**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO RECOGNIZE AND HONOR THE OUTSTANDING ROLE OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA BEER WHOLESALERS ASSOCIATION IN OUR STATE, UPON THE OCCASION OF ITS SEVENTY‑FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly are pleased to learn that the South Carolina Beer Wholesalers Association (SCBWA) will celebrate its seventy‑fifth anniversary in July 2014; and

Whereas, the membership of SCBWA includes eighteen companies with twenty‑six licenses; and

Whereas, enthusiastically engaged in supporting a wide variety of charities in their communities, beer distributors are family owned and independently-managed small businesses that provide revenue to the State and jobs to the citizens; and

Whereas, beer distributors actively promote the responsible consumption of their products and work to prevent the abuse of their products unlike any other industry; and

Whereas, members of SCBWA impact every community in the Palmetto State, providing more than six hundred million dollars in annual economic activity and employing over two thousand workers who are paid over one hundred twenty‑seven million dollars in wages and salaries; and

Whereas, with an annual contribution of more than one hundred million dollars in state excise taxes, members of SCBWA donate over $2.6 million in support of local charities, local events. and economic development; and

Whereas, providing equal market access for small and large craft brewers alike, beer distributors market new products and provide product diversity to thousands of retailers throughout the State; and

Whereas, the association helps brewers maximize sales and build brands through store‑level merchandising, product promotion, marketing initiatives, and local‑event sponsorship; and

Whereas, through compliance with federal and state trade practices, beer distributors provide regulatory value to the State and play a major role in the three‑tier distribution system to prevent the illegal distribution of beer and to provide product accountability and transparency; and

Whereas, beer distributors educate retailers and consumers about new product categories and beer styles and safeguard the integrity of their products to enhance the retailers’ profitability; and

Whereas, the members of the South Carolina General Assembly appreciate the significant work of SCBWA in providing leadership to distributors, advocating on behalf of its members, and serving the members to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness across the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, recognize and honor the outstanding role of the South Carolina Beer Wholesalers Association in our State, upon the occasion of its seventy‑fifth anniversary.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to the South Carolina Beer Wholesalers Association.

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