



February 10, 2022

Via email to: joe.hardenbrook@akleg.gov and rep.grier.hopkins@akleg.gov

Subject: Support for HB 289 Alaska Marijuana Industry Task Force

Dear Representative Hopkins,

I am writing in my role as General Manager for GOOD Cannabis to communicate our support of HB 289.

The cannabis industry has faced many growing pains since its inception, and we have done our best to work through many of the issues that have hampered our new industry. However, the state excise tax structure has been a challenging hurdle that has caused artificially high prices in the wholesale market. Those prices are passed through to the retail market and to the consumer. The current tax structure has also created an unfair playing field through a lack of clear enforcement on companies that are not meeting their tax obligations.

Marijuana tax is a complex issue that likely has multiple viable solutions to consider, directly involves multiple state agencies, and must be thought through carefully in the context of impending Federal legalization and other future changes in the market. We believe that the creation of a "Task Force" is a sensible approach to such a difficult issue. We applaud you for proposing to include industry representatives, including members of the Alaska Marijuana Industry Association (of which GOOD Cannabis is a member). Industry representation in this Task Force will be key to its success.

Alaska is currently the most expensive state to operate a legal recreational cannabis business. Thus, it is imperative that Alaska has an efficient and prudent tax structure in order to maintain a strong cannabis industry moving forward. We hope that the Task Force will develop a tax structure that will ensure the health of our industry into the future, and Alaska will continue to be a cannabis industry leader and an example for other states. We commend all those who had a hand in bringing HB 289 to this point and hope that this legislation will receive broad support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T Haynes", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Trevor Haynes
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