

SB

261

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 9, 2010

TO: Sarah Munson, Committee Staff
Senate State Affairs Committee

FROM: Tim Benintendi, Staff, Sn. Olson's Office

SUBJ: SB 261Hearing Request Notes

Attached, please find the requested materials for a committee hearing: Copy of SB 261, sponsor statement / sectional analysis, support letter from Kawerak, Inc., and a support letter from the Regional Wellness Forum.

Ms. Berda Willson of Nome and chairperson of the Regional Wellness Forum, will testify by teleconference from Nome. I am trying to confirm that someone will testify, also by teleconference from Nome, on behalf of the Child and Family Services office of Kawerak, Inc. When I get that confirmation, I will let you know.

Since I carry this bill for Sn. Olson, I need to mention that I will be traveling back from Anchorage the morning of Tuesday, Feb. 16th. I therefore cannot commit to a 9:00am hearing that day. I can commit to any other date and time on your schedule.

Please contact me if there are any questions, 465-4989. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim", with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATOR DONALD C. OLSON




ALASKA
STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 514
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182

(907) 465-3707
FAX (907) 465-4821

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 9, 2010

TO: Senator Linda Menard, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee
ATTN: Sarah Munson, Committee Staff

FROM: Senator Donald Olson 
Senate District T

SUBJ: Request for Hearing – Senate Bill 261

I would like to request a State Affairs Committee hearing for SB 261 at your earliest convenience. Senate Bill 261 would redefine one of the existing public member seats on the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to a seat for a resident of a rural area. The bill defines a "rural area" as a community with a population of 4,500 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

The intent of the bill is to raise the profile of problems associated with alcohol, and to do so in a public forum where more specific attention and action may be brought to address these problems. With SB 261, I chose to redefine one of the public member seats, as opposed to raising the number of overall seats, so as not to adversely affect other ABC Board dynamics.

Submitted with this request are: A combined sponsor statement and sectional analysis, copy of the bill, and two letters of support. I would request teleconference service, and I have available to testify, constituents from Nome who are involved in family wellness, and are very interested in this legislation.

If there are any questions, please contact Tim Benintendi of my office at 465-4989. Thank you.

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATOR DONALD C. OLSON



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STATE CAPITOL
ROOM 514
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1182

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Senate Bill 261 – Rural Seat on ABC Board

Version 26-LS1406/R, February 5, 2009

STAFF: Tim Benintendi, 465-4989

SPONSOR STATEMENT and SECTIONAL ANALYSIS

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Alcohol problems of every shade are well known throughout Alaska, especially in Rural Alaska. Availability issues, illegal sales, the social and medical dimensions of excessive consumption, and the public cost associated with remedial programs (which never seem to significantly impact caseloads), greatly reduces the quality of life for rural residents. Wellness services cannot keep up with, let alone contain, the adverse impacts of alcohol consumption in our smallest communities.

The state's Alcoholic Beverage Control Board is composed of five members, two of whom must be actively engaged in the alcoholic beverage industry, and three of whom must represent the general public.

Senate Bill 261 would redefine one of the public member seats to a resident of a rural area. The bill defines a "rural area" as a community with a population of 4,500 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

The intent of the bill is to raise the profile of the problem in a public forum where more specific attention and action may be brought to address the plight of residents of our smallest communities. SB 261 chose to redefine one of the public member seats, as opposed to raising the number of overall seats, so as not to affect other ABC Board dynamics.

SECTIONAL ANALYSIS:

SECTION 1: Would amend AS 04.06.020 to provide for one of the three members representing the general public, to be a resident of a rural area.

This section also defines "rural area" to mean a community with a population of 4,500 or less, and which is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

SECTION 2: Adds a new section to provide for the first appointment of a member from a rural area, to take place when the next public member seat is expired and available for appointment.

