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To: The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee

This is my position: As with all Marijuana Business I strongly object to MS Stivers appointment to the Board. ABC has 2 industry member seats. We are bound to regulate Marijuana like Alcohol. The MCB has 1 industry seat and 1 seat that is for (General Public OR Marijuana Industry). It is the OR that I am concerned with. Or, adds emphasis. Why would the stature need to specifically carve out "or Marijuana Industry" if there was not some intent to have it be a "friendly to industry" seat? It does not say General Public OR Prohibitionist. Additionally, the language was carved out that way because the intent was to have TWO industry seats. But, because there was not a license process in place at the time (so no licensed industry members) the language was included so that the seat could be filled by someone who was General Public but would later become Industry. There is no voice on the board for the consumer. And it is most certainly NOT Vivian Stiver.

Best Regards,



Dean Bush
907-252-3230 - Phone
Owner
info@alaskaharvestcompany.com
AlaskaHarvestCompany.com

To the Honorable members of the House Labor & Commerce Committee,

My name is Lisa Coates and I reside in the city of Kenai. I am contacting you to voice my concerns over the recent removal of an industry representative on the Marijuana Control Board. Gov. Dunleavy has removed Brandon Emmett from the board and wishes to replace him with Vivian Stiver, who is a strong opponent of the cannabis industry. Based on her previous actions against the cannabis industry, one can only conclude that it will be her intention to shut the industry down, not regulate it. She does not represent the will of the general public which voted overwhelming in support of a regulated cannabis industry.

This industry has slowly blossomed since its legalization in 2014, which passed by historical margins. During a state recession, this industry has created more jobs in the last few years than any other startup industry in the state. The industry creates jobs, not loses them. If Stiver is confirmed, it will most assuredly be a step back towards prohibition days, while the rest of the world and country are slowly progressing towards legalization. It is the will of the majority to regulate it, not stomp it out.

I also don't believe the people of Alaska will sit quietly by and watch cannabis stores, product manufacturers, and cultivators close shop. Perhaps they will, but they will all just go back to buying cannabis on the black market, and the state will lose out on a revenue stream that is still in its infancy. This industry employs a variety of hard-working Alaskans like engineers, architects, plumbers, electricians, etc., and not just people who are directly involved in the industry. I would like to believe that Gov. Dunleavy is unaware of just how much of an economic impact the cannabis industry has had in this state.

I have lived and worked in this state for almost 30 years. I have always been the employee and never the employer. I recently retired from my 6 figure income to become an entrepreneur in the cannabis industry. I am using my educational background and work experience to try and achieve the American dream of being a productive and contributing member of society that wishes to work for myself and help the community that I live in. My partner and I have invested close to 1 million dollars on this venture, with most of the money being spent in this state to many ancillary businesses. It is mind boggling and scary to think that the confirmation of Stiver is a step towards our dreams completely collapsing and making us destitute. The struggle is very real. This is not an easy industry to be a part of as it is.

I believe the original intent of the MCB to be represented by 2 people from the industry should be continued. It makes no sense. Her anti-marijuana agenda should disqualify her.

Licensed marijuana business owners are the first line of defense against black market crime. We need to have a board that supports the industry while keeping the public safe. Please do not confirm Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. It is not 1950 anymore. The world is changing. We can recognize this and grow our economy, or we can stifle the spirit of Alaskans and give that money to criminals. People will still consume cannabis. It is a lifestyle choice that helps many Alaskans.

Please do not confirm Stivey to take a seat on the Marijuana Control Board. I beg you. Alaskans won't sit idly by and let this happen.

Sincerely,
Lisa Coates



**410 Magic Avenue
Kenai
907-252-4755**



The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee

This is my position: ABC has 2 industry member seats. We are bound to regulate Marijuana like Alcohol. The MCB has 1 industry seat and 1 seat that is for (General Public OR Marijuana Industry). It is the OR that I am concerned with. Or, adds emphasis. Why would the stature need to specifically carve out "or Marijuana Industry" if there was not some intent to have it be a "friendly to industry" seat? It does not say General Public OR Prohibitionist. Additionally, the language was carved out that way because the intent was to have TWO industry seats. But, because there was not a license process in place at the time (so no licensed industry members) the language was included so that the seat could be filled by someone who was General Public but would later become Industry. There is no voice on the board for the consumer. And it is most certainly NOT Vivian Stiver.

Cordially,

Jennifer Wells
Seward, AK

The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee,

I live and own a business in the Mat-Su Valley and I am opposed to the appointment of a prohibitionist like Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. Through the course of multiple campaigns that attempted to prohibit businesses across the state, we have seen that the public vote in favor of regulation vs prohibition. Each vote showing a high favor rating with higher voting turnouts in decades. I believe that the Industry/Public seat should reflect the more than 2 thirds of Alaskan's that voted for legal cannabis.

I have lived in the Mat-Su Valley for 9 years and owned a home here for 8 years of that. I am the owner and CEO of Green Jar, the first retail store to receive a Conditional Use Permit and to open in the Mat-Su Valley. We have three owners and 23 employees that are all counting on the jobs we have created. The Mat-Su Borough received \$741,013.28 for all of 2018 and \$1,034,560.48 total since inception.

We have an already robust regulatory system that governs the sale of cannabis in our state. I know because I have attended every meeting that was publicly held by the MCB and hold a license. I demand as a licensee that those regulations stay strong for all parties involved since following the regulations gives my business legitimacy. Those regulations could be turned to damage the ability of 26 people to continue to make a living in the Mat-Su Valley.

I DO NOT believe Vivian's prohibitionist past gives her credit to say that she represents either the "Public" or "Industry" which is the seat she is to represent. Please appoint someone that fits the bill and truly represents the seat they are being chosen for. Neither the Public nor the Industry has voted in favor of prohibitionist tactics while forming regulations. We should not start now.

