

Rep. Farrington offered the following resolution:

House Resolution No. 322.

A resolution to declare July 2016 as Craft Beer Month in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, Michigan craft brewers are a vibrant affirmation and expression of Michigan's entrepreneurial traditions, operating as community-based small businesses and providing employment for more than 5,000 workers; and

Whereas, Michigan has craft brewers in every region of the state and more than 250 craft brewers statewide; and

Whereas, Michigan ranks 5th in the nation for overall number of breweries, microbreweries, and brewpubs; and

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

Whereas, Craft brewers in Michigan support state agriculture by purchasing hops, malted barley, wheat, 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, 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 states, contributing to balanced trade with increased Michigan exports and promoting Michigan tourism; and

Whereas, Michigan craft brewers have been a successful business model during our state's economic struggles by contributing more than \$144 million in wages with a total economic contribution of more than \$600 million, thriving and expanding in furthering their economic importance to the state; 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 House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare July 2016 as Craft Beer Month in the state of Michigan. We recognize 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.