

Four Loko Producers Subpoenaed by NY Senator Klein

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On June 2, 2011, New York State Senator Jeffrey Klein (D-Bronx/Westchester), announced the issuance of a legislative subpoena to Phusion Projects, the makers of the embattled alcopop Four Loko. The subpoena came after Phusion Projects [refused to show up](#) for an April 12 hearing on the matter, and has generally been [obstinate](#) and [uncooperative](#) with officials seeking to protect the public health.

Senator Klein, Chair of the New York State Senate Standing Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, has been fighting a continued [battle](#) against the [dangerous effects](#) of alcopop availability on youth in his state. On June 6, 2011, [the Senate passed his bill](#) to ban the sale of caffeinated alcoholic beverages. Klein is currently working on crafting legislation that will limit the access of underage drinkers to alcopops, with the expressed intent to not put an undo burden on brewers and drink makers.

However, in keeping with their long history of [avoidance and denial](#), Phusion Projects refuses to participate. [Says Klein](#), “This company makes a product for sale in New York that’s cheap, tastes sweet and packs a six-pack punch in a 22-ounce can...We believe that their information can greatly inform our efforts to keep Four Loko and similar ‘alcopops’ out of the hands of minors. Given Phusion’s lack of cooperation, this committee has no choice, but to use the tools at its disposal to obtain the facts that we need.”

The owners of Phusion Projects don’t seem to care that their actions keep sending them back to the doghouse. Marin Institute applauds Senator Klein for standing up to them and demanding they cooperate with the investigation into their harmful products.

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