

**From:** [Mark Woodward](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Onsite Consumption comment  
**Date:** Sunday, September 25, 2016 5:28:24 PM

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Dear Mr. Samaniego,

My name is Mark Woodward, and I would like to comment regarding on-site consumption.

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:

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.

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.

I would be open for any discussion regarding this matter, either by phone, email, or even in person.



-Mark Woodward  
[907-617-8246](tel:907-617-8246)

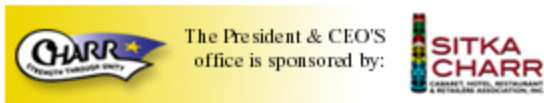
**From:** [Dale Fox](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P. \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comments Handler Card  
**Date:** Monday, October 03, 2016 9:11:08 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[Comments on MJ handlers card 10-1-16.docx](#)

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Joe:

Attached are CHARR's several comments on the marijuana handler card requirements.

Dale Fox  
President & CEO  
Alaska CHARR  
1503 W 31st Ave Ste 202  
Anchorage, AK 99503  
907-274-8133 or Toll Free in Alaska 800-478-2427  
[www.alaskacharr.com](http://www.alaskacharr.com)



To: Marijuana Control Board

From: Alaska CHARR

Re: Public Comment 3AAC 306.700

**3AAC 306.700** 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.

**3AAC 306.700 f A & 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 if you have a felony unrelated to the industry why would we not allow the people to work and earn their spot in society.

**3AAC 306.700 2A** Bootlegger should probably should not be bud 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.

**3AAC 306.700 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.

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.

**3AAC 306.700 G and 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 questioner asking the questions which must be answered properly or the applicant could be found guilty of perjury. The questioner 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.

To: Marijuana Control Board

From: Alaska CHARR

Re: Public Comment 3AAC 306.700

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**From:** [Steven Cehula](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handler Permit Card  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2016 11:31:04 AM

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Dear Mr. Samaniego,

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 higher 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.

Steven Cehula

**From:** [Garrett Parker](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Concerns about new laws. handlers card.  
**Date:** Tuesday, October 18, 2016 11:46:36 AM

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Dear Mr. Samaniego,

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.

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 higher 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.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.

Garrett Parker  
Co-Owner  
Ecuadorian Coastal Properties  
E-mail: [garrett@ecuadoriancoastalproperties.com](mailto:garrett@ecuadoriancoastalproperties.com)  
Cell: 093-997-9539  
U.S. Number: 1-229-469-1203  
Web Site: [www.ecuadoriancoastalproperties.com](http://www.ecuadoriancoastalproperties.com)

**From:** [Ron Pickett](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers Permit Card  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:19:49 AM

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Dear Mr. Samaniego,

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. Thank you,

Ron Pickett  
**Alaska Biotech LLC**

**From:** [Ken Ken](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Dear MCB. Stop Fucking this up  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 10:05:09 PM

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prop 2 states regulation like alcohol. bartenders and staff do not have required background checks, nor should cannabis worker.  
We are farmers not criminals. Stop Fucking with us! If you need direction go speak to the department of agriculture. I'm sure they have some ideas how to regulate farmers.



**From:** [xbox guy](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Cannabis Handlers card comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 10:26:33 PM

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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?

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?

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Robert Brandon

**From:** [John McLay](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Regulation of Cannabis handling  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 8:37:15 AM

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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.

Recently, I was made aware that a new regulation requiring background checks to work for a cultivator as handler is in place.

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.

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.

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.

Sincerely,  
John R McLay

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

**From:** [Jeremiah Emmerson](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handler - Background Checks  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 9:56:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [logo2.png](#)

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Greetings Joe, AMCO Board, and Staff!

### **More Notice of Proposed Changes is Required**

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.

Right now, we have 7 days until the meeting and there is no agenda or packet posted on the MCB website.

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.

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.

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### **Handler Background Checks**

I oppose any background check for any employee, agent, or subcontractor working in a cannabis establishment.

#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.

#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.

#3- Background checks are not required for alcohol establishment employees.

#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 employee 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.

#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.

