

# Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office

550 West 7th Avenue, Suite 1600 Anchorage, AK 99501 Main: 907.269.0350

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO: Marijuana Control Board

FROM: Kristina Serezhenkov, Regulations

Specialist

DATE: November 7, 2023

RE: Regulations Project- Introduction

of Seeds or Clones

The board approved the draft regulations for initial Law review at the August, 2023 meeting. Upon the Department of Law's approval, the draft was sent out for official public comment with the comment period closing 11.6.2023. Comments were received and are attached.

### Options for the board:

- Move to adopt and send to Law for final review.
- Move to amend and adopt and then send to Law for final review.
- Move to send back to staff for more work
- Close the regulations project

Register	,	_ 2023	COMMERC	E, CO	MMUNITY, AND	EC. DEV.
(Words in bo	ldface and underl	ined ind	licate language	being	added; words [CAF	PITALIZED AND
BRACKETE	D] indicate langu	age beir	ng deleted.)			
3 AAC 306.4	405(a)(9) is amend	ded to re	ead:			
				appro	oval by the director	on a form
prescribed by	the board, by					
(A) receiving not more than <b>twenty</b> [SIX] clones or cuttings from a person						
21 ye	ars of age or olde	r, withou	ut compensatio	n; or		
(B) receiving [NOT MORE THAN 10] seeds from a person 21 years of						
age of	r older, without co	ompensa	ntion, for cultiv	ation o	on the licensed pren	nises.
(Eff. 2/21/20	16, Register 217;	am 10/2	20/2018, Regist	ter 228	s; am 12/10/2020, R	egister 236; am
//	, Register _	)				
Authority:	AS 17.38.010	A	AS 17.38.150		AS 17.38.200	
	AS 17.38.070	A	AS 17.38.190		AS 17.38.900	
	AS 17.38.121					

From: Ryan Tunseth

To: CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored)
Subject: AMIA Regulation Comments
Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 2:29:03

Date: Monday, November 6, 2023 2:29:07 PM

Attachments: AMIA Packaging REG COMMENT 11.6.23.pdf

AMIA SEEDS & CLONES REG COMMENT 11.6.23.pdf

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

AMCO / MCB,

Please find the attached comments from the Alaska Marijuana Industry Association (AMIA) related to proposed regulations:

- Introduction of seeds and clones
- Changes to packaging of marijuana products.

Thank you,

**AMIA Board of Directors** 

Date: 11/6/2023

To: Alaska Marijuana Control Board (MCB)

amco.regs@alaska.gov

From: Alaska Marijuana Industry Association (AMIA)

Ryan Tunseth, President.

President@alaskamia.org

Re: Comment on MCB proposed changes to regulations in Title 3,

Chapter 306.405(a)(9) AAC - Related to seeds and clones.

The Alaska Marijuana Industry Association (AMIA) is in support of the proposed regulation changes. The proposed changes are a step forward in the right direction. The current regulations stifle commerce and place an unnecessary burden on our cultivators. These new regulations will help cultivators remain competitive.

However, we do not think that these regulations go far enough and would respectfully ask the Board to consider why there are any limits on clones, cutting, or seeds. It is detrimental for any agricultural industry to be prohibited or limited in the purchase of seeds or plant starts. Agricultural businesses should be able to purchase as many clones, cuttings, or seeds for their business as necessary to produce viable, consistent, and competitive harvests. What is the goal in limiting cultivators from the very thing they need to operate? Furthermore, what is the goal of having a regulation that prohibits compensation for those agricultural products? Cultivators that are interested in developing genetics should be allowed to sell clones, seeds, or cuttings if they so desire.

Please consider removing all limits on clones, seeds, or cuttings and the prohibitions on compensation for such products. We do not see how this would negatively impact public health and safety in any way. Limiting the number of sees, clones, or cuttings only makes things harder on cultivators and limits innovation and commerce.

Respectfully,

AMIA Board of Directors

Ryan Tunseth, President



From: Alaska Online Public Notices
To: CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored)

Subject: New Comment on NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO INTRODUCTION OF SEEDS OR CLONES TO LICENSED

PREMISES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE MARIJUANA CONTROL BOARD

**Date:** Friday, November 3, 2023 8:56:32 AM

A new comment has been submitted on the public notice <u>NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO INTRODUCTION OF SEEDS OR CLONES TO LICENSED PREMISES IN THE REGULATIONS OF THE MARIJUANA CONTROL BOARD</u>.

