

Emily Deach

Subject: Support for Skagway Spirits Distillery
Attachments: 12-13-17 Letter to AMCO re Port Chilkoot Distillery (1).pdf

From: Skagway Spirits
Sent: Thursday, December 14, 2017 11:45 AM
To: Emily Deach <e.deach@skagway.org>
Subject: Support for Skagway Spirits Distillery

December 14, 2017

Hello Mayor Carlson and Skagway Assembly Members,

Since 2014 when HB309 was passed distilleries have been able to serve their spirits mixed in non alcoholic mixers. In August 2017 distilleries were told that they were no longer allowed to do so. What changed was the new director of the AMCO and new Assistant State Attorney General's new interpretation of the statute. The authors of HB309 have stood by the bills intent and supported the distilleries continuing the practice of mixing the spirits.

This week the Haines Borough Assembly drafted a letter in support of Alaskan distilleries. We are small business that use the tasting room revenues to directly grow our businesses. We are manufacturing in Alaska, a feat not easily done. The short sighted view will cause the distilling industry in Alaska to cease growing. It is a tax lucrative industry for Skagway and the State. The distilling industry has shown an annual growth of 20% nationally. Alaska's distilling industry has grown by nearly 50% over the past two years with ours the six in the state to open and the 10th to open soon. All the business have counted on the revenue from tasting rooms to help their businesses grow. Others might not follow suit with this current action on the part of the AMCO board. If the Alaskan Brewing Co. had had to deal with the limitation the states tasting rooms are facing it's probably safe to say their success story might not be what it is today.

We are not at odds with our local bars, in fact most sent visitors to our distillery and even visited on their days off. Locals brought family and friends to tour the distillery and enjoy our craft beverages. We hope to become a local destination for visitors.

December 29th is the deadline for comments to the AMCO on this issue, we ask that the mayor and assembly support small business and manufacturers in our city. Please consider following Haines example of support for Alaska's distillery tasting rooms to continue with it previous business practices and be able to serve it's spirits mixed in non alcoholic craft beverages.

Attached you'll find the letter sent by the Haines borough and a link the the web site Crafted for Alaska that provides information and where to send your comments to.
www.craftedforalaska.com

Thank you for your time in considering this issue,

Cheers,
Gary, Lucas and Janilyn Heger

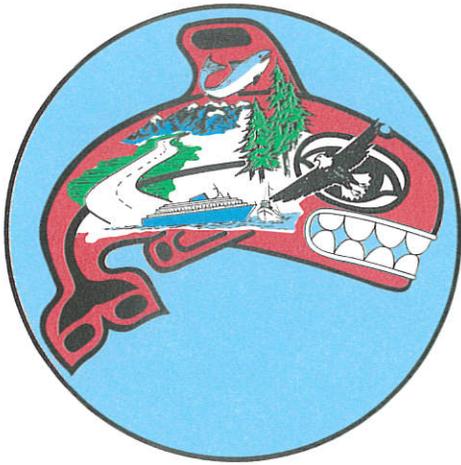
--

Skagway Spirits LLC

Located in scenic Skagway, Alaska

phone 907.983.2040

fax 907.983.2030



HAINES BOROUGH, ALASKA
P.O. BOX 1209 • HAINES, ALASKA 99827
Administration 907.766.2231 • (fax) 907.766.2716
Tourism 907.766.2234 • (fax) 907.766.3155
Police Dept. 907.766.2121 • (fax) 907.766.2128
Fire Dept. 907.766.2155 • (fax) 907.766.3373

December 13, 2017

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office
550 W. 7th Avenue, Suite 1600
Anchorage, AK 99501

Dear Ms. McConnell:

The Haines Borough Assembly supports the previous understanding of state law by Port Chilkoot Distillery. Distilleries should be allowed to serve their distilled spirits mixed with non-alcoholic ingredients, as spirits are normally consumed.

Sincerely,

Janice Hill
Mayor

cc: Erika McConnell, AMCO Director