Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Agriculture Proposed Regulations Re: Industrial Hemp Pilot Program

Question	Response
We do not have heavy metal or pesticide testing offered in Alaska. How will this get done?	Alaska registrants may not currently have the testing capacity for all tests required through the laboratories licensed under the Marijuana Control Board. However, there are agencies and cooperators within the State of Alaska that have both the expertise and equipment to complete this type of testing. The industrial hemp program will also evaluate the use of out of state laboratories to meet the programs needs as well as support Alaskan laboratories development and implementation of standardized testing for heavy metal and pesticide testing.
Are big stores such as GNC, Natural Pantry, all the gas stations going to have to get retail licenses?	Yes. Except for a grower or processor selling raw industrial hemp, all retail sales of hemp and hemp products will require retail registration.
What are the clear requirements for business's just selling retail products that they do not manufacture? Local and out of state?	The requirements to offer for sale Industrial Hemp products are for the person to be; 1) a retail registrant; 2) for those products to have met the testing requirements of Article 6; and 3) when necessary, for those productions to carry a valid endorsement under 11 AAC 40.405 - 11 AAC 40.505.
Are you writing in banking rules? To clear up business operations?	No. The 2014 and 2018 Federal Agricultural Improvement Acts (farm bills) have defined industrial hemp as an agricultural crop. Specifically, the 2018 Bill also has removed Industrial hemp from the Federal Drug Schedule. Therefore, if a person becomes a registrant of the program and follows all existing industrial hemp regulations, there should be no difficulties related to banking or normal business operations.
How will this effect marijuana dispensaries?	Industrial Hemp will be regulated by the Department of Natural Resources. Division of Agriculture and marijuana is regulated by the Alcohol and Marijuana Control Board. The Industrial Hemp Pilot Program will have no impacts on regulated marijuana dispensaries.
How I would go about getting an application for growing/processing/retail?	When this industrial hemp regulation package has been adopted, persons will be able to get the applications for growing, processing or retail registration under the Alaska Industrial Hemp Pilot Program from the Division of Agriculture.