

Senators Kowall, Warren, Hildenbrand, Pappageorge, Walker, Bieda, Emmons, Pavlov, Richardville, Young, Hopgood, Gregory, Whitmer, Johnson and Hood offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 71.

A resolution designating July 2011 as Michigan Craft Beer Month and commending the Michigan craft brewers.

Whereas, Michigan craft brewers are a vibrant affirmation and expression of Michigan entrepreneurial traditions, operating as community-based small businesses and providing employment for more than 1,000 workers; and

Whereas, Craft brewers reside in every region of the state of Michigan, and there are more than 70 craft brewers statewide; and

Whereas, The Michigan Brewers Guild celebrates Michigan Craft Beer Month each year by hosting a Summer Festival in July; and

Whereas, Supporting Michigan agriculture, Michigan craft brewers purchase hops, beet sugar, cherries, apples, and numerous other fruits, herbs, and vegetables grown in Michigan; and

Whereas, Michigan craft brewers promote Michigan's spirit of independence through a renaissance in handcrafted beers like those first brought to Michigan by European settlers and produced here by our forefathers, including Bernhard Stroh, for the enjoyment of the citizenry; and

Whereas, Striving to educate legal drinking-age residents, Michigan craft brewers convey awareness about the differences in beer flavor, aroma, color, alcohol content, body, and other complex variables, as well as historic brewing traditions, beer history, and gastronomic qualities of beer; and

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

Whereas, Craft brewers in Michigan produce more than 100 distinct styles of flavorful beers, the quality and diversity of which have made Michigan the envy of many beer-drinking states, thereby contributing to balanced trade by reducing Michigan dependence on imported and other regional beers, supporting Michigan exports, and promoting Michigan tourism; and

Whereas, Michigan craft brewers are vested in the future, health, and welfare of their communities as employers providing a diverse array of quality local jobs; as contributors to the local tax base; and as committed sponsors of a broad range of vital community institutions and philanthropic causes, including not-for-profit housing development associations, chambers of commerce, humane societies, athletic teams, and medical research; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body designate July 2011 as Michigan Craft Beer Month as a celebration of the contributions that Michigan craft brewers have made to the state's communities, economy, and history; and be it further

Resolved, That we commend Michigan craft brewers for providing jobs, improving the balance of trade, supporting Michigan agriculture, and educating residents about the history and culture of beer, while promoting the responsible consumption of beer as a beverage of moderation; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Brewers Guild as evidence of the highest esteem of the members of the Michigan Legislature.