felony. I'm not sure how precluding this person from working in the Cannabis Industry preserves public safety. We are broadly disqualifying a large group of people without any discretion from earning a living who have already been punished for a crime. This would also prevent these folks with prior convictions from continuing their rehabilitation in a constructive manner through gainful employment. <p>Thank you, Jane Stinson Enlighten Alaska, LLC</p>	
10/20/2016	Darlynn Dragon	n/a	n/a	<p>Treat legal cannabis like alcohol is what we, as the people said. If a bartender/bar back does not need a background check to sling ice and beer, neither does a budtender/budtrimmer ect. Do away with the over restrictive regulations and let this industry make it's way! By the way, Cales are an awesome idea for the industry as well. JUST LIKE BARS!!!</p>	
10/20/2016	Ira Levinton	n/a	n/a	<p>Dear Mr. Samaniego:</p> <p>With regard to the budding marijuana industry, I am concerned the will of the voters is once again being ignored either through ignorance or subterfuge by excessive and unneeded regulation. Specifically, I am concerned with the current regulations required to obtain a Marijuana Handler's Permit Card. The regulations are counterproductive to supporting this new industry and taking away opportunities for employment of people interested in the Cannabis industry. I fail to see the benefit of disqualifying potential employees who have criminal records. It does not make sense why the Cannabis Industry should have more stringent regulations than those of the alcohol or tobacco industry.</p> <p>Please try to convince the legislature that the Cannabis industry regulations should more closely mirror Alcohol industry regulations.</p>	

10/20/2016	Vincent Johnson	n/a	n/a	<p>Thank you in advance for taking time to read my quarels with this issue. The purpose of this email am is to voice my concerns over the changes made to require background checks on all persons wishing to work in our newly formed cannabis industry.</p> <p>The hiring of individuals should be deemed by employers, like alcohol serving establishments, not ones past.</p> <p>I myself have a clean record yet am hopeful that this industry provides new avenues and second chances for gainful employment to those whom may be stuffed by this requirement.</p> <p>Thank you again.</p> <p>Respectfully Vincent Johnson</p>
10/20/2016	Donnie Hansen	n/a	n/a	<p>I believe we voted to regulate marijuana like alcohol bar tenders do not need background checks neither should marijuana trimmers. Employers should decide who they hire to process Marijuana, just like warehouse workers and truck drivers deliver alcohol with out any special background checks or licensing.</p> <p>Marijuana social clubs should also be allowed just like bars it smoking is the problem that should be able to figure it out as there is no harmful effect of second hand marijuana smoke.</p> <p>Thanks Donnie Hansen</p>
10/20/2016	Kelly Dyer	JKD Brand, LLC	n/a	<p>Dear Marijuana Control Board & Staff:</p> <p>Following are my comments regarding the attached proposed/draft regulations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are several positions available in the Cannabis Industry that do not handle marijuana or have access to the inventory control system. • Businesses located in remote areas where there is a limited workforce will struggle to find employees. People who live in these areas and need a good job will be disqualified from earning a living. • If a person is texting and has an injury accident they will be charged with a felony. I'm not sure how precluding this person from working in the Cannabis Industry preserves public safety. We are broadly disqualifying a large group of people without any discretion from earning a living who have already been punished for a crime. This would also prevent these folks with prior convictions from continuing their rehabilitation in a constructive manner through gainful employment. • Employers should be allowed to run their business and decide who they choose to hire. The employer will conduct their own background checks and complete interviews. If the employer is satisfied with what they have learned through the interviewing process and wants to give that individual an opportunity they should be allowed to do so. Gainful employment will enable continued rehabilitation for reformed persons with prior convictions. • There are no such regulations in the Alcohol industry that would preclude anyone convicted of a felony from working as a bartender or even a bar manager. Alcohol related employees are required an alcohol education class and pass a test in order to work in the industry. The Marijuana Handler Card requirements should more closely echo the alcohol regulations. • AS 17.38.190(a), states that the "regulations shall not prohibit the operation of marijuana establishments, either expressly or through regulations that make their operation unreasonably impracticable. The draft regulations may approach the line of prohibiting marijuana establishments by making operations unreasonably impracticable. <p>Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my written comments in this fashion.</p> <p>Sincerely, Kelly</p>
