



*COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA*  
*Office of the Governor*

Timothy M. Kaine  
Governor

July 22, 2009

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to extend my sincere congratulations to the Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control on its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the year 2009.

Virginia ABC was established in 1934, just three months after the repeal of Prohibition, to oversee the sale of distilled spirits and enforce liquor control throughout the state. Seventy-five years later, the agency has contributed more than \$6 billion to the Commonwealth, including more than \$1.3 billion in the last five years alone. These funds have provided valuable support to the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, localities, other state agencies, and Virginia's General Fund.

Since its creation, the agency has strived for and maintained the highest standards of excellence. Today, ABC is a profitable and efficiently run business operating more than 330 retail locations throughout the Commonwealth. It is also an outstanding public safety agency with a Bureau of Law Enforcement, an Administrative Hearings Division, and is a national leader in alcohol prevention and community education initiatives. ABC is also being recognized as an example of environmental sustainability with its increased emphasis on "going green."

Without a doubt, one of the organization's greatest strengths has been its committed and experienced workforce. Hundreds of employees have devoted many, if not all working years to ABC, resulting in stabilized and uniform best practices. In fact, nearly 25 percent of its full-time employees have dedicated more than 20 years of service to the agency. On this 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we pay tribute to the thousands of employees, current and retired, who have contributed to this award-winning system.

On behalf of the Commonwealth, I salute ABC as it celebrates this historic milestone, and offer my best wishes for continued service and success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "TKaine", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Timothy M. Kaine