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### **Current Revenues/Can We Hire More Staff**

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:

44 Standard Cultivators, 11 Limited Cultivators, 16 Retailers, 2 Testing Facilities, 1 Extracts Facility, and 3 Manufacturing Facilities.

That comes to about \$406,000 in just licensing fees and application fees, before excise and sales tax on harvest.

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.

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.

Financial reports would help.

Warm Regards,

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**Jeremiah Emmerson**  
Executive Director & Chairman



This email has been checked for viruses by Avast antivirus software.

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

**From:** [Thomas Holohan](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** marijuana handlers permit regs  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 10:14:33 AM

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Mr. Samaniego,

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.

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.

Regulate like Alcohol.

Thank you,

Thomas Holohan

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Christina Griffith](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Background checks for marijuana handler cards  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 10:21:04 AM

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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.

Christina Griffith  
an alcohol drinker and not a pot smoker. I just believe that fair is fair.

**From:** [spgraika@acsalaska.net](mailto:spgraika@acsalaska.net)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 11:15:48 AM

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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.

Thank you for allowing me this opportunity.

Pat Graika

**From:** [Chris Euscher](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: The Handler Permit background check  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 11:56:54 AM

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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.

Chris Euscher  
CEO R.C. Tinderbox  
7801 King St.  
Anchorage, Alaska 99518  
907-349-5067  
907-349-5069 fax  
907-306-1572 cell

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**From:** [Jim Dyer](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#); [Marijuana, CED ABC \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment - MJ Handlers Card Draft Regulations 3AAC 306.700 (f) & 3AAC 306.831  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 12:50:41 PM  
**Attachments:** [2nd DRAFT REGS MJ Handler Permits.pdf](#)

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Dear Marijuana Control Board & Staff:

Following are my comments regarding the attached proposed/draft regulations.

- 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.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my written comments in this fashion.

Sincerely, Jim

Jim Dyer  
Vice President – Operations

**JKD Brands, LLC**

Tel. 907-929-5838

Toll-Free: 866-568-0938

Cell: 907-885-5135

Fax: 907-929-5895

E-Mail: [jim@jkdbands.com](mailto:jim@jkdbands.com)

Website: [www.jkdbands.com](http://www.jkdbands.com)

Skype: jim.dyer88

**From:** [maureen eberhardt](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers Permit draft regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 1:20:31 PM

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Joe,

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.

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.

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!

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!

Please do not pass these drafts.

Thank you for taking the time to read and hopefully share our thoughts on this subject.

Maureen and Pete Eberhardt  
MoMo's Bakery  
cell 907 301-6768

**From:** [Jim Cehula](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** MJ Handler"s Permit Regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 2:28:35 PM

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Dear Mr. Samaniego:

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.

Please try to convince the legislature that the Cannabis industry regulations should more closely mirror Alcohol industry regulations.

Thank you.....Jim Cehula

**From:** [Summers, Daniel](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Handler cards question  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:04:40 PM

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Hi Mr. Samaniego,

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.

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:

(1) has been convicted of a felony and either

(A) less than five years have elapsed from the time of the person's conviction; or

(B) the person is currently on probation or parole for that felony.

(2) has within the preceding five (5) years been found guilty of

(A) selling alcohol without a license in violation of AS 04.11.010; or

(B) selling alcohol to a minor in violation of AS 04.16.051 or AS 04.16.052; or

(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.

(3) has within two years before submitting an application, been convicted

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?

Thanks as always for your time,

DJ

**DJ Summers**

Reporter, [Alaska Journal of Commerce](#)

907-275-2158 (office)

315-396-5995 (cell)

Twitter [@djsummersmma](#)

**From:** [crouse921](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Weed handlers  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:46:37 PM

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Anyone who wants to clip weed should be allowed. Why does anyone need a background check to clip weed. LET THE PEOPLE CLIP WEED!!

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Express 3, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** [Jane Stinson](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#); [Marijuana, CED ABC \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers Card Draft Regulations  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 3:58:14 PM

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Please accept my comments stated below:

- 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.