10/20/2016	Crouse921	n/a	n/a	<p>I am sending this on behalf of someone who believes and supports the industry. He would like to be able to do his part!</p> <p>Hello my name is Robert Maupin, I have lived in Alaska my whole life, mostly in Fairbanks. I am e-mailing you because I wish to have my opinion on Marijuana handling in my state heard. I am a convicted felon, I broke a liquor store window when I was 18 years old. I am now 28 years old and I paid my debt to society. I have never had a drug charge and have never used drugs, only Marijuana, despite both of my parents being alcoholic meth addicts. I have my voting rights restored and am applying for my firearm rights, as I have never been violent or addicted to drugs I believe I deserve them. I am very good at handling marijuana plants and I believe a career in the industry could help my life and give me a steady, tax paying job that I enjoy. Please think about this when you vote. Thank you!</p>
10/20/2016	Dane Wyrick	Danish Gardens LLC	n/a	<p>Unfortunately, this industry is being discriminated against and without just cause. What purpose is fulfilled by restricting legal businesses ability to hire employees based on a bar set unequivocally to any other in our state.</p> <p>It is in our best interest to screen out potential employees and decide on the risks that we are comfortable sustaining. Yet it is not in our best interest nor anyone else's to discriminate based on classifications that have no legal jurisdiction.</p> <p>There is no other private business that the government has a right to dictate personnel practices and policies.</p> <p>If we want this industry to be successful, all players need to be fair, honest and non intrusive on individual rights and common legal business practices.</p> <p>Sincerely Dane Wyrick</p>
10/20/2016	Robert Briscoe	n/a	n/a	<p>I saw a draft for handlers card regulations and had a quick question that I hope you could answer. In 2014 I was found quit of possession of a small amount of marijuana. I paid all of my fines on time and served my SIS time without violation and the charge should be dropped from my record. Does that disqualify me from obtaining a marijuana handlers card?</p>
10/21/2016	Susan Nowland	Alaska Fireweed	n/a	<p>Hello Mr. Samaniego,</p> <p>I wanted to thank AMCO for giving me the opportunity to express my concerns regarding the current regulations set forth.</p> <p>This regulation unfairly targets our new evolving market, by requiring an extensive background check for all worker in the cannabis industry.</p> <p>This current regulation is disproportionate to other industries.</p> <p>The cannabis industry should be treated just as fair as any other state regulated business.</p> <p>There should be no additional state restriction that limits this industry's hiring practices and employment opportunity.</p> <p>AMCO is doing a great job vetting through the regulation. Let this industry follow the employment path of the alcohol industry.</p> <p>Best Regards, Susan Nowland</p>
10/22/2016	Kim Kole	n/a	n/a	<p>Thank you once again for being the only state that has solicited and listened to public comment surrounding our regulations. As an Alaskan citizen, and an industry member, it is greatly appreciated!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many people with felonies that would like to enter this industry might have one for distributing cannabis. They are interested in leaving the black market to participate in a regulated one, so it makes no sense to preclude them from this industry. If the MCB is truly interested in reducing and hopefully one day eliminating the black market, let them work for licenses. • Employees looking to work for the industry are mostly going for jobs where they will earn about \$13-15/ hour. They already must pay for a Handler Course plus the state's processing fee for the card, which adds up to over \$100. This is already difficult for many workers currently earning minimum wage. Adding the background check will be too expensive for many of them, reducing the pool of quality employees. • There are many rural areas that may have a limited employee pool. By adding this additional encumbrance (both financially and due to possible infractions), it may make it more difficult for some licensees in these underpopulated areas to hire employees. • There are many reasons that someone might end up with a felony, including poor judgement like texting and driving resulting in an accident. This is not something that should preclude them from working in the cannabis industry. <p>Thank you! Kim Kole</p>
10/22/2016	Dolynda Fleck	n/a	n/a	<p>Greetings, Dolynda Phelps here with Alaska Green Resources. I am an approved course provider for the Marijuana Handler Permit course in Alaska. I would like my comments submitted as public comment.</p> <p>I have a big concern that requiring a background check for handler permit applicants is extreme. It will prevent many from gaining employment in the industry without much benefit. State regulations already require owners of a business to pass a background check, and it is these owners who accept responsibility for running their business successfully and meeting all compliancy requirements. It should absolutely be at the owners discretion if they choose to hire someone who has made mistakes in the past.</p> <p>It also seems a bit ridiculous that an individual sweeping the floors, performing accounting duties, or trimming plants should be required to perform a background check for such simple tasks. Again, the owners of the business have accepted responsibility for these individuals work performance. It is the owners that have already passed a background check. Please do not create even further restrictions on this industry, especially when it involves telling a business owner who they can hire.</p> <p>Please give consideration to these comments, it is so important we promote the industry to ensure it's success. There has been a tremendous amount of work put into it!</p> <p>Thank you, have a great day. Dolynda Phelps</p>