—

**Caleb L. Saunders
CEO | Green Jar
907-887-3684
Green Jar**

**To: The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee
Co-Chair Representative Gabrielle LeDoux,
Co-Chair Representative Adam Wool,
Standing Member Representative Zack Fields,
Standing Member Representative Sara Hannan,
Standing Member Representative Zack Fields,
Standing Member Representative Louise Stutes,
Standing Member Representative Josh Revak,
Standing Member Representative David Talerico,**

As a member of the marijuana industry in Alaska I want to stress to you my strong opposition to the appointment of Vivian Stivers, she is totally unqualified to hold a seat on the Marijuana Control Board. Please consider, either Caleb Saunders, Rebecca Rein or Kim Kole all of whom are qualified and willing to represent the industry in this seat.

**Ronald W. Hand
AK Best Buds
907 842-3271**

Greetings,

On March 6 you will be considering Vivian Stiver for the Marijuana Control Board. Mrs. Stiver is a staunch prohibitionist, contrary to what she may say. Her actions speak much louder than her words, just look at her tract record over the last 4 years. She has led not one but two failed attempts to ban marijuana facilities in Fairbanks, as well as opposing almost every license to be approved at local government meetings. Her perspective of fear and misinformation does not represent even half of Alaskans, as can be seen in not only the statewide vote on Ballot measure 2, but multiple local option votes to ban cannabis businesses across the state. Some call her a Trojan Horse, now having an opportunity to weaken and destroy this industry from the inside. It seems she will say whatever you want to hear, truth or not, in order to be confirmed.

During her last confirmation hearing many public comments brought to light the fact that she is uneducated about cannabis and the functionality of the cannabis industry. She has, for a very long time, spread mis-information and untruths about cannabis to the public. Mrs. Stiver responded to these allegations saying that she had taken the time to educate herself, that she had read Washington state marijuana regulations as well as Colorado state marijuana regulations. What I find absolutely appalling is the fact that she tried multiple times to put people out of business without even reading her own state of Alaskas marijuana regulations. She didn't bother to even look at those until just a few weeks ago, admittedly so. She is certainly singing a different tune now that she has the possibility of being appointed to a board and doing some real harm to this new industry.

There is no place on ANY industry board for a prohibitionist, let alone a person who would rather see that industry not exist at all. The Cannabis industry deserves industry representation on the regulatory board, we currently have 1 industry member on the board and 80% of the board knows little to nothing about cannabis or the functionality of the industry. This certainly creates a very unbalanced board. Considering Mrs. Stivers personal vendetta to see the industry fail, and her blatant lack of knowledge and false information that she willingly shares to the public, she is just not qualified to be in a rule making position.

I strongly urge you to deny the appointment of Vivian Stiver and request a member of the industry be placed on the board.

Thank you for your careful consideration,

Dollynda Phelps

Peace Frog Botanicals

907-252-8026

To: The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee
Co-Chair Representative Gabrielle LeDoux,
Co-Chair Representative Adam Wool,
Standing Member Representative Zack Fields,
Standing Member Representative Sara Hannan,
Standing Member Representative Zack Fields,
Standing Member Representative Louise Stutes,
Standing Member Representative Josh Revak,
Standing Member Representative David Talerico

I am disheartened to see Vivian Stiver nominated for the Marijuana Control Board. As a state we voted to allow for the legalization of marijuana and our representatives should reflect the public consensus.

These businesses are people's lively hoods, their life savings, their passions. Electing a prohibitionist to the board would only hurt Alaskans. I would ask you to please consider Caleb Saunders, Kim Kole, or Rebecca Rein instead.

Thanks you,
Dianna Kenyon

February 28, 2019

Dear House Labor and Commerce Committee Members:

My name is John Nemeth I am a partner owner of two licensed cannabis companies in Juneau, Alaska. Together the two company's employee over a dozen people and contribute measurably to the state coffers.

I am writing this committee to loudly oppose the confirmation of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board.

Ms. Stiver has spoken publicly and loudly against this Industries existence. Which clearly puts her in the prohibitionist camp. This is counter to the objective of the regulatory board. If the administration is wanting to insert a politically conservative, "reefer madness" delegate to the board the appropriate seats are the public safety, or public health seat. This seat is one of two (the minority) that is there to represent the interest of the industry not the agenda of the defeated voters from the ballot measure.

I would like to point out one of many specific and bothersome statements made publicly by Ms. Stiver:

Verbatim she has recently said, "The definition of commercialization is exploiting for profit, to exploit for profit, such as Christmas, birthdays, greeting cards. So what we're going to do is were going to open up this whole can of worms we think we've got it regulated, we think we've got, we don't."

I am offended that a Governor who has made it part of his platform that Alaska is Open for Business would nominate an individual who lacks a basic understanding of business. As a college educated business person, I would like to offer Ms. Stiver the factual definition of commercialization: *the process of introducing a new product or production method into commerce—making it available on the market* Ms. Stiver has made many false statements and spread outdated rhetoric to the community. This is not what is needed on the control board. I respectfully ask that you not advance her forward in this process, but instead ask the Governor to appoint someone who is reasoned in their approach and already educated on the subject they are attempting to regulate.

This industry has shown to be respectful stewards of the public's trust. Filled with well meaning Alaskans and good actors. I ask that we be allowed to function without undue interruption from an agenda that does not speak for the majority of our citizens.

Thank you,

John S. Nemeth Top Hat Alaska Juneau

Hello, my name is Bailey Stuart and I am the owner and COO of Green Jar cannabis retail in the Matanuska-Susitna Valley. I am writing you today to share my perspective in regard to Vivian Stivers potential appointment to the Marijuana Control Board (MCB). I strongly feel the MCB should be a collaboration of different ideas and points of view. I can not support having a known activist against the industry to be appointed to the MCB. This is not conducive to public safety, public health, or to the ability to hold a non-bias opinion of cannabis at this point. Which is exactly what is required for this public/industry seat on the MCB board.

