



Date: 01/09/2024

From: Alaska Marijuana Industry Association (AMIA)
Board of Directors
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president@alaskamia.org

To: Nome Common Council
Honorable Mayor John Handeland
johnh@njus.org
City Manager Glenn Steckman
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Member, Scot Henderson
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Member, Mark Synnott
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Member, Adam Martinson
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Member, Maggie Miller
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Member, Cameron Piscoya
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Member, Meghan Topkok
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Re: Opposition Against Nome Ordinance No. 0-24-01-01
Amendments to Chapter 3.25 of Nome Code of Ordinances Prohibiting Drive-Through and Curbside Sale
of Age Restricted Products

Dear Honorable Mayor Handeland, Nome Common Council, and City Manager Steckman:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to Ordinance No. 0-24-01-01, an ordinance prohibiting drive-throughs and curbside sales of age-restricted products. We believe that allowing for curbside and drive-throughs for marijuana establishments are necessary and aligned with the evolving landscape of the cannabis industry.

Alaska's cannabis industry was able to operate drive through windows and offer curbside pick-up during the COVID-19 pandemic. During that time there were no violations issued that presented a risk to public health and safety. There were no documented sales to persons under the age of 21 years. There was also no reported increase in under the influence driving during this period. We believe that the benefits of providing this type of service far outweigh the potential risks. Simply put; elderly residents, disabled residents, or single parents - should have the ability to purchase cannabis without having to walk into a store on an icy-cold winter day. This is common practice in every pharmacy in the country, often serving much stronger medications than cannabis.

The requirement for video surveillance of a drive-through or walk-up exterior window ensures the safety of both customers and staff while also safeguarding against potential illicit activities. Video surveillance is a standard requirement in the marijuana industry.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for your dedication to the well-being and progress of the community of Nome. We appreciate your time and consideration of this matter.

Best regards,

Ryan Tunseth
President, AMIA