

2018 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 116

Offered January 10, 2018

Prefiled January 10, 2018

Designating April 7, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as National Beer Day in Virginia.

Patrons—LaRock and Rodman

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, beer, a fermented beverage brewed from cereal grains, is one of the world's oldest and most widely consumed drinks, ranking third behind only water and tea; and

WHEREAS, the earliest written accounts of beer can be found in ancient Mesopotamian and Egyptian texts, but the history of beer may date back as far as the early Neolithic period when cereal grains were first farmed; and

WHEREAS, beer can be made from many different grains like barley, rye, and wheat, and variations can be found throughout the world, such as the sorghum and millet beers of Africa and Asia or the corn-based chicha of South America; and

WHEREAS, Germanic and Celtic tribes who brewed beer for personal consumption spread beer throughout Europe, and the first settlers to arrive in America brought with them not only stocks of beer but the equipment to continue brewing it in the new world; and

WHEREAS, in recent years, Virginia has experienced a renaissance in both craft and commercial beer brewing; several national breweries have opened east-coast locations in the Commonwealth, joining more than 130 local craft breweries; and

WHEREAS, Virginia craft breweries draw countless beer-lovers from throughout the country to enjoy great-tasting products or visit the unique Virginia Beer Museum in Front Royal, and Virginia beers have made a splash nationally, winning 13 medals at the 2016 Great American Beer Festival among many other accolades; and

WHEREAS, National Beer Day was created by Richmond-native Justin Smith and Mike Connolly from Liverpool, England, to commemorate the enactment of the Cullen-Harrison Act on April 7, 1933; the act, which legalized alcoholic beverages with an alcohol content of less than 3.2 percent by weight, was one of the first steps toward repealing prohibition in the United States; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the General Assembly designate April 7, in 2019 and in each succeeding year, as National Beer Day in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to Justin Smith and Mike Connolly so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates post the designation of this day on the General Assembly's website.

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