I have lived in Alaska for 22 years, 9 of that I have been a home owner in the Mat-Su Valley. I have owned Green Jar and worked on legalization in the Valley since 2014. We opened Green Jar in 2017 becoming the 1st cannabis retail in the Mat-Su Valley. I am proud to say I have created 23 jobs, and contributed a portion of the \$502,644.48 the Mat-Su borough has received in the first 3 quarters of 2018. I made a promise when I became an employer to my employees, and that was to protect our industry and our jobs. They trusted me with their livelihood's, which is why I am writing to you today. I want all perspectives represented on the board, however, having a known activist who has actively worked against our industry, even as of as recently as May 2018, could hurt our industry and potentially be a public safety & health issue later.

On February 12th 2019, the Senate Labor & Workforce committee took public testimony on the appointment of Vivian Stiver and of the 61 testimonies received 54 were opposed to the appointment.

There are many other candidates who see both sides and are a great fit for the position who have applied. Which is why I ask you now to take these points into consideration and ask, "Is someone who has worked so hard to prohibit an industry the best representation in creating regulation for that industry?"

Thank you for the time you have taken to read my opinion. I only want what is best for the public and the industry.

Best regards,

Bailey Stuart

Green Jar COO | Owner

(907) 887-3891

Hello my name is Chris Long and I am opposed to the nomination of Stiver to the Marijuana Board. We need people who will work together on the issues we face. I feel that her appointment will impede needed progress to promote our cause. We need someone who is already well versed in the industry and can help us. Stiver has no background in the industry and is opposed to it publicly. This will only hurt our cause and businesses. Please place someone who will help us not oppose us! Sincerely Chris Long

February 28, 2019

Dear House Labor and Commerce Committee Members:

My name is Ben Wilcox, I am a partner owner of two licensed cannabis companies in Juneau, Alaska. Together the two company's employee over a dozen people and contribute measurably to the state coffers.

I am writing this committee to loudly oppose the confirmation of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board.

Ms. Stiver has spoken publicly and loudly against this industries existence, which clearly puts her in the prohibitionist camp. This is counter to the objective of the regulatory board. If the administration is wanting to insert a politically conservative "reefer madness" delegate to the board then the appropriate seats for that are the public safety, or public health seat. This seat is one of two (the minority) that is there to represent the interest of the industry not the agenda of the defeated voters from the ballot measure.

Ms. Stiver has made many false statements and spread outdated rhetoric to her community. This is not what is needed on the control board and I respectfully ask that you not advance her forward in this process but instead ask the Governor to appoint someone who is reasoned in their approach and already educated on the subject they are attempting to regulate. Ms. Stiver based on her public enthusiasm for the "safer alternative" Jack Daniels perhaps is a better fit for the Alcohol Board.

This industry has shown to be respectful stewards of the public's trust and is filled with well meaning Alaskans and good actors I ask that we be allowed to function without undue interruption from an agenda that does not speak for the majority of our citizens.

Thank you,

Benjamin Wilcox Top Hat Alaska Juneau

Dear Members of the House Labor and Commerce, Honorable Chairpersons LeDoux and Wool, Commissioner Anderson, Senator Costello and Representative Claman:

I am writing today to express my opposition to the appointment of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. I am very concerned about Ms. Stiver's vocal and public opposition to the very existence of the legal marijuana industry in Alaska.

As an advanced practice nurse in Alaska, I have seen first hand the devastation of the opioid crisis on my patients and their families. I have also seen patients who's lives have literally been saved because they have been able walk into a marijuana store, be treated with dignity and respect, and legally purchase a product that offers them a different option to control their pain and addiction. I have heard countless stories from my patients who have been able to completely stop using narcotics because of legalized marijuana. The marijuana industry professionals in Alaska have been very innovative with their blends of different strains, as well as the variety of available products and delivery methods that make marijuana accessible to my patients as an option to opioids. If you want to stop the opioid crisis in Alaska, the you should be doing everything you can to support legal alternatives for people who will continue to need treatment for their chronic pain despite continued regulatory efforts to cut off their access to narcotic pain medication.

Governor Dunleavy's appointment of a person who opposes the marijuana industry to the regulatory board that controls that industry, is both counterproductive and irresponsible. As I am sure you are aware, Alaska regulatory boards are made up of citizens who volunteer to give up 12-15 days a year of their personal time to participate on these boards. Regulatory boards need to be able to do their work in an efficient and productive manner. To that end, candidates for the regulatory boards should be evaluated as to whether they will work together with the board for the good of the industry and protection of the public, or if they will create chaos and inefficiency during an already arduous and tedious regulatory process.

In summary, I oppose the appointment of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Chris Logan, CRNA, APRN
2303 Tulik Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99517

To: The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee
Co-Chair Representative Gabrielle LeDoux,
Co-Chair Representative Adam Wool,
Standing Member Representative Zack Fields,
Standing Member Representative Sara Hannan,
Standing Member Representative Zack Fields,
Standing Member Representative Louise Stutes,
Standing Member Representative Josh Revak,
Standing Member Representative David Talerico,

We the public do not think Vivian STRIVER should be on the MCB committee. She has shown she is against Marijuana. There are qualified people from the industry who are willing to represent this seat:

Caleb Saunders

Rebecca Rein

Kim Kole

Thank you.

Florence Moore

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To: The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee

I am concerned about the appointment of Vivian Stiver to the AMCO board, due to her consistent efforts in fight legalizing cannabis in Fairbanks. I attended an event she arranged at Raven Landing to hear a guest speaker from Colorado who pointed out the the negative results of legalizing cannabis in Colorado. The guest's statistics were out of date and played to the fears of parents.

We need people on this board who want to manage cannabis in Alaska to benefit all Alaskans, even those who remain in fear, and I think Alaska is up to the task; if we get a board made up of people who have a common goal, of safe, effective management of cannabis for all.

Cannabis has already been legalized in Alaska so now let's get down to managing it with a team that can work together. That can't happen if you have a member who is intent on delaying and blocking the processes people have to go through to get into and maintain a position in the cannabis community.

There are qualified people from the industry who are willing to represent this seat:

- Caleb Saunders
- Rebecca Rein
- Kim Kole

Please consider one of these people rather than Vivian.

