

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. 473

Expressing appreciation of the goals of American Craft Beer Week and commending the small and independent craft brewers of the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24, 2016

Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Expressing appreciation of the goals of American Craft Beer Week and commending the small and independent craft brewers of the United States.

Whereas American Craft Beer Week is celebrated annually in breweries, brew pubs, restaurants, and beer stores by craft brewers, home brewers, and beer enthusiasts nationwide;

Whereas, in 2016, American Craft Beer Week is celebrated from May 16 to May 22;

Whereas craft brewers are a vibrant affirmation and expression of the entrepreneurial traditions of the United States—

(1) operating as community-based small businesses and cooperatives;

(2) providing employment for more than 120,000 full- and part-time workers;

(3) generating annually more than \$3,000,000,000 in wages and benefits; and

(4) often leading the redevelopment of economically distressed areas;

Whereas the United States has craft brewers in every State and more than 4,400 craft breweries nationwide, each producing fewer than 6,000,000 barrels of beer annually;

Whereas, in 2015, 620 new breweries opened in the United States, creating jobs and improving economic conditions in communities across the United States;

Whereas, in 2015, craft breweries in the United States sustainably produced more than 24,500,000 barrels of beer, which is 2,800,000 more barrels than craft breweries produced in 2014;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States now export more than 446,000 barrels of beer and are establishing new markets abroad, which creates more domestic jobs to meet the growing international demand for craft beer from the United States;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States support United States agriculture by purchasing barley, malt, and hops that are grown, processed, and distributed in the United States;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States produce more than 100 distinct styles of flavorful beers, including many sought-after new and unique styles ranging from amber lagers to American IPAs that—

(1) contribute to a favorable balance of trade by reducing the dependence of the United States on imported beers;

(2) support exports from the United States; and

(3) promote tourism in the United States;

Whereas craft beers from the United States consistently win international quality and taste awards;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States strive to educate the people of the United States who are of legal drinking age about the differences in beer flavor, aroma, color, alcohol content, body, and other complex variables, the gastronomic qualities of beer, beer history, and historical brewing traditions dating back to colonial times and earlier;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States champion the message of responsible enjoyment to their customers and work within their communities and the industry to prevent alcohol abuse and underage drinking;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States are frequently involved in local communities through philanthropy, volunteerism, and sponsorship opportunities, including parent-teacher associations, Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (commonly known as "JROTC"), hospitals for children, chambers of commerce, humane societies, rescue squads, athletic teams, and disease research;

Whereas the craft brewers of the United States are fully vested in the future success, health, welfare, and vitality of their communities, as local employers that—

(1) provide a diverse array of quality local jobs that will not be outsourced;

(2) contribute to the local tax base; and

(3) keep money in the United States by reinvesting in their businesses; and

Whereas increased Federal, State, and local support of craft brewing is important to fostering the continued growth of an industry of the United States that creates jobs, greatly benefits local economies, and brings international accolades to small businesses in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) appreciates the goals of American Craft
3 Beer Week, established by the Brewers Association,
4 which represents the small craft brewers of the
5 United States;

6 (2) recognizes the significant contributions of
7 the craft brewers of the United States to the econ-
8 omy and to the communities in which the craft
9 brewers are located; and

10 (3) commends the craft brewers of the United
11 States for providing jobs, supporting United States
12 agriculture, improving the balance of trade, and edu-
13 cating the people of the United States and beer
14 lovers around the world about the history and cul-
15 ture of beer while promoting the legal and respon-
16 sible consumption of beer.

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