#### Submitted:

11/3/2023 8:56:26 AM

Kerby Coman kerby@greendegree.net

Wasilla, AK, US Anonymous User

#### **Comment:**

I think these regulation project is definetly something that needs to be addressed. I do however believe that there should not be any limit on the number immature plants and or seeds being brought into a licensed facility from an unlicensed source. Where is the benefit to public safety and health by limiting the number of such? Thank you

You can review all comments on this notice by clicking here.

Alaska Online Public Notices

From: <u>Mike Emers</u>

To: CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored)
Cc: Ryan Tunseth; Bailey Stuart

**Subject:** Proposed Changes regarding introduction of seeds or clones

**Date:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 9:10:23 PM

Attachments: Comment on proposed changed to introduction of seeds and clones.pdf

[You don't often get email from emersmj@gmail.com. Learn why this is important at <a href="https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification">https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification</a>]

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Dear AMCO,

Please accept this comment regarding the introduction of new genetics to licensed premises - 3 AAC 306.405(a)(9)

Thank you,

Mike Emers, Managing Owner

RCFC LLC license # 4a-10005



P.O Box 181 Ester, Alaska 99725 Alaska License 10005

November 2, 2023

Marijuana Control Board and AMCO Director Alcohol and Marijuana Control office 550 w 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ste.1600 Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear MCB and Director Wilson,

Thank you for considering changes to regulation 3 AAC 306.405(a)(9) concerning the introduction of new strains to licensed premises. I cannot speak to the proposed changes concerning raising the number of clones, however, since we are considering this change, we also should also consider raising limits on seeds for introducing new genetics.

Being an outdoor grower, I rely solely on seeds for growing my crop of auto-flowering cannabis. If I want to introduce new genetics into my operation but I'm not sure if the new strain will work for me, 10 seeds is an unreasonably small sample with which to do a trial. Since each seed is a unique genetic package, there will be variability among the 10 plants grown (assuming that all 10 seeds germinate) thereby muddling the decision making. Also, the 10 plants grown make for too small of a sample size or harvest get a reliable lab test.

If I do like the way those 10 plants perform in an outdoor season and I want to introduce those genetics into my operation, I'll need to cross another strain to those plants, harvest an appropriate amount of seeds that first season and then wait another year to see how those crosses perform. The end result of trialing a new strain is that it might be a year and a half at the earliest, from the time that I file the MJ-27 that I will get enough of a harvest to get the new strain on my menu. Fifty seeds are a minimum to do an appropriate trial, but 100 seeds would be much better to get a decent harvest in order to get that new strain on menu that season.

Let's not limit the amount of either seeds or clones to introduce new genetics - it just

ties our hands behind our backs and limits innovation and commerce.

Thank you,

Mike Emers, owner
RCFC LLC dba Rosie Creek Farm

Method

Emers

From: <u>Barret Goodale</u>

To: <u>CED AMCO REGS (CED sponsored)</u>

**Subject:** Public Comment on Seeds and Clones from an Unlicensed Source

**Date:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023 11:21:12 AM

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

Dear Members of the Board,

I appreciate and approve of the sentiment in this regulation change, but I do not think it goes far enough. The marijuana industry is an agricultural industry. It is preposterous for an agricultural industry to be prohibited or limited in the purchase of seeds or plants. I believe a marijuana company should be able to purchase as many clones, cuttings, or seeds for their business as needed. What is the goal in limiting this? The only thing of concern I have is tax evasion by individuals who may be selling these clones or seeds as a cottage industry business. However, I believe that that responsibility of tax liability is outside the purview of this board. I would recommend removing all quantity limits on seeds, clones, and cuttings as well as removing the prohibition of providing compensation for those agricultural products.

Thank you,

C. Barret Goodale GOOD Cultivation Manager 907-699-9478

Follow GOOD on <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>Facebook</u> Alaska Marijuana Industry Association member