

## House Resolution 1345

By: Representatives Caldwell of the 20<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Harrell of the 106<sup>th</sup>, Cooke of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Martin of the 49<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Georgia Craft Brewery and Distillery  
2 Competitiveness; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the manufacture, sale, and possession of alcohol in Georgia are subject to a  
4 myriad of complex laws and regulations; and

5 WHEREAS, the craft beer and distillery industries are both fast-growing markets on a  
6 national level and show tremendous potential for growth in job creation and economic impact  
7 for the State of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia's addition of craft breweries has been less than half that of the nation's;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia's addition of new distilleries is also lower than elsewhere in the nation;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, sister-states have endeavored to establish more competitive regulatory  
13 structures in order to incentivize growth in these key industries while Georgia's relevant  
14 alcohol laws have remained largely unchanged since the end of Prohibition; and

15 WHEREAS, any such revision of the alcohol laws requires thorough study to ensure that the  
16 three-tier distribution system is further reviewed, that competition is not unfairly thwarted,  
17 and that public health and safety are not unnecessarily jeopardized.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

19 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
20 on Georgia Craft Brewery and Distillery Competitiveness.

21 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the  
22 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of

23 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson  
24 of the committee.

25 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,  
26 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or  
27 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

28 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee  
29 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
30 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
31 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

32 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

33 (A) The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided  
34 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

35 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member  
36 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds  
37 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
38 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

39 (6) **Report.**

40 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
41 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the  
42 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
43 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

44 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
45 proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)  
46 of this paragraph.

47 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
48 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.  
49 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with  
50 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

51 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Clerk of the  
52 House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu  
53 thereof.

54 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2016.