

Alaska Cabaret, Hotel,
Restaurant and Retailer's Association



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The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee
Representative Adam Wool, Co-Chair
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux, Co-Chair
Representative Sara Hannan, Standing Member
Representative Zack Fields, Standing Member
Representative Louise Stutes, Standing Member
Representative Josh Revak, Standing Member
Representative David Talerico, Standing Member

Re: Comments and Recommended Amendments to Senate Bill 16

Dear members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

The Alaska Cabaret, Hotel, Restaurant, and Retailers Association (CHARR) respectfully requests that you make some amendments to this bill before sending it out of committee. As many of you are already aware, over 100 stakeholders have been working on a comprehensive rewrite of Title 04 for over seven years (13,000+ hours specifically on this project). Much of the focus of that work has been to consolidate the number of license and permit types, and to eliminate confusing language and contradictory sections from existing law. Unfortunately, the version of Senate Bill (SB) 16 before you would do the exact opposite.

Additionally, there have been two legislative audits of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board that have found that many existing recreational site licenses were issued to establishments that did not meet the requirements set forth in AS 04.11.210. The current proposed language under Secs. 3, 4, and 6 would further add to the existing confusion regarding what types of establishments qualify for specific license types.

Nearly everything that is in the current version of this bill can already be accomplished under existing law and regulation, but grandfathering provisions clearly need to be put in for those existing establishments who have recently lost, or are at risk of losing, their licenses. CHARR requests and recommends that the following changes be made to the current draft bill:

Secs. 1-3: Delete entirely.

Sec. 4: Amend to read:

(c) In this section, "recreational site" includes a location where **skiing or snowboarding activities regularly take place or where sporting events such as** baseball games, car races, hockey games, dog sled racing [EVENTS], or curling matches are regularly held during a season.

Secs. 6-9: Delete entirely.

Secs. 11-12: Delete entirely.

I am happy to provide additional testimony regarding these requests, and to answer any questions that you might have.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Sarah D. Oates
President & CEO
Alaska CHARR