



Midnight Sun Brewing Company

8111 Dimond Hook Drive
Anchorage, AK 99507
midnightsunbrewing.com

Senator Lesil McGuire
Chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol Room 121
Juneau, Alaska 99801

RE: SB165

Dear Senator McGuire,

There has been a lot of discussion regarding SB 165. Some of the discussion stems from SB 99, the bill to rewrite Title IV, and whether or not the industry agreed to change the makeup of the ABC board. I can only speak for Midnight Sun Brewing Company and say that we are against any changes to the makeup of the ABC board until SB 99 can be presented as a complete package.

Changing the makeup of the board at this point appears to be an attempt by the non-industry sector to preempt the entirety of SB 99. That legislation contained compromises by both industry and the public health and public safety sectors, amongst others, in order to reach the draft rewrite of Title IV, and was meant to go forward as a collaboration between the stakeholders. SB 165 represents a “grab” of only two issues that are not representative of industry’s interests, only those of public health and public safety. If we continue to carve out individual provisions contained in SB 99 that are in one sector’s favor, industry could be left with none of the changes we would like to see. This method is flawed, especially in light of the investment and years of work that stakeholders put into coming to an agreement on a comprehensive rewrite.

If this bill is to move forward, the makeup of the board section should be removed. Midnight Sun Brewing Company is in support of the SB165 with removal of the proposed provision I mentioned above to the ABC board, maintaining the rest of the changes including the very import statute changes to decriminalizing minor consumption, while still providing for penalties and rehabilitation.

Sincerely,

Mark Staples
President and Founder, Midnight Sun Brewing Company
cc: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee