

REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN J. McCABE

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE HOUSE DISTRICT 30

SESSION
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801
Phone: (907) 465-2679
Toll Free: (800) 505-2678



DISTRICT
600 E. Railroad Ave., Suite 1
Wasilla, AK 99654
Phone: (907) 376-2679
Toll Free: (800) 505-2678

HB 325/Ver. A (34-LS1302\N)

“An Act relating to industrial hemp; and providing for an effective date.”

SPONSOR STATEMENT

HB 325 updates Alaska’s industrial hemp statutes to ensure our regulatory framework is clear, predictable, and aligned with federal law, while protecting small agricultural producers from unnecessary bureaucracy.

Industrial hemp is an agricultural crop, not marijuana, and it should be regulated accordingly. Since federal legalization under the 2018 Farm Bill, states have been responsible for implementing hemp programs that comply with federal standards. This bill ensures Alaska’s statutes reflect that framework in a structured and responsible way.

The bill requires federally compliant testing methodology, maintains the 0.3 percent THC standard, and preserves the one percent destruction threshold consistent with federal enforcement practices. For hemp testing between 0.3 percent and one percent, the bill prioritizes remediation and compliance rather than automatic punitive action. Enforcement remains firm, but fair and predictable.

HB 325 also establishes corrective-action procedures that require written notice, an opportunity to cure deficiencies, and objective criteria before civil penalties, suspension, or revocation occur. This protects producers from arbitrary enforcement while maintaining accountability.

To reduce unnecessary red tape, the bill:

- Eliminates duplicative in-state transport permits when proper documentation is present;
- Establishes tiered grower categories, including relief for micro-growers;
- Requires scaled reporting, inspection, testing, and fee structures proportionate to operation size; and
- Recognizes federally approved seed certification programs without requiring duplicative state grow-out trials.

This legislation does not expand THC limits, does not weaken enforcement authority, and does not reduce oversight for high-THC violations. It strengthens clarity, aligns Alaska with federal standards, and ensures hemp is regulated as agriculture, not as a controlled substance.

HB 325 promotes fairness, consistency, and responsible oversight while protecting Alaska farmers and reducing unnecessary state bureaucracy.

I respectfully ask for your support.