Thank you,  
Jane Stinson  
Enlighten Alaska, LLC

**From:** [darlynn dragon](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Weed handlers do NOT NEED background checks!  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:03:05 PM

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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: Cafes are an awesome idea for the industry as well. JUST LIKE BARS!!!



**From:** [Ira Levinton](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers Permit  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:06:10 PM

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Dear Mr. Samaniego:

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.

Please try to convince the legislature that the Cannabis industry regulations should more closely mirror Alcohol industry regulations.

**From:** [Vincent Johnson](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** No to independent background checks  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:08:18 PM

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Thank you in advance for taking time to read my quarrels 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.

The hiring of individuals should be deemed by employers, like alcohol serving establishments; not ones past.

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.

Thank you again.

Respectfully

Vincent Johnson

**From:** [Donnie Hansen](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:10:14 PM

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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. 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.

Thanks

Donnie Hansen

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Kelly Dyer](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#); [Marijuana, CED ABC \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Subject:** Comment - MJ Handlers Card Draft Regulations 3AAC 306.700 (f) & 3AAC 306.831  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 4:52:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [2nd DRAFT REGS MJ Handler Permits.pdf](#)

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Dear Marijuana Control Board & Staff:

Following are my comments regarding the attached proposed/draft regulations.

- 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.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to share my written comments in this fashion.

Sincerely, Kelly

JKD Brands, LLC  
10263 Nigh Road  
Unit 8  
Anchorage, AK 99515  
Tel. 907-929-5838

**From:** [crouse921](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Weed handler  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 5:29:49 PM

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I am sending this on behalf of someone who believes and supports the industry. He would like to be able to do his part!

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!

Sent via the Samsung Galaxy Express 3, an AT&T 4G LTE smartphone

**From:** [mrdane\\_ak@yahoo.com](mailto:mrdane_ak@yahoo.com)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers Card  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 8:59:45 PM

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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.

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.

There is no other private business that the government has a right to dictate personnel practices and policies.

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.

Sincerely  
Dane Wyrick  
Danish Gardens LLC  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Robert Briscoe](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** MJ handler permit question  
**Date:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 10:48:23 PM

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I saw a draft for handlers card regulations and had a quick question that I hope you could answer. In 2014 I was found quilt 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?



**From:** [Sue](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Marijuana Handlers permit  
**Date:** Friday, October 21, 2016 7:22:15 AM

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Hello Mr. Samaniego,

I wanted to thank AMCO for giving me the opportunity to express my concerns regarding the current regulations set forth.

This regulation unfairly targets our new evolving market, by requiring an extensive background check for all worker in the cannabis industry.

This current regulation is disproportionate to other industries.

The cannabis industry should be treated just as fair as any other state regulated business.

There should be no additional state restriction that limits this industry's hiring practices and employment opportunity.

AMCO is doing a great job vetting through the regulation. Let this industry follow the employment path of the alcohol industry.

Best Regards,

Susan Nowland

Alaska Fireweed

**From:** [Kim Kole](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** Handler Card public comment  
**Date:** Saturday, October 22, 2016 10:06:44 AM

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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!

- 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 licensees.
- 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.

Thank you!  
Kim Kole

**From:** [dollynda.fleck](mailto:dollynda.fleck)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\); Marijuana, CED ABC \(CED sponsored\)](mailto:Samaniego, Joe P (CED); Marijuana, CED ABC (CED sponsored))  
**Subject:** Fw: MJ Handler permit...proposed regulations  
**Date:** Saturday, October 22, 2016 2:53:08 PM

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----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** dollynda fleck <jeffndol@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "jeffndol@yahoo.com" <jeffndol@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 22, 2016 2:49 PM  
**Subject:** MJ Handler permit...proposed reguions

Greetings, Dollynda 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.

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.

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.

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!

