From: Rep. Kelly Merrick

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:37 AM

**To:** Helen Phillips **Subject:** Fw: Senate Bill 9

From: Kim Jackson

Sent: Monday, March 21, 2022 4:26 PM

**To:** Rep. Neal Foster < Rep. Neal. Foster@akleg.gov>; Rep. Kelly Merrick < Rep. Kelly. Merrick@akleg.gov>

>

Subject: Senate Bill 9

Good afternoon Representative Foster and Representative Merrick,

I'm writing today to encourage you to seek a reasonable case limit on winery direct shipments by wineries up here to Alaska.

As I'm sure you are aware, it's not easy or cheap to have wine shipped up from the lower 48. I am hoping you will agree to *increase* the quantity limit to 12 cases of wine annually per person. The proposed limit of winery shipments to only 3 cases per person per winery annually, and limiting each transaction to no more than 1 case (of 12, 750 ml bottles) seems quite extreme and not very fair or equitable to either the winery or the consumer. We Alaskans have enough trouble getting things shipped up here to us and this should not be one of them. Several states have no case limits and to my knowledge has no cap per transaction so why should Alaska be any different?

I'm hoping that together we can bring reasonable shipping legislation to benefit Alaska's wine lovers.

Thank you for your support.

Respectfully, Eric and Kim Jackson From: Cindy Frazier Sent:

Sunday, March 27, 2022 5:49 PM

To: House Finance Senate bill 9 **Subject:** 

I am distressed to hear about this backwards move to limit Alaskans access to unique and reasonable winery shipments!

Please reconsider this and allow Alaskans to purchase and have shipped a variety of wine not available here. As a 32 year resident, I am used to the limited number of quality wine and have been pleased to be fortunate to have winery's willing to ship directly to us. I implore you to not pass this bill

Cindy Frazier Homer AK

From: Rep. Kelly Merrick

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2022 8:36 AM

To: Helen Phillips

**Subject:** Fw: Senate Bill 9's Proposed Winery Shipment Limitations Are Unnecessary and Restrict Personal

Freedom

From: Kristen Miller

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 22, 2022 4:06 AM

To: Rep. Kelly Merrick < Rep. Kelly. Merrick@akleg.gov>

Subject: Senate Bill 9's Proposed Winery Shipment Limitations Are Unnecessary and Restrict Personal Freedom

Kristen Miller

**JUNEAU, AK 99801** 

March 22, 2022

Dear Kelly Merrick,

I am an adult Alaskan who orders wine directly from wineries in the lower 48. The wine I order is generally not available for purchase locally. My husband and I frequently order more than one case at a time because when we buy in bulk, we can occasionally take advantage of "free shipping" promotions. We store our wine safely, and share it with adult friends, family, and out of town guests, who appreciate the diversity of our wine selections. We violate no laws in so doing.

Laws that restrict the freedoms of law abiding citizens are un-Alaskan. The proposed limits of no more than one case of wine per transaction and no more than three cases of wine to a purchaser in a calendar year are unreasonable, and would serve no purpose other than to benefit local wine retailers.

Sincerely,

Sincerely, Kristen Miller From: Rep. Kelly Merrick

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 10:02 AM

**To:** House Finance

**Subject:** Fw: Opposition to SB-9

From: Luke Ponchione <

Sent: Monday, March 28, 2022 12:37 PM

Subject: Opposition to SB-9

Dear Alaskan Legislator,

I am writing to you today to express my firm opposition to the proposed prohibition on new tasting rooms in Alaska outlined in SB-9. This change would stifle a growing part of Alaska's economy by preventing companies trying to enter this market from being able to make their product readily available to their customers, effectively cutting off one of their primary revenue sources and increasing the cost of starting the business by demanding both a sophisticated canning system from the start as well as access to distribution.

Tasting rooms are a much needed, and healthy, change to Alaska's enormously problematic drinking culture; instead of being like the Alaskan bars where drinking to excess and staying up all night is the norm, tasting rooms offer a healthy, family friendly, alternative for the average moderate drinker in Alaska. I have never seen inappropriate behaviour at a tasting room, but always see inappropriate behaviour at the bars. Drinking is not going anywhere here in Alaska, for better or for worse. Cutting off our access to this growing moderated healthy drinking culture is a terrible idea for the future of Alaska. Tasting rooms represent a growth in Alaska's culture. Craft beer is in fact a thriving culture all across the world, with hundreds of millions of dollars in annual revenue just here in Alaska. By discouraging the opening of new breweries in Alaska you cut off Alaskan's access to that market and that culture. Yes some breweries would still open, but they'd be operating at a distinct disadvantage and I think that disadvantage would be prohibitive to a financially viable model to grow here in Alaska.

Please vote no on SB-9 in its current state.

I am in fact in support of the quarterly events proposed in SB-9, as well as the extension in operating hours. Please rework this bill to allow our incredible local business to operate more freely with more opportunities to expand our culture by moving forward with these changes, but not the moratorium on new tasting rooms. The laws that were put in place to prohibit events and to limit operating hours at breweries was a flagrant abuse of power by the bar owners on the legislature and the result of successful lobbying by bar owners across the state that sought to limit competition from brewing/distilling companies. I have been extraordinarily outraged by these so called, "no-fun" rules for breweries and it is time for them to end.

Please re-write this bill with common sense in mind to include more events for breweries and distilleries, as well as an extension of hours, but to remove the moratorium on new tasting rooms.

Thank you for your time, Luke Ponchione Fairbanks, AK From: Alyssa Keill

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 29, 2022 2:28 PM

**To:** House Finance **Subject:** Support SB 9

## Honorable members,

I am writing in support of SB 9, on behalf of myself as a resident of Fairbanks.

SB 9 was developed and is supported by a diverse group of stakeholders as a balanced solution that addresses the concerns of the alcohol industry, public health, and public safety. I think it is also very important to note that SB 9 increases license fees, to support the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) effort to restart underage compliance checks and expand alcohol education.

Best, Alyssa Keill