



James Burns
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The Honorable Andy Josephson
Alaska State Legislature
State Capitol Room 502
Juneau AK, 99801

RE: House Bill 81, An Act prohibiting disposable plastic shopping bags.

Dear Representative Josephson:

Brown Jug is Alaska's first and largest retailer of fine wines, spirits and beer. Started as a family-owned business in the mid-1930s, Brown Jug now employs more than 250 Alaskans at our 16 Anchorage locations along with the other 5 throughout the State and Anchorage head office and warehouse.

Brown Jug's parent company, Alcan Inc. has as our motto "The art of responsible retail". It is something we take very seriously. As the industry leader, Brown Jug wants to ensure our stores are at the forefront of safety and compliance and being responsible members of the community. Brown Jug is strongly supportive of efforts to address the chronic inebriate and homelessness issues facing Anchorage, including efforts to reduce trash and litter. These efforts have included making significant contributions to local community clean-up efforts, particularly in Mountain View. We are strong and public supporters of the 5% alcohol tax now before Anchorage residents in the April referendum despite our industry association's opposition.

Brown Jug believes that ALL retailers should operate under the same rules and accept the same level of responsibility as we do. Your personal leadership in sponsoring the legislation to eliminate single-use plastic shopping bags is welcomed by Brown Jug. Measures that apply to all retailers equally are the only fair way to get things done in a way that everyone can get behind. We strongly support House Bill 81 and are hopeful it will help improve cleanliness across the communities where our employees and customers live and work.

Please do not hesitate to call on us if there is anything we can do to help support this initiative. Brown Jug looks forward to working with you and other Alaska legislators as well as and local community leaders in the coming months and years.

Sincerely,

James Burns

CEO

Alcan Inc