Sincerely,

Nancy C. Elliott

Olli Instructor in Fairbanks
of Medical Cannabis Class

My Name is Patrick Phillips I'm new to the marijuana cultivation. This appointment concerns me due to the fact see oppose marijuana being legal. My concerns as someone who has follow all the rules and regulation to get started and may have a more difficult time running my business. This is a great business for start up and with the right people setting the rule and regulation with AMCO and making sure we follow the regulation and guidelines. We can continue to grow and make Alaska the leader in this industry. If a person gets on the board that would oppose the growth of the industry we as Alaskan will not grow. The process for starting a limited grow application was almost a year I have invested more then 30,000.00 out of my pocket and the fear that someone could regulate the industry so harsh that there will be no way as a small business that I could keep my doors open. Please don't confirm her to the board.as you can see below we are going and I hope we continue to do so

We at High Tide Distributors are opposed to the firing of 2 AMCO board members, and the subsequent nomination of Vivian Stiver. We suggest Caleb Saunders, Kim Kole, or Rebecca Rein. The actions of our New Governor and Stiver could very well result in growth in the black market, and away from taxpaying Cultivators, Retailers, and Extractors/ Manufacturer's. It would be a huge setback to a growing industry. Regards, Denny & Tena Humphrey.

As a marijuana cultivation owner in the state of Alaska I'm opposed to a know prohibitionist Vivian Stiver being appointed. We have some very well qualified candidates like Caleb Saunders, Rebecca Rein, Kim Kole. We the ppl voted for this and we want a pro marijuana board.

Regards,
James Fejes

Good morning,

First off, I want to extend my thanks for reading my e-mail. This is my first time writing to my representatives but I felt that this was too important to stay silent.

I work in the marijuana industry here in Alaska and I absolutely love my job. For me to be able to write that is huge! This opportunity did not blossom over night, incredible work was put in both by the community and by our government to ensure that we were bringing the market of legalized retail cannabis to Alaska responsibly. In forging this brand new industry there have been so many places where failure was looming but instead business is booming! Profit is being made in a safe environment where quality is being maintained by upholding AMCOs policies.

However, after all this being said and with actual proof to support that the industry has been helpful in providing jobs, reducing crime and producing a better quality product, there will still be opposition. I understand that we need people in control who will be able to give counter arguments and will challenge board members but I do not believe appointing a saboteur will help anyone. After reading up on the past actions of Vivian Stiver, it seems absurd that her nomination is to be taken seriously. I agree with Brandon Emmett from his appearance on KTVF that a person who is optimistically cautious about the future of the industry is needed. From what information I have gathered about Stivers is that she has publicly vocalized her stance on stalling the industry. Her claim is that she wants to be educated and for the people to be educated. This nags at me because it is a blanket statement that does not have a plan of action or specifics as to what we need to be educated on. She may not want to jeopardize the legality of the subject per her current statements but according to her actions she has no faith in the people she is seeking to represent.

My bottom line is that appointing Stivers may not take away the progress made by the board thus far, however making future policies happen at a timely rate, without unnecessary steps, unnecessary administrative costs or redundancy will become an even greater challenge based on the previous actions made by this candidate.

I am Alaskan, born and raised, cannabis is my job. I want to continue working, playing, and thriving in our great state!

Thank you so much for your time and consideration,
Brittany Bell

To whom it may concern,

As a potential Alaska resident and employee of the budding cannabis industry, I find the recent news of placing a publicized prohibitionist to the Marijuana Control Board, nothing short of radical. The industry was voted in favor by the people of Alaska, and should be given an equal opportunity to succeed. Regardless of personal beliefs, or media slander, the benefits brought by the cannabis industry cannot be disproven, and an intolerant individual should not be placed in charge of making a decision for the future of said industry. Noticeably an outlandish political move that is plain-as-day counterproductive. The industry seat should go to an individual who understands the necessity of regulations, while also remaining a neutral party. The placement of Vivian Stiver however, will halt any future advancements for business owners and their employees. I implore you to reconsider the placement of Ms. Stiver on the Board, and to gain the public's interest on whom should take the seat. I share my concerns, as this is my future, and hope that you will reconsider for the sake of the future of the industry.

Thank you,

Stephanie Crookshanks

stephaniecrookshanks@gmail.com

Subject: Marijuana Control Board Appointees

Dear Governor Dunleavy,

The purpose of this letter is to provide my perspective on the potential board replacement of Brandon Emmitt with Vivian Suver.

I am a life-long Alaskan who has owns a commercial fishing operation and previously owned a commercial design-build general contracting business. My wife is an Occupational Therapist who worked for many years in the Anchorage School District and I am a licensed engineer in the state. We have three children ages 18 to 21 who have been through the public school system in Anchorage.

In 2016 we decided to invest in the Marijuana industry, something we knew little about at the time. Two years, much capital, a huge learning curve and much hard work later we have a successful business employing 33 people full time in Isidore LLC (cultivation), AK Rime (manufacturing) and AK Frost (retail). We paid in excess of \$1.3 million in cultivation taxes in 2018 and collect approximately \$25,000/month in Anchorage municipal sales tax.

In my opinion, the reduction of industry representation on the board to one member further degrades the already limited knowledge of the Board regarding the industry. I acknowledge that industry opponents can act fairly and appropriately as board members. Former board chair Peter Mylamik was an opponent of the industry who provided a balanced perspective. He acted and voted fairly and objectively while acknowledging that the board is tasked with regulating the framework of an industry supported by the majority of the state. He also was active on the board as a public safety seat and did not displace one of the two available industry seats. Industry seats are very important to the board to provide information and knowledge regarding an industry that is very new and constantly evolving. The inclusion of Brandon and Nicholas on the board has provided the bare minimum of knowledge and experience about how the industry actually functions. To handicap the board by reducing the actual knowledge base of the industry will only lead to slower performance by the board and misinformed decisions.

Most boards are staffed by people with a variety of (often competing) interests in the industry or resource they are regulating. It is understandable to have public safety, rural interests and public health interests represented on the board. It appears that Ms. Suver's principal interest in the industry is opposition. This feels inappropriate to me.

