



April 5, 2021

Dear members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I am writing to share Recover Alaska's point of view as you consider the Governor's appointees to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. Recover Alaska is highly invested in maintaining a knowledgeable, balanced board with a commitment to protecting public health. Recover encourages all members of the ABC Board to remember its charge: Protect health and safety and ensure a well-regulated industry.

Recover Alaska is a multi-sector action group working to reduce excessive alcohol use and its harms across the state. Our vision is for Alaskans to live free from the harms of alcohol misuse, so we are all empowered to achieve our full potential. One important part of our mission is preventing and reducing those harms by supporting and advocating for smart, evidence-based policies. This includes ensuring that our state's alcohol laws, Title 4, provide a rational framework for alcohol control and are interpreted and enforced in ways that protect public health.

As one of the lead stakeholders in the Title 4 Review process, we understand the ABC Board and AMCO's interpretation and enforcement of Title 4 are as important as the laws themselves. We feel it is imperative for all members of the board to have a deep understanding of the state's alcohol regulatory structure, and ideally be familiar with the intent of Senate Bill 9 and its proposed changes.

Our years of work on this topic, including support of Senate Bill 9, reflects a shared understanding among the alcohol industry, law enforcement, public health and safety experts, and many other stakeholders. The ABC Board must maintain a balanced perspective on alcohol regulation and take these priorities into consideration in its decisions.

Should Senate Bill 9 become law, it will be critical for enforcement and Board deliberations to follow legislative intent, maintain that balanced perspective, and reflect the public interest when crafting more detailed regulations and guidelines.

Recover Alaska has built a strong working relationship with the ABC Board and AMCO over the years. We remain committed to collaborating with all stakeholders to prevent and reduce the harms of alcohol misuse, from regulations to enforcement to education. We welcome opportunities to share more about this important work with potential Board members and continue this partnership.

Thank you for your work and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Hall  
Executive Director, Recover Alaska