



# ABC

COMMISSION  
NORTH CAROLINA

## Alcoholic Beverage Control

**CHAIRMAN:**

A. D. "Zander" Guy, Jr.

April 1, 2020

**COMMISSIONERS:**

Norman A. Mitchell, Sr.  
Charlotte

Karen L. Stout  
Black Mountain

The Honorable James L. Boles, Jr.  
300 N. Salisbury Street, Rm. 528  
Raleigh NC 27603-5925

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

Agnes Stevens

Dear Representative Boles:

**LOCATION:**

400 East Tryon Road  
Raleigh NC 27610

**MAILING:**

4307 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh NC 27699-4307

**PHONE:** (919) 779-0700

<http://abc.nc.gov/>

As the situation regarding COVID-19 has continued to develop, I have received many inquiries asking about policy on buy-backs of unused spirituous liquor from restaurants and bars who are currently unable to sell or serve it. As of now, there is no uniform or statewide policy dealing with this issue. Traditionally, this is a decision left up to each individual ABC board, along with other matters relating to the retail operations of the ABC system.

I have received input from many different stakeholders, including the restaurant and bar community as well as representatives of the local ABC Boards. With stakeholders on both sides of the discussion recommending a buyback policy due to these incredibly difficult circumstances, I will rely on their expertise and agree with their recommendation that such a policy would be appropriate during this State of Emergency.

These are unique and unprecedented circumstances that have dealt a serious blow to mixed beverage permittees across North Carolina. If there are ways within the Commission's power to provide relief to these businesses, while still upholding the core tenants and purposes of the control model, then I approve.

Sincerely,

A.D. (Zander) Guy