

## House Resolution 775

By: Representatives Rogers of the 10<sup>th</sup>, Harrell of the 106<sup>th</sup>, Maxwell of the 17<sup>th</sup>, Strickland of the 111<sup>th</sup>, and Powell of the 32<sup>nd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending ASW Distillery, the largest distillery in the State of Georgia; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, ASW Distillery was founded in 2009 by Atlanta residents and "licensed  
4 bootleggers" Jim Chasteen, originally from Athens, and Charlie Thompson, originally from  
5 Augusta; and

6 WHEREAS, Chasteen and Thompson developed a love for all things whiskey while  
7 roommates at the University of Georgia in the late 1990's; and

8 WHEREAS, in November 2011, Chasteen and Thompson began producing in Charleston,  
9 South Carolina, their first product, American Spirit Whiskey, which they launched for sale  
10 in Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, from 2011 to 2015, Chasteen and Thompson built their brand and grew  
12 distribution of American Spirit Whiskey across the State of Georgia and beyond to six  
13 additional states; and

14 WHEREAS, in 2015, Chasteen and Thompson determined to bring production home to  
15 Georgia and raised private capital from over 70 investors, almost all of whom were fellow  
16 Georgians; and

17 WHEREAS, in July 2016, Chasteen and Thompson opened the ASW Distillery in the  
18 Armour Yards District of Atlanta, featuring twin copper pot stills, handmade in America by  
19 Vendome Copper & Brass Works, that make ASW Distillery the largest distillery by capacity  
20 in the State of Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, the ASW Distillery management team includes four owners and fellow  
22 Georgians who are passionate about crafting exceptional whiskey, including Head Distiller

23 Justin Manglitz, originally from Haralson County; Chief Marketing Officer Chad Ralston,  
24 originally from Atlanta; Head of Sales Josh Anderson, originally