I believe I have a unique perspective of the industry having no experience prior to legalization. As a previous non-user who has come to understand and enjoy the product in a responsible way, I have come to appreciate providing the wide demographic range of our customer base with marijuana in a safe, legal and less-stigmatized environment. I have come to realize that there is absolutely no reason to persecute the use and distribution of marijuana beyond what seems the status quo for alcohol.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. If I can be of any assistance in providing a close view of the industry and the process, I would be happy to provide you or any of your staff a tour of our facility of which we are quite proud.

CC: legislative committee members

Sincerely,

Kyle A. Denton
kyle@anser.alaska.com
cell: 907-301-9793

To Our Elected Officials:

We are writing today to bring to your attention to how the recent actions taken by Governor Dunleavy regarding the Alaska Marijuana Control Board are harmful to all Alaskans and goes against what

the people have overwhelmingly voted for on multiple occasions. He has removed two members, Chief

Ankerfelt and Brandon Emmett, whom we (and many others) felt were helping to shape a fair and balanced

board that was helping move the industry forward at a slow and steady, educated pace. He has appointed

two others, Vivian Stiver and Christopher Jaime, who are well known prohibitionists for the cannabis

industry as a whole.

We, along with so many others in the industry, have invested large sums of money and countless

long hours into this new endeavor under the assumption that our elected officials would be faithful in

carrying out the will of the Alaskan people (which in many areas, including ours, had to go through a second

vote after many businesses had already been established - the cannabis industry had overwhelming wins at

every instance).

In the regulations it states a 90 day licensing process but as you can easily see by a glance most

licensed businesses take well over 365 days to become licensed in reality so you can imagine the

determination and passion put forth by license holders to persevere through the licensing process. We are

one of many similar stories, all Alaskan residents, creating jobs and helping to boost our local economy -

we have spent tens of thousands of dollars at our local home improvement stores preparing our building to

conform to regulations and we've created 8 jobs in under a year of operations (during a recession). We

proudly represent one of the "little guys," while many license holders have numerous names on their

licenses representing much bigger investments and much bigger businesses (the cannabis industry is

Alaska's only industry 100% Alaskan owned). We support on a monthly basis many ancillary businesses:

local bookkeeping services, local transportation services, local lawyer services, local packaging solutions,

local graphic design services, local harvesting companies, local screen-printing services, local food

services, local security services, and local utility companies. We've also already implemented a charitable

contribution program designed to consistently make financial contributions to strictly local

Alaskan

charities.

As you can see, we have a very serious vested interest in an efficient, highly functioning Alaska

Marijuana Control Board. A Control Board that is fair and balanced with people appointed to it that understand marijuana and understand the industry, not the prohibitionist perspective that does not represent the majority. Individuals that do not believe in a fair and regulated legal industry (i.e. people that identify as prohibitionists either through their own words or through their public actions) simply put, should not be sitting on a board to represent the will of the people because they believe in the opposition that did not win the majority vote on more than one occasion. They are more than welcome the opportunities the rest of us have to address the board and make known their concerns, but they should never be appointed to make decisions that affect the entire industry as a whole. At the present moment, the board representing our industry has 1 of 5 members who are in favor of the industry. This is absolutely unacceptable and makes a joke of how government should be working - how practical would it be for the ADF&G to have a majority of their board members who only advocate for and want to see all of our Alaskan fish be catch and release? How about our game board be outspoken vegans and have a majority of their board want photo safaris only, no kill hunts? How do you think the tourism industry would react? We urge you to please reject confirming the two newly appointed board members and order Governor Dunleavy to go back to the drawing board with a mindset to do what the people have voted him in to do: represent the Alaskan majority by appointing board members who share the mindset of watching a new industry responsibly thrive. Lest we forget, licensed marijuana facility owners are Alaska's first line of defense against black market crime and underage sales and consumption.

Sincerely,
All Members of the Lady Gray LLC Team

I am proud to be an American in 2019, I Vote and am proud of our nation. I feel I must stand up and speak.

Marijuana businesses in Alaska regardless of type (Manufacturing/Retail/Cultivation) each put over \$6000 in fees into the Treasury annually. That's per business and statewide.

Each one of the licensed businesses in the State combined to contributed to the 2018 total of \$12,761,802.00 in marijuana tax revenue.

Almost \$13 million annually into the State Treasury and no increase in crime.

Legal Marijuana helps reduce the black market and reduce crime.

Marijuana is the only start-up industry that is wholly owned by Alaskans. Stifling the Alaska Marijuana businesses will only hurt ALASKAN SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS and ALASKAN FAMILIES.

- Marijuana businesses in Alaska regardless of type (Manufacturing/Retail/Cultivation) each put over \$6000 in fees into the Treasury annually. That's per business and statewide.

- Each one of the licensed businesses in the State combined to contributed to the 2018 total of : \$12,761,802.00 in marijuana tax revenue.

- Almost \$13 million annually into the State Treasury and no increase in crime.

- Legal Marijuana helps reduce the black market and reduce crime.

- Marijuana is the only start-up industry that is wholly owned by Alaskans. Stifling the Alaska

Marijuana businesses will only hurt ALASKAN SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS and ALASKAN FAMILIES.

Increasing fees would be detrimental to many businesses, including those unrelated such as transport, packaging, accounting, too many services to mention. These businesses already have profit margins way below any standard business. Many businesses will have to close, as they are barely making it now with all the over head cost, not to mention federal tax and cost of goods sold restrictions this industry seems to bear more burden then other businesses.

I am OPPOSED to the appointment of a prohibitionist like Vivian Stiver, She is not of the right caliber for this position, she is too bias and has her own agenda, and has clearly made that stand publicly by her actions. It is important that we have well rounded educated knowledgeable people representing us, Her position on Marijuana is clearly totally against it.

Remember..... More voters VOTED FOR MARIJUANA than any other issue in ALASKAN HISTORY.

