



ABC Board Special Meeting

The ABC Board is holding a special meeting next Wednesday, September 30 via Zoom to discuss enforcement priorities.

We are very excited about this discussion, as our President & CEO, Sarah Oates, worked tirelessly as a former Program Coordinator at the Alcohol & Marijuana Control Office (AMCO) to provide education and training for the industry. Ms. Oates has been steadfast in her desire to improve industry compliance through proactive education of the industry (webinars, seminars, one-page educational materials, helpful FAQs, etc.), rather than relying solely on education through enforcement tools like notices of violation (NOVs), accusations, and even criminal charges. We believe it is unrealistic to expect complete compliance of an industry when the only resource and information available is the 150+ page book of ambiguous and contradictory laws and regulations.

Ms. Oates was limited in her authority under her former role to effectuate those changes that would help the industry, which was a major factor in her decision to join the CHARR team where she could be more effective. During her first five minutes of meeting AMCO's current Interim Director, Glen Klinkhart, Ms. Oates planted the "proactive education" seed, and Mr. Klinkhart has run with it.

During next week's meeting, the ABC Board will be discussing implementing logical enforcement priorities and comprehensive enforcement procedures that will be publicly available for the first time. This should create consistency, fairness, and transparency in AMCO enforcement of the alcohol and cannabis industries. Additionally, Alaska CHARR will continue to work closely with AMCO and the ABC Board to help produce educational materials and training opportunities so that industry members may finally have a clear understanding of existing laws, rules, policies, and expectations.

If you are interested in listening to the meeting, please read AMCO's [Virtual Meeting Code of Conduct](#) and scroll down to find call-in information. The meeting documents to be considered by the board can be found [at this link](#).

Date: Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Time: 9:00am

Where: Virtual – Zoom

[Link to Meeting](#)

Passcode: 488264

Or

Telephonic: 1-253-215-8782

Meeting ID: 99031819262

Passcode: 488264

[Congressional Update](#)

With Congress facing issues of government funding, a Supreme Court vacancy, and an upcoming election, we must find a way to grab the attention of Congressional leaders. In [this update](#) from the National Restaurant Association, learn the latest from Washington and how you can help before Congress leaves for the November elections. If Congress fails to provide our industry support in the next few days, many establishments will be forced to close in the coming weeks and months.

If you have not yet called or emailed your federal lawmakers, please visit <https://p2a.co/saverestaurants> and be sure to share the campaign via social media and email with your colleagues and friends.

Watch video update [here!](#)

Thank you for your time and support of the hospitality industry!

ProStart: the Future Workforce of Alaska Hospitality

If the future of Alaska hospitality is important to you, then keep reading!

Did you know the Alaska CHARR Future Hospitality Leaders Program helps build an Alaskan-grown hospitality workforce?

The ProStart program is a two-year high school curriculum developed by the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation. Students learn a variety of aspects about the hospitality industry from safety and sanitation, mise en place, and even restaurant management.

Currently, there are only 11 ProStart programs implemented in schools throughout Alaska. Over the past few months, we have seen numerous schools eliminate the culinary arts from their lists of academics due to budget cuts. This program is essential for creating opportunities for students to learn about incredible career

opportunities in the hospitality industry, develop their skills, and make them want to stay or return to Alaska from wherever life takes them, and build their careers and futures.

We are looking for help from our industry friends and members who have relationships with their local school boards or who would be interested in reaching out to their school board members to emphasize the importance in creating and educating a future work force by growing this vital program in our state. We will work directly with you to get the ProStart program into your local schools by partnering to educate and communicate with those who determine which school programs receive funding.

Hospitality and tourism make up the **second largest** industry in Alaska, and a competent workforce continues to be our biggest need.

Help us grow an incredible Alaskan workforce who may soon work for you by helping us grow the ProStart program! Contact BreeAnna Erickson at berickson@alaskacharr.com for more information, and visit <https://www.alaskaprostart.org/>.

Industry Call Recording

If you missed our September 24 industry call, a recording is available on our COVID-19 resource page.

[Link to Call Recording](#)

Alaska CHARR Membership

Have you appreciated all the resources CHARR has provided during this crisis? Do you want to have access to new benefits that will directly help your bottom line? Consider becoming a member so that we can continue to provide you the most up-to-date information and resources in addition to our regular fantastic benefits. Contact Rory

McAllister, our Membership & Gaming Manager, for more information
at 907-274-8133 or rncallister@alaskacharr.com.

Help us in the fight to #saveAKhospitality! Together, we are
#alaskastrong.

[Join Today!](#)