Thank you, have a great day.  
Dollynda Phelps

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**From:** dollynda fleck <jeffndol@yahoo.com>  
**To:** "Samaniego, Joe P (CED)" <joe.samaniego@alaska.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 11:14 AM  
**Subject:** Re: MJ Certificate

Yes, Jill Williams did pass my course, the original certificate was mailed to her as well. As per a previous conversation with enforcement, this type of certificate will not be issued again. I have been sending a scanned copy of the original with the gold star

in an email and mailing the document which was an arrived method.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

On Thu, Oct 20, 2016 at 11:10 AM, Samaniego, Joe P (CED)  
<joe.samaniego@alaska.gov> wrote:

Here is the certificate.

Joe Samaniego

Administrative Assistant I

907-269-0352 · [joe.samaniego@alaska.gov](mailto:joe.samaniego@alaska.gov)

**Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office**

**550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1600  
Anchorage, AK 99501-3569**



Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail. Less paper is better for us and our environment.

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**From:** Whiteman, Kendrick J (CED)  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 20, 2016 10:10 AM  
**To:** Samaniego, Joe P (CED)  
**Subject:** MJ Certificate

Joe,  
Good Morning!  
Here you go.

**From:** [oldsklbuffiellc@gmail.com](mailto:oldsklbuffiellc@gmail.com)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** MJ Handlers Card Comment  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2016 12:17:05 PM

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Mr. Samaniego,

We are writing today to address our concerns regarding the proposed/draft regulations for the MJ Handlers Card Regulations 3AAC306.700 (f) & 3AAC306.831. Michael Morgan and Buffie Jones of Old School & Buffie, LLC believe that the proposed regulations are restrictive for those in the budding new marijuana industry. Those of us that are starting businesses would like the freedom to hire people that we feel will do the best job. Between the two of us we have worked in the healthcare industry for over 30 years side by side with individuals that may have had a felony in the past, but have served their time and are moving on with their lives having learned a valuable lesson. We do not feel that those required to obtain a MJ Handlers card should be held to a higher standard than a healthcare worker taking care of a sick or injured person.

Michael aka Old School and I believed in 2014 when we voted for Prop 2 to legalize cannabis it would be regulated like the alcohol industry. However, it seems as though the marijuana industry is subject to additional regulations. These draft regulations are unreasonably impracticable.

Sincerely,

Buffie Jones and Michael Morgan

**From:** [Howard Hollister](#)  
**To:** [Samaniego, Joe P \(CED\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: MCB Agenda Items  
**Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2016 5:31:24 PM

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To the Members of the Marijuana Control Board:

We respectfully request you give serious consideration of the consensus of our membership we are submitting on the following 2 issues being considered by the Board.

On-Site Consumption:

Our organization has been involved in most cannabis related issues since the passage of the ballot initiative legalizing the cannabis industry in Alaska. We have actively lobbied the legislature, contributed testimony regarding regulations, and participated in most public testimony hearings and meetings as well as every meeting of the MCB. The number one issue that garnered the most public testimony over the past 2 years was the support for changing the official definition of "in public" as regards cannabis consumption, and creating legal, safe public venues for on-site consumption.

The first consideration is the public has demanded that cannabis be regulated the same as alcohol. The message has been very clear from the majority of the public that this means they want to be able to consume cannabis anywhere that they could enjoy an alcoholic beverage. This includes public and private venues where alcohol is allowed by state or local governments including certain parks, meeting facilities, and private rooms or buildings rented for social events. There have been a lot of inconsistencies in how the MCB and AMCO have addressed treating these two regulated substances the same.

In fairness, some of these matters will have to be addressed by future legislatures to create the supporting laws and additional license types for AMCO to be authorized to create cannabis regulations that are the same as for alcohol. We strongly support the proposal for on-site consumption that has been proposed by Cynthia Franklin and the AMCO staff to allow by endorsement the addition of a separate consumption venue as part of a retail store facility. We endorse the version of the regulations for on-site consumption most recently proposed by MCB member Mark Springer.

We understand there has been a recent concerted effort by prohibitionist and other interested parties opposed to legal marijuana and especially to any type of public consumption. We remind the Board, including the members who support the prohibitionist agenda, that this vocal minority absolutely does not reflect the will of the overwhelming majority of adult Alaskan residents. We remind you that you were appointed to a State board to advance the directorate of the public mandate by creating the legal structure and environment to establish the cannabis industry, not to oppose or hinder it because of your own personal beliefs or moral viewpoint.