Deniece & Ronald Isaacs
majesticgardens@alaska.net
907-283-7784

**Please do not approve the appointment of Vivian Stiver.
Please do suggest Mesha Pool for the vacant AMCB seat.**

**thank you,
peggy peters
Wasilla, Alaska**

Dear Representative,

This letter is to express my opposition to the recent appointments by Governor Dunleavy of Vivian Stiver and Lt. Christopher Jaime to the Marijuana Control Board. My opposition is due to the fact that both of these individuals are known to oppose the legal Alaska marijuana industry. The removals of Chief Jeff Ankerfelt and Brandon Emmett by the Governor seem to be steps backward, and are against the will of the people of our glorious State of Alaska.

Please be remember the following points regarding the fledgling Legal Alaska Marijuana Industry:

- 1. The legal cannabis industry is the ONLY industry in Alaska that is 100% owned by Alaskans.**
- 2. The legal cannabis industry has created over 450 new jobs in its first years of operation, and we did it during a RECESSION.**
- 3. The legal cannabis industry is the only substantial diversification of Alaska's economy we have experienced in recent history – and again, we did it during a RECESSION.**

The legalized Cannabis Industry is an asset to Alaska – and any responsible and logical government should value it accordingly.

Please do not confirm the appointments of Vivian Stiver and Lt. Christopher Jaime.

**Sincerely,
Jacqueline Blackmore**

Representative Wool,

I wanted to contact you with regards to Gov. Dunleavy's appointment of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. It appears the Dunleavy administration is attempting to undermine the Marijuana Industry by appointing outspoken opponents of the Industry to the board that is charged with regulating it. The Marijuana Industry is contributing \$13 million annually in state taxes, hundreds of thousands in taxes to local cities and boroughs and is providing thousands of jobs throughout the state. All this, and there has been NO INCREASE IN CRIME.

The appointment of Vivian Stiver should NOT be confirmed, Dunleavy should not be permitted to put people on the board to regulate an industry that they DO NOT SUPPORT. I understand the importance of having a broad range of representation on these boards but how can you ask someone to provide an unbiased opinion on regulating an industry when they despise the industry that they are charged with regulating? Vivian Stiver has made her opinions on cannabis clear and appointing her to the board will do nothing but hurt this industry that is contributing taxes and jobs throughout the state.

The Senate Labor & Workforce committee took public testimony on the appointment of Vivian Stiver and of the 61 testimonies received 54 were apposed to the appointment. In addition, not a single licensee in the marijuana industry supports Vivian or wants to see her on the Marijuana Control Board.

The facts of the matter are that marijuana is here to stay. It has been here in our state for decades and will be for decades to come. It is up to us to decide what that industry looks like and I for one prefer to have safe, legal places to sell and purchase marijuana instead of having illegal black market operations. Please don't allow Dunleavy to push this industry back into the illegal black market.

Best Regards,
Chris Farris

Message Body:

We the public do not think Vivian STRIVER should be on the MCB committee. She has shown she is against Marijuana. We need people that understand the industry. There are qualified people from the industry who are willing to represent this seat:

Caleb Saunders

Rebecca Rein

Kim Kole

**Thank you.
Florence Moore**

Dear Members of the House Labor and Commerce, Honorable Chairpersons LeDoux and Wool, Commissioner Anderson, Senator Costello and Representative Claman:

I am writing today to express my opposition to the appointment of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. I am very concerned about Ms. Stiver's vocal and public opposition to the very existence of the legal marijuana industry in Alaska.

As an advanced practice nurse in Alaska, I have seen first hand the devastation of the opioid crisis on my patients and their families. I have also seen patients who's lives have literally been saved because they have been able walk into a marijuana store, be treated with dignity and respect, and legally purchase a product that offers them a different option to control their pain and addiction. I have heard countless stories from my patients who have been able to completely stop using narcotics because of legalized marijuana. The marijuana industry professionals in Alaska have been very innovative with their blends of different strains, as well as the variety of available products and delivery methods that make marijuana accessible to my patients as an option to opioids. If you want to stop the opioid crisis in Alaska, the you should be doing everything you can to support legal alternatives for people who will continue to need treatment for their chronic pain despite continued regulatory efforts to cut off their access to narcotic pain medication.

Governor Dunleavy's appointment of a person who opposes the marijuana industry to the regulatory board that controls that industry, is both counterproductive and irresponsible. As I am sure you are aware, Alaska regulatory boards are made up of citizens who volunteer to give up 12-15 days a year of their personal time to participate on these boards. Regulatory boards need to be able to do their work in an efficient and productive manner. To that end, candidates for the regulatory boards should be evaluated as to whether they will work together with the board for the good of the industry and protection of the public, or if they will create chaos and inefficiency during an already arduous and tedious regulatory process.

In summary, I oppose the appointment of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board.

Thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully,
Chris Logan, CRNA, APRN
2303 Tulik Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99517

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I am strongly opposed to the appointment of Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board.

The seat that Ms. Stiver was to fill is the Industry/Public seat. As a staunch prohibitionist, Ms. Stiver does not represent the Cannabis Industry's, nor the public's opinion of cannabis. Ms. Stiver organized the Fairbanks campaign to prohibit cannabis operations within the Northstar borough. The outcome of that vote, as well as the votes in the Kenai and the Mat-Su Borough have proven that the public wants cannabis to stay. My job was created because of the cannabis industry. Because of the cannabis industry I have a taxable income, I spend my money to stimulate the local economy, and can provide food, clothing, and shelter for my family. Ms. Stiver does NOT represent the public of Alaska and appointing her to the board will do nothing but hamper the positive social and financial impact that legalizing cannabis has brought to Alaska.

Thank you,

Jeff Devon
Wasilla, AK

The Honorable Members of the House Labor and Commerce Committee
Representative Gabrielle LeDoux, Co-Chair
Representative Adam Wool, Co-Chair
Representative Zack Fields, Standing Member
Representative Sara Hannan, Standing Member
Representative Zack Fields, Standing Member
Representative Louise Stutes, Standing Member
Representative Josh Revak, Standing Member
Representative David Talerico, Standing Member,

I am writing today as an advocate of strong, healthy, and safe marijuana industry. I am also a member of that industry and I am writing to you today to share my absolute opposition of the newest MCB board appointee chosen by the Governor, Vivian Stiver. I am hoping this letter helps to clarify WHY. It is not because she is a Prohibitionist that I strongly object, but because after spending many hours with her I have come to understand that she is a WILLFULLY unformed prohibitionist.

