

Konrad Jackson

From: Mike Healy <michaelrhealy@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 02, 2016 7:03 PM
To: House Labor and Commerce
Subject: I Oppose HB 248/SB 131 & Any Increase on Alcohol Taxes

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to ask that you oppose HB 248/SB 131, which places a very burdensome tax increase on beer, wine, and spirits in our state. As I'm sure you know, that if passed, this would double the state excise tax on these items. Alaska currently has the highest excise tax in the United States on wine, and second highest for beer and wine. With statistics like that, we should be talking about lessening the tax burden, not increasing it.

I believe that any tax increase on alcohol in the State of Alaska will only hurt consumers and small businesses that already pay some of the highest prices in the nation. As a small brewery looking to expand, we feel that such a tax increase will force us to reconsider whether a huge monetary investment in this industry is worthwhile. I hope that you understand that this tax will only amount to a "drop in the bucket" for reducing our state budget deficit, meanwhile hurting Alaskan businesses and employees.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael Healy
Skagway Brewing Co.