SECTION 3: The effective date is immediate.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2010 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: _____
Bill Version: SB261
() Publish Date: _____

Identifier (file name): SB261-DPS-ABCB-02-16-10
Title: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BD MEMBERS
Dept. Affected: DPS
RDU: Statewide Support (165)
Component: Alcohol Beverage Control Board
Sponsor: Senator Olson
Requester: Senate State Affairs
Component Number: _____

Expenditures/Revenues \$0

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2011	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016
OPERATING EXPENDITURES								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
TOTAL OPERATING		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES								
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()								
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FUND SOURCE		\$0					
1002 Federal Receipts							
1003 GF Match							
1004 GF							
1005 GF/Program Receipts							
1037 GF/Mental Health							
Other Interagency Receipts							
TOTAL		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2010) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time							
Part-time							
Temporary							

ANALYSIS: *(Attach a separate page if necessary)*

This legislation requires at least one of the three public members of the Alcohol Beverage Control Board reside in a rural area with a population of 4,500 or less that is not connected by road or rail to Anchorage or Fairbanks.

SB 261 does not increase the number of board members. The ABC Board currently has a rural member serving as a public member, therefore, this legislation does not require additional funds.

Prepared by: Shirley A. Gifford, Director
Division: ABC Board
Approved by: Joe Masters
Commissioner

Phone 269-0351
Date/Time 2-16-10 8:11 a.m.
Date 2/16/2010



KAWERAK, INC.

P.O. BOX 948 • NOME, ALASKA 99762

TELEPHONE: (907) 443-5231 • FAX: (907) 443-3708

SB 261

- SERVING THE VILLAGES OF:
- BREMO MISSION COUNCIL
- DIOMEDE
- ELIM
- GAMBELL
- GOLOVIN
- KING ISLAND
- KOYUK
- MARY'S IGLOO
- NOME
- SAVOONGA
- SHAKTOOLIK
- SHISHMAREF
- SOLOMON
- STEBBINS
- ST. MICHAEL
- TELLER
- UNALAKLEET
- WALES
- WHITE MOUNTAIN

February 8, 2010

Re: **Proposed Amendment to AS 04.06.020**

Dear Senator Donald Olson and Legislative Staff:

On behalf of Kawerak, Inc. this letter is in support of the proposed amendment to AS 04.06.020 to include at least one member of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to be a resident of a rural area.

Many factors contribute to the devastation caused by substance abuse in our region. While we are grateful for the continued efforts of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and many other individuals/entities in the region committed to addressing substance abuse, our region continues to suffer from extremely high rates of substance abuse and related problems.

We believe that rural areas such as the Bering Strait region would benefit significantly from having sustained rural representation on the ABC Board that is not affiliated with the alcoholic beverage industry and is focused specifically on rural issues and concerns.

If you should have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please contact Bridie Trainor of Kawerak Wellness at (907) 443-4393. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

KAWERAK, INC.


Loretta Bullard, President

Regional Wellness Forum

To Provide a Forum for the Region, to address efforts to reduce Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and to Promote Wellness
P.O. Box 948, Nome AK, 99762

SB 261

February 8, 2010

Re: **Proposed Amendment to AS 04.06.020**

Dear Senator Donald Olson and Legislative Staff:

The purpose of this correspondence is to support the proposed amendment to include at least one member of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board be a resident of a rural area added in AS 04.06.020.

This request is made by the Regional Wellness Forum formed in 1999 to address substance abuse problems in Nome and the Bering Strait region. The RWF includes representatives from many diverse entities (as you will note from the signatories to this correspondence). The RWF successfully established and has maintained a community safety patrol and many other worthwhile efforts since its inception to address substance abuse and its many tragic consequences in the region.

Despite the efforts of the RWF and many other individuals/entities in the region committed to addressing substance abuse, our region continues to suffer from extremely high rates of substance abuse and resultant problems. For example, in 2007, the Nome Police Department transported a total of 877 intoxicated persons as Title 47 holds to the hospital. This is in a community of approximately 3800 people. As a "wet" hub community, rural residents from surrounding villages travel to Nome to drink, and become homeless. This year alone, two intoxicated individuals froze to death, and this problem of homeless death or injury due to intoxication has always been a significant problem in our community.

