From: Thom Ely [mailto:akthome@yahoo.com] Sent: Tuesday, August 26, 2014 12:07 PM

To: Julie Cozzi

**Cc:** Stephanie Scott; Debra Schnabel; Joanne Waterman; George Campbell; Dave Berry; Diana Lapham;

Jerry Lapp

Subject: 8/26/14 BA Meeting

Dear Assembly, Mayor and Manager,

I will not be able to attend the meeting tonight and have a few public comments for you to consider regarding the agenda before you.

Resolution 14-07-580 is not an issue that the Assembly should be spending time or voting on. Marijuana use and access to it is a personal choice and should be decided by the voters as it will be in November. If the law passes, the municipality can then decide how it wants to regulate it, as allowed by the pending legislation. Our local government can not weigh in on every social or health issue, so it is better to let the voters decide.

Ordinance 14-08-390 is another attempt by the heli-ski operators to circumvent the years of planning and effort that have gone into this issue. If these reasonable regulations were not continuously challenged by some in the industry, the Borough would not have incurred the time and expense that it has.

The ordinance as proposed by Mr. Campbell is flawed in many ways and will just create a loophole that some operators can use to exploit and ski in the highly contested closed areas, impacting residents and wildlife. There is not a definition of what a "ski competition event" is. The term of 14 days is to long for a single event. There is no limit on how many events can take place and where they can take place. It should not be left to the manager to decide.

Rather than wasting more time on this issue and continuing to stir up controversy, why not advertise and promote a ski event in the open areas? The public would not be able to view an event anyway, even along the front range, unless they fly out to the slope. It is time to give this issue a rest and to tell the industry to focus on safety, compliance and reliability.

Sincerely,

Thom Ely POB 1014 Haines, AK 99827 907-314-0860