Please do Not approve the placement of Vivian Stiver onto the marijuana control board, and I ask that you also strongly stand in opposition of this appointment.

I had the enlightening experience of spending some time with Ms.Stiver recently and was able to ask her many pressing questions regarding her knowledge of the industry and her stance on legal marijuana.

While she claimed to have no current reason to disapprove of the industry, she admitted to me that she also had no actual knowledge regarding the requirements expected of the marijuana industry.

When asked if she had read any of the regulations in place, or if she had ever attended or listened to an MCB meeting, she responded with an unapologetic No. She did explain that she watched some of a marijuana handlers course the EVENING BEFORE our meeting, which took place last month. She admitted to being VERY surprised about the very strict security requirements.

This alone wouldn't be so alarming for any AVERAGE citizen, as most aren't really paying attention to what is required to build any industry from inception up, but Ms.Stiver doesn't fall into the average citizen in Alaska. You see, Ms Stiver should have already been very familiar with the rules of the cannabis industry, since She was the responsible for the campaign to prohibit in her local area of Fairbanks city and borough wide in 2017, and has been extremely vocal about her objection to the industry in her local government for multiple years,, to include an active facebook group that even as recent as last week was sharing content that is known to be propaganda and not based in logical thought.

The ballot campaign failed miserably, because it was based solely on propaganda and fear based topics that were already addressed within the regulations. Regulations she says, "had she read them, she may not have initiated the ballot measure"! Regulations that every business she has actively tried to prohibit were ALREADY being required to follow. Ms.Stivers emotional response and lazy gut reactions cost the industry thousands of dollars and countless hours, as well as her local government. Counting and certifying a ballot measure takes time and resources from the local government that is already

struggling with funding.

I believe everyone has the right to start a petition for a ballot measure, I am absolutely in support of that, but we should expect that those who do, do it with a full spectrum research being done prior to making such drastic moves. We most assuredly should be able to expect that from those making policy in very quickly changing industry with extremely intricate policies.

Please Do not Allow Ms.Stiver to fulfill the seat on the MCB board. We need people that will make intelligent educated decisions when making and enforcing policy. Ms.Stiver has already demonstrated that she is not to be trusted to educate herself before taking drastic action based on emotions. The Industry will be unable to trust the very board it is looking to for guidance and stability in an already unnerving industry if Ms.Stiver is confirmed.

I would like to put a recommendation for a woman named Rebecca Rein, of Houston. She is very familiar with board policy, and regulation as well as compliance. She has been city clerk as well as held seats on community councils and associations.

She does not currently hold a marijuana license, so she technically qualifies for the General public seat, yet she has also been a trusted source of information regarding marijuana policy, and governmental policy as well. Rebecca has been an active role in public comment and testimony from the beginning providing pivotal information to the board to help facilitate strong policy creation, she would represent as a strong highly educated industry member also.

I do believe her resume is on file with the Governors office.

If you have any questions about the industry, or would like further clarification of the visit between Ms.Stiver and myself and the conversations we took part in, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for you time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tina Smith

CEO Midnight Greenery

Executive Producer, Pot Topics

Executive Producer & host, Through the Looking Glass

Director, AK CannaEd (board certified marijuana handler permit course)

(907)727-2000

T.Smith@midnightgreenery.com

To: Representative Gabrielle LeDoux, Co-Chair; Representative Adam Wool, Co-Chair; Representative Zack Fields, Standing Member; Representative Sara Hannan, Standing Member; Representative Louise Stutes, Standing Member; Representative Josh Revak, Standing Member; Representative David Talerico, Standing Member

Please, do not approve Vivian Stiver for the Alaska Marijuana Control Board empty seat.

Thank you,

**Peggy Peters
Wasilla, Alaska**

To whom this concerns,

My name is Chelsea I am a young mother and aspiring business owner. I have a rather unique resume which includes long term restaurant management and long term banker services, with a few curious jobs inbetween to further benefit my entrepreneurial spirit.

I am writing you today to PLEASE NOT confirm both Christopher Jaime and Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. To do so would only set us backwards by decades. This industry has come so far from what it was and still has so much more to do to be in the ideal space that US voters, voted for. To appoint prohibitionists to the board is a kick in the gut to the communities you are serving. This industry is spread state wide, we have made so much progress and have educated those who wish to be educated. This industry has changed many lives including mine. Please don't allow these people to interfere with the milestones we have made together. I'd be happy to answer any questions or have any of you speak at one of the associations I am apart of in this industry.

Thank you for your service and for your time,

Chelsea Foster

~~REDACTED~~

Owner

Keefin It Real

Dear Rep. LeDoux,

Hi! Hope your new year is going well. Can't believe we just celebrated two years of being opened at Weed Dudes. I think we are becoming a good industry no matter how many obstacles are placed before us.

You are probably wondering why I am writing to you, but I donated \$500 to your campaign (even though I am not in your district, when Lacey Wilcox sent me some info about you, you needed help and I was impressed with how you felt about the cannabis industry and we could all use a strong willed, smart woman representing us). Today I need you to help me, Weed Dudes and it's 8 employees needs you, heck, the entire marijuana industry needs you.

Gov. Dunleavy is trying to appoint Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board. She is not a supporter of the Marijuana industry. She is known to oppose the industry. She is replacing Brendan Emmitt, who is involved as a business owner and represents a favorable opinion of the marijuana issues.

We all feel that an industry representative should be replaced in the industry slot. Not a woman who tried to ban cannabis businesses in the Fairbanks district.

Please see what you can do to stop the Governor from appointing Vivian Stiver to the Marijuana Control Board.

FYI: Governor Dunleavy also removed our Sitka Chief of Police, Jeff Ankerfelt, from the Board. Ankerfelt was the deciding vote for legalizing on-site consumption lounges in December. He was in the Public Safety position on the Board and was supportive of the MJ industry, speaking out that the war on Cannabis was a waste of police department time.

