

# GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA



MONTHLY REPORT - OCTOBER 2023



## DRAFT

The Governor's Task Force on Recreational Marijuana continues to meet at least monthly. Our last meeting was on October 3rd, 2023. We have been very productive over the past year, and believe that we are making meaningful and positive recommendations for change. A complete copy of our task force report can be found on our website or by clicking the link at the bottom of the page.

Tax remains the number one issue that we are focusing on. Currently there is a proposed bill ([HB119](#)) that would shift the tax burden from cultivation to retail. We believe that this is a necessary first step towards improving the viability of Alaska's cannabis industry. We will continue to keep you updated on this bill, and encourage your support.

Intoxicating hemp was another main focus area of the Task Force. [New regulations](#) closing the loophole on intoxicating hemp products were proposed in 2023. It is our understanding that these regulations have cleared public comment and have been signed by Commissioner Boyle. We are eagerly awaiting final approval from Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom. We fully support these regulation changes and greatly appreciate the support of your office as we navigated this complex landscape.

We remain focused on identifying opportunities that will improve the business landscape for Alaskan Cannabis entrepreneurs. As you may know, the US Dept. of Health and Human Services has recommended to the US Drug Enforcement Agency that Marijuana be [rescheduled from a Class I Controlled Substance to a Class III Controlled Substance](#). We are in full support of this change and would request a letter of concurrence from your office. This change would remove unnecessary tax burdens on cannabis businesses by removing them from the IRS 280E rule. We would love to engage your office more on this issue, as well as other federal issues including safe access to banking.

At the state level we continue to focus on opportunities to streamline regulations and support the AMCO office. The areas that we will be focusing on over the next month include: Identifying solutions to our current testing regulations to include heavy metal and pesticide testing, developing best practices guidelines for licensed operators, and identifying further opportunities to lessen the tax liabilities on our marijuana farmers including c-corp exemptions for cultivators.

We will continue to provide your office with monthly updates. If there is anything specific that you would like us to include or items that you feel we are not appropriately addressing, please let us know. We are excited to continue to provide value to Alaskans through this task force and thank you for your continued support.

IDEAS?

GRAPHICS?

SIGN BY CO CHAIRS OR JUST TASK FORCE?

AMCO STATS?

REVENUE STATS?

REGS UPDATES FROM AMCO?

???