

**No. R-464. House concurrent resolution recognizing American Craft Beer Week in Vermont.**

(H.C.R.331)

Offered by: Representatives Obuchowski of Rockingham, Partridge of Windham, and Jewett of Ripton

Whereas, beer brewing in the United States has assumed a new persona with the establishment of local craft breweries, and their beers are sold at onsite brewpubs, marketed off site, or sold in a combination of the two, and

Whereas, Vermont's first modern-era brewpub, the Vermont Pub and Brewery, which was opened in Burlington on November 11, 1988, was only the third modern brewpub established along the East Coast, and this award-winning enterprise, under the leadership of its founder, Greg Noonan, who died in 2009, has set the standard for brewpubs in Vermont and nationally, and

Whereas, Vermont's craft brewing industry contributes to our state's tourism, education, agricultural, and manufacturing sectors with ever increasing importance, and

Whereas, from a tourism perspective, over half of the state's craft breweries are brewpubs that have become tourist attractions for visitors, and 40,000 copies of the Vermont Brewers Association's (VBA) *Breweries and Wineries* brochure have been distributed, and,

Whereas, the VBA has created the Vermont Brewery Challenge, featuring a passport that participants can have marked as they visit a brewery and then turn in for prizes, and

Whereas, educationally, the American Brewers Guild of Salisbury is considered a premier brewing school and attracts domestic and international students who study with its famed expert brewer Steve Parkes, and

Whereas, Vermont breweries are working with agricultural specialists at the University of Vermont and area farmers to restore the state's historic hops and barley crops, and the VBA has embarked on a project to encourage the maximum use of local products in Vermont-produced beers, and

Whereas, as for beer brewing's role in the state's manufacturing economy, in 2008, 293,000 barrels of beer were brewed, and the industry employed approximately 350 persons whose average wage was \$13.00 per hour plus benefits, and

Whereas, Vermont's craft breweries, including the Alchemist Pub & Brewery (Waterbury), Bobcat Café & Brewery (Bristol), Harpoon Brewery (Windsor), Jasper Murdock's Alehouse (Norwich), Lawson's Finest Liquids (Warren), Long Trail Brewing Company (Bridgewater Corners), Madison Brewing Company (Bennington), Magic Hat Brewing Company (South Burlington), McNeill's Brewery (Brattleboro), Otter Creek Brewing Inc. (Middlebury), Rock Art Brewery (Morrisville), Switchback Brewing Company (Burlington), Shed Restaurant & Brewery (Stowe), Three Needs Taproom (Burlington), Trout River Brewing Company (Lyndonville), Vermont Pub & Brewery (Burlington), Wolaver's Organic Ales (Middlebury), and Zero Gravity at American Flatbread (Burlington), provide 18 special Vermont

reasons to celebrate American Craft Beer Week, which is occurring from May 17 through May 23, 2010, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes American Craft Beer Week in Vermont, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Kurt Staudter, the executive director of the Vermont Brewers Association, in Springfield.