Thank you in advance for taking the time to contemplate this request. Please make sure that we have a board of director's that can help bring the Marijuana Industry forward so that all of Alaska benefits. When we voted for legalization back in 2014, over 60% of the state voted for it. I bet if Alaska voted again (and some parts of Alaska HAVE) you will find that more than 70% will support it. Pot isn't going anywhere. But it IS finally paying taxes, employing Alaskans and benefiting people from the testing, the safe distribution and the smart way that we have elected to handle ourselves.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Most Sincerely,

Michelle Cleaver
Weed Dudes

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Dear Representative LeDoux,

I've not been in Alaska long, just since July 2018, but my husband has been here since 2008. He is the head cultivator of a new limited cultivation license and has their first harvest happening in a couple weeks.

I am writing to share my concern for the appointment of Vivian Stivers to the Marijuana Control Board. The appointment of a known prohibitionist to a governing body that already has known "no votes" in this industry is frightening. The statements made by Ms. Stivers are also frightening. She speaks of fairness and ramifications in the industry; of educating those of us involved in how the industry and regulations of the cannabis industry work. She has made comments about looking into past decisions of the board and "what needs to be done" (all of these comments as per her interview with the Daily News Miner).

I can tell you right now that every person I have met in this amazing state who is involved in this industry is in it for the right reasons. They KNOW the regulations and laws like the back of their hands and when in doubt, they call the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Board for guidance. This is our livelihood, the way we will feed our family and the way we will pay for our children's healthcare and happiness. This industry is not lucrative; no one expects to be a millionaire. We simply want to grow plants that provide relief and better quality of life for those who need it. We want to do that legally; taking care to follow to the letter every law, regulation, and suggestion of the government.

Not only do we want to provide for our families and the well being of other folks, but we want to give back to the great state of Alaska. We want to improve education by donating money and supplies to schools. We want to decrease homelessness and hunger by donating money and supplies to shelters and food banks (and maybe even education - who knows how to grow a garden effectively and at a low cost better than those who grow plants for a living?). We want to create jobs, in an industry that is growing and hiring on help (not to mention the money given to the government of Alaska through the selling of handlers cards and taxes through paychecks). We want to stop underage smoking by keeping our doors tightly sealed to those under the legal age of 21. We want to stop the black market sales of harmful products that are grown and made with no regulation or testing, in dirty environments, with no standard of safety or public health.

You have to understand that this agricultural product is heavily regulated. We do not make a move without AMCO or the MCB knowing about it. There's no sneaking around, we aren't peddling our wares to children, we aren't those creeps on the corner looking all sketchy and lowering property values. We are solid Alaskans, taking pride in an industry that can help people, an industry that is purely Alaskan, an industry that is a model for the rest of the United States of America.

I am asking you to not confirm Governor Dunleavy's appointment of Vivian Stivers to the Marijuana Control Board. I am afraid she will undo all the good that the board has done so far. In my opinion, they have been very fair and scrupulous in their examinations of licenses and proposals. They take a lot of time to review every word on our license applications (We fixed ours several times to meet their standards, which we appreciated - no one wants to get the go ahead only to be shut down). They research thoroughly every proposal that is brought their way. They hand out appropriate and just punishments to those (very, very, very few) who choose to ignore the rules.

If this was alcohol, would there be such an uproar? The black market sales have gone down; I've overheard kids in high school speaking about how they "can't get any weed." With cheaper, higher quality products legally available to consumers of the appropriate age, kids cannot get their hands on it. Why does it seem like this appointment is the first step in shutting down the legal sale of cannabis, turning all legal cultivators, manufacturers, and retailers into criminals? Our industry has been so good for the state of Alaska, and it feels like this appointment is the first step to turn that around; to set us all up for abysmal failure? Not just those of us with licenses, but our employees, the people who can't grow their own (but need it for their aches and pains, for their depression and anxiety, for their seizures or Parkinson's or migraines), and our government (remember, we pay \$800 a pound to the Alaska State government plus taxes pulled from paychecks, gas money to legally transport our goods to legal retailers, electrical bills, water bills, gas bills to grow our plants, license fees, and operating taxes).

I also have to mention that, while a known prohibitionist can offer a valuable viewpoint, we already have that on the MCB. They already have skeptics who question everything. Honestly, that's a good thing! But we NEED an industry member on the board; someone who understands because they live our lives. Someone whose family relies on this industry staying legal and fair. It's here I will point out that I do not oppose the appointment of Trooper Jaime. I think the board needs someone who has extensive knowledge and experience of the industry from the illegal side, someone who is deeply connected to public safety. I felt like Ankerfelt was doing a fine, upstanding job in that role, and that his dismissal was retaliation for his "yes" vote for the on site consumption proposal (which was always a goal of the 60% of Alaska s who voted in favor of legal marijuana use). However, I think he was replaced with a good candidate. I am primarily concerned with Ms Stivers' history within the legal cannabis industry. As recently as May 2018, she was openly opposing cannabis consumption and legality in Fairbanks. Her "Safe Neighborhood" group is a great idea, but aimed in the wrong direction! Legal cannabis users are safe! They are using a highly regulated, tested product, in their home, not walking around the streets convincing kids to imbibe! Why, in my experience, there is a much bigger problem of that nature in the Alcohol industry.

Please, please do not confirm Vivian Stivers! I do not want my family's livelihood to be done away with. I want my husband home for dinner every night, not up on the slope for weeks at a time, doing a job that crushes his soul. I don't want our future children to barely know their daddy because he is off providing for us (a substitute teacher/work from home/waitress -yes I have 3 jobs- salary cannot support us). I am SO worried about our family's future. This is my husband's dream, and I cannot stand to see it destroyed. If she is confirmed and this goes the way I can see it going, we will have to move back down to the lower 48. I don't want to leave Alaska, it has taken hold of my soul!

Please, do not confirm Vivian Stivers to the Marijuana Control Board!

Thank you very much for your time. I truly appreciate it!

Sincerely,
Katie Good