



ALASKA STATE SENATE

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Senator Lesil McGuire – Chair, Senator John Coghill – Vice-Chair, Senator Peter Micciche,
Senator Mia Costello, Senator Bill Wielechowski

SPONSOR STATEMENT

Senate Bill 62: “An Act relating to the regulation of marijuana, marijuana testing, marijuana products, and marijuana accessories; relating to the licensing of marijuana retailers, producers, processors, boutique producers, brokers, and home growers; relating to taxation of marijuana; and providing for an effective date” (29-LS0405\E)

Senate Bill 62 (“SB62”) is sponsored by the Senate Judiciary Committee. The intent of the bill is to establish the framework for a legal (from the State’s perspective) commercial marijuana industry in Alaska. Other goals include: (1) reducing the in-state marijuana “black market;” and (2) providing structural protections for minors.

SB62 accomplishes those goals by:

1. Establishing a system of testing;
2. Limiting certain advertisements and packaging;
3. Allowing, when necessary, local control;
4. Establishing taxes;
5. Establishing a licensing system for legal commercial sales;
6. Stating the process for license applications and renewals;
7. Requiring marijuana reporting and enforcement provisions.

Marijuana, an intoxicant, remains a Schedule 1 substance under federal law. As such, the legislature must balance the commercial interests of those in the industry, with public safety considerations. SB62 finds that balance.

Please join Senate Judiciary Chair Lesil McGuire and Senate Judiciary Vice-Chair John Coghill in supporting SB62.