Marijuana Handler Permits:

ACPAC, its membership, and the current and pending marijuana licensees strongly oppose the MCB adding a requirement for all industry employees seeking a marijuana handler card be required to have a background check conducted. This is clearly beyond the scope of the MCB's

authority, is not consistent with regulations for alcohol establishments, and is an infringement on licensed establishment's rights to conduct their own hiring practices.

The ability to establish the requirement for background checks for marijuana license applicants and to prohibit certain felons from being able to obtain a license was within the authority granted AMCO and the MCB by State statute. This did not extend to licensed establishments and their right to establish their own hiring requirements and practices. We respectfully request the MCB not exceed its authority, and to allow the industry to operate the same as any other private enterprise including regulated businesses.

We thank you for your service to the citizens of our great state. We encourage you to honor the will of the electorate, and perform your duties objectively without personal bias. We also offer a very large public thank you to the entire statewide staff of AMCO. They have accomplished an amazing and overwhelming amount of work over the past 2 years establishing an entire new regulated industry from scratch.

We appreciate your consideration of our comments which reflect the positions of our membership, and many interested members of the public.

With respect,

Cole Hollister

Chairman  
Alaska Cannabis PAC  
3264 Riverview Drive  
Fairbanks, AK 99709  
(907) 322-9575

## Douglas, Craig J (CED)

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**From:** Janice Waldron <jsjjw3@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2016 7:18 AM  
**To:** Samaniego, Joe P (CED)  
**Subject:** MCB - No to background check for handler card

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Restricting employment at this level in the cannabis industry with the burden of a background check is over regulating the industry. The analogy is requiring a background check for someone working in a liquor store. We voted to regulate cannabis like alcohol, but every step of the way there are regulations that go well beyond what is required of the alcohol industry. A prospective employee of a cannabis business already must pass a test they pay for to receive the handler card, which also has a fee. The owners of the cannabis business are background checked and responsible for their employees. It is excessive to expect the employee to invest above the \$100 already required to get their handler card for a \$13-15/hour job. If regulators are really interested in converting from the black market to a legal commercial industry, the prospective employees must come from the black market side themselves in many cases. This change in regulating of handlers that requires a background check will exclude people from transitioning over in many cases. In many rural areas, it will reduce an already limited employee pool and exclude rural residents of lucrative employment. I urge you not to add the requirement of the background check to the handler card. It is an undue burden at this level of employment in the cannabis industry, and is totally unnecessary with all the other restrictive safeguards that are already in place.

Janice Waldron

50844 Tartan Rd., Kasilof, AK 99610



## Douglas, Craig J (CED)

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**From:** Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 12, 2016 8:19 AM  
**To:** Marijuana, CED ABC (CED sponsored)  
**Cc:** Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)  
**Subject:** FW: public comments handler card

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

**From:** Kim Kole [<mailto:kimkoleinak@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, October 10, 2016 3:36 PM  
**To:** Marijuana Licensing (CED sponsored)  
**Subject:** public comments handler card

I would like to state that it doesn't make any sense for people obtaining a Handler Card to have to get a background check. If we want to encourage people to get out of the black market and into the legitimate market, this may include some individuals who may have a felony on their records. No, we don't want them to be license holders, but there is no reason why they shouldn't be able to work under someone else.

You may also have people who have a felony for something completely unrelated to cannabis or alcohol, so it doesn't make any sense to keep them out of the industry.

Thank you for your time!

Kim Kole

## **Douglas, Craig J (CED)**

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**From:** Leif Abel <leifabel@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 23, 2016 1:11 PM  
**To:** Marijuana, CED ABC (CED sponsored)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on the proposed changes to the Handler Card Requirements  
**Attachments:** MCB Letter Handler Card .docx

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

MCB,

Please find attached Letter.

Thank You,

**Leif B. Abel**  
(907) 252-5172  
[leifabel@yahoo.com](mailto:leifabel@yahoo.com)

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