

RESOLUTION NO. 22-

**TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLETOWN
COUNTY OF MONMOUTH**

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL'S SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON LIMITED BREWERY LICENSEES

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control (NJABC) issued new special conditions on each limited brewery licensee (aka "craft brewery") in the state beginning Friday, July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, under the license conditions, craft breweries are limited to hold 25 on-site activities open to the general public annually, as well as 52 private parties, and breweries can also attend 12 off-premises events, such as town, charitable and holiday celebrations; and

WHEREAS, under these license conditions, craft breweries have restrictions on the types of television programming they can air in their tasting rooms, restricts what types of live or record music they play or host, limits what food options they can make available to customers, bans the sale of coffee, and prohibits the sale of soft drinks and other nonalcoholic beverages not made onsite at the brewery; and

WHEREAS, according to the national Brewers Association, the one-hundred and forty-one craft breweries operating in New Jersey, including two in the Township of Middletown, in calendar year 2021 contributed almost \$2 billion to the state's economy, creating over 11,000 jobs at an annually income of more than \$55,000 per employee; and

WHEREAS, these new conditions will force these local, homegrown small businesses to rethink business models and closely consider which events they should participate in or host, which will reduce their profits and their opportunities to engage in their communities; and

WHEREAS, visiting these microbreweries is about each of their unique experiences, and these proprietors have found exciting ways to engage other local businesses, vendors and artists in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Governor and State Legislature should work with breweries to develop smart and fair law revisions and regulations that will guide state regulators at the NJABC on how to oversee the state's craft beer industry.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Middletown in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey strongly opposes the NJABC special conditions on Limited Brewery Licensees, and requests the conditions be removed immediately.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the leaders of the New Jersey Legislature and Governor Phil Murphy.