

Alaska Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Title 4 Review

WHAT IS TITLE 4?

Title 4 of the Alaska Statutes regulates alcoholic beverages. The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, staff and law enforcement carry out these laws.

WHY REVIEW TITLE 4?

Much of the chapter has not been updated since 1980. Over time, incremental updates and changing trends have reduced the effectiveness of Title 4. A systematic review of the statutes helps the Board carry out its mission and will benefit organizations and individuals whose work, community or business is affected by alcoholic beverage laws and regulations.

"The board shall control the manufacture, barter, possession, and sale of alcoholic beverages in the state. The board is vested with the powers, duties and responsibilities necessary for the control of alcoholic beverages..."

AS 04.06.090(a)

(ABC Board Mission Statement)

THE REVIEW PROCESS

Since the spring of 2012, more than 60 stakeholders and staff spent over 6,000 hours of dedicated time to craft a set of recommendations to improve the structure, organization, policies and associated implementation of Title 4. Stakeholders represent the alcohol industry, public health, local government, law enforcement, public safety, education, and community advocacy sectors.



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TITLE 4 REVIEW GOALS

The review and recommendation process was guided by the following goals:

- **Promote a fair business climate and protect public health and safety.**
 - Create rational regulation for all tiers of the state's alcohol industry.
 - Limit youth access to alcohol.
 - Promote responsible alcohol use and reduce the harms of overconsumption.
- **Make Title 4 a clear and consistent legal framework use by licensees, the ABC Board and law enforcement.**
 - Increase swiftness, proportionality and consistency of penalties.
 - Increase local Title 4 law enforcement.
 - Increase licensee accountability before the ABC Board for Title 4 violations.

RECOMMENDED REVISIONS

The proposed revisions are a comprehensive package of inter-related proposals to improve the overall system of alcohol regulation in Alaska. This package ensures that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board fairly represents the interests of the Alaska people and can be a leader in alcohol education, policy and regulation. The revisions will:

- Clarify conflicting and confusing provisions.
- Make statutes and regulations easier to understand and enforce.
- Simplify and update the licensing system.
- Strengthen local option laws and the ability to enforce them.
- Reform underage drinking sanctions so that minors do not become criminals for underage drinking.
- Hold adults who supply minors with alcohol to greater accountability.

Title 4 Review Next Steps

The package of proposed Title 4 revisions will be sent to the Alaska State Legislature to formally adopt into law.



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To view the full report or request more information:

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

<http://commerce.state.ak.us/dnn/abc/Home>

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