There are many factors which contribute to the high rate of substance abuse problems in our region. Continuing to serve liquor to overly intoxicated individuals and allowing such persons to remain in drinking establishments, and selling liquor to such individuals from liquor stores when they are clearly too intoxicated under state law to be provided any further alcohol, are contributing factors in this region to the high rate of substance abuse and its consequences.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board is a critical component of any effort to enforce State laws regarding serving and selling liquor to intoxicated persons. While

we applaud past efforts of the ABC Board to conduct sting operations in our community, we believe that rural areas such as the Bering Strait region would benefit significantly from having sustained rural representation on the ABC Board that is not affiliated with the alcoholic beverage industry and is focused specifically on rural issues and concerns.

If you should have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please consider Berda Willson, RWF Chair, to be the contact person for this proposal. She can be reached at (907) 443-5312 or bwilson@gci.net. Thank you for your consideration.

CC: Alaska Legislature

Regional Wellness Forum Members:

Jacob Ahwinona, Kawerak Elder Representative
Gina Appolloni, Kawerak Director of Village Public Safety Office
Simon Bekoalok, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Melanie Edward Kawerak Vice President
John Bioff, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Judge Ben Esch (Not Representing)
Dorcas Bloom, Norton Sound Health Corporation

Angie Gorn, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Loretta Bullard, Kawerak President
Mike Hannigan, Northwest Campus University of Alaska Fairbanks
Bob Frochle, Nome Youth Facility
Emily Hughes, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Carol Gales, Northwest Campus University of Alaska Fairbanks
Sgt. Andrew Merrill, Nome Police Department
Kathy Johnson, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Carl White, Bering Strait School District
Breanne MacFarland, Sitasuak Native Corporation
Rahnia Parker, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Barb Nickels, Kawerak Director of Community Planning
Berda Willson, Regional Wellness Forum Chairperson
Jason Hymer, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Michael Dunham, Anvil Mountain Correctional Center
Kari Van Delden, North West Campus
Carol Piscoya, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Aprille Pitt, Kawerak Wellness Program
Helen Pootoogooluk, Norton Sound Health Corporation
Bridie Trainor, Director of Kawerak Wellness Program
Jon Wehde, Nome Public Schools

To Provide a Forum for the Region, to address efforts to reduce Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and to Promote Wellness

John Papasodora, Nome Police Department
 Melissa Boeckmann, Norton Sound Health Corporation
 Robert Keith, Kawerak Board
 Samaria Ross, Bering Sea Women's Group
 Lance Johnson, Nome Community Center
 Julie Renwick, Norton Sound Health Corporation
 Roy Agloinga, Norton Sound Health Corporation

Signed on behalf of the Regional Wellness Forum.

Berda Wilson
 Signature
Chair Regional Wellness Forum
 Title
February 8, 2010
 Date

To Provide a Forum for the Region, to address efforts to reduce Alcohol and Drug Abuse, and to Promote Wellness

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

First Committee of Referral

DATE: 2/5/10

FURTHER: Labor and Commerce

Date of 5-Day Notice: _____
 (in accordance with Uniform Rule 23)

DATE TURNED
 IN TO OFFICE: 2/10/10

State Affairs Committee considered SENATE BILL NO. 261

SB 261 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL BD MEMBERS

"An Act relating to the membership of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board; and providing for an effective date."

and recommends:

- be replaced with SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- adopt previous SCS or CS _____ (_____)
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt _____ Letter of Intent
- further referral to _____ Committee

SENATE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title
<hr/>	
HOUSE BILL:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Same Title
<input type="checkbox"/>	Technical Title Change
<input type="checkbox"/>	New Title w/ SCR # _____

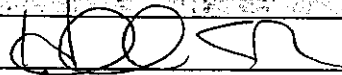
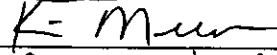
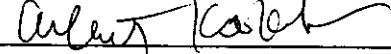

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#
DPS	02/16/10			X	

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Fiscal	Indet.	Zero	FN#

APPROPRIATION - no fiscal note

SIGNATURES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:	PRINTED LAST NAME	DO PASS	DO NOT PASS	NO REC	AMEND
	French	X			
	Meyer	X			
	Kobke	X			
CHAIR: 	MENARD	X			