



April 3, 2019

Sen. Peter Micciche
Capitol Building
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Micciche, and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Alaska State Fair I am writing to express our support of Senate Bill 16, an Act relating to certain alcoholic beverage licenses and permits; and relating to the bond requirement for certain alcoholic beverage license holders.

The Alaska State Fair believes this piece of legislation to play a vital role in correcting numerous shortfalls of the current Alaska Statutes that control alcoholic beverages. It also stands to correct the problematic situation the Fair has experienced with the current license category that it operates under, a license category that doesn't clearly define the business model of the Fair. This legislation will provide much overdue clarity and understanding to the Fair and to the State agencies involved in the application of the law.

Furthermore, without this legislation, the Alaska State Fair will be put at risk of losing a revenue source that would jeopardize the sustainability of the Fair. Beer and wine sales are part of a diversified revenue stream that sustains the operation in bad years and allows growth in prosperous years. This revenue stream has allowed the Fair to be a self-sustaining Fair, one of only a few in the nation that isn't subsidized by state government. Senate Bill 16 will preserve the sustainability of the Fair and allow it to continue serving the people of Alaska. We urge all parties involved to support Senate Bill 16. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerome Hertel".

Jerome Hertel
General Manager
Alaska State Fair

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