

REPRESENTATIVE
JESSE SUMNER
HOUSE DISTRICT 28

Rep.Jesse.Sumner@akleg.gov



SESSION
State Capitol
120 E. 4th Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
Tel: (907) 465-4833
Toll Free: (800) 782-4833

INTERIM
600 E. Railroad Ave., Suite 1
Wasilla, Alaska 99654
(907) 373-6285

Sponsor Statement HB189: Sale of Alcohol by Persons Under 21

HB189 would aim to change existing Alaska statutes, that would allow employees between the ages of 18 and 20 to serve, sell, dispense, and deliver alcohol within restaurant establishments under appropriate supervision.

HB189 would help address current issues that the State of Alaska faces.

Labor Shortages: Restaurants, particularly in smaller communities, face a significant labor shortage. Allowing individuals aged 18-20 to serve alcohol would expand the available workforce, helping alleviate staffing problems and benefiting the overall industry.

Economic Growth: The restaurant industry is a significant driver of economic activity in Alaska. Expanding the potential workforce strengthens businesses, allowing them to operate at full capacity, leading to greater economic contributions overall.

Responsible Service: Many establishments already implement robust training programs to ensure responsible alcohol service practices. These measures, combined with on-site supervision, could effectively ensure responsible service by young adults within the restaurant setting.

I firmly believe that with adequate training and supervision, employees aged 18-20 can responsibly and safely handle alcohol sales and service in a controlled restaurant environment. This change would benefit Alaska's economy, alleviate labor shortages, and promote fairness within our service industry.