



February 7, 2018

Senator David Wilson
State Capitol Room 115
Juneau AK, 99801

Dear Senator Wilson:

I write concerning HB 269 and the positive impact it could have on downtown Fairbanks' revitalization. We support the bill's restoration of a distiller's ability to mix drinks in a tasting room.

That original permission figured into Pat Levy's decision to start the Fairbanks Distilling Company in downtown Fairbanks. Pat bought Fairbanks' first "proper" City Hall, a site on the National Register of Historic Places, a beautiful building in considerable disrepair on a busy corner.

Proceeding from his expectation of the law, he invested heavily in plant and infrastructure throughout 2015 and 2016, restoring the building significantly in the process, in accordance with the State Historic Preservation Office. He is a good neighbor and downtown's many other merchants welcome and support him and his business.

The Distillery just opened its tasting room this fall. If the distillery can proceed as it had expected with its tasting room plans, it can continue the better with its distilling, and continue to contribute to downtown's revitalization, positive experiences for tourists and locals alike and will continue to invest in plant and premises.

Thank you for supporting the bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David' followed by a large, stylized closing flourish.

David van den Berg
Executive Director

cc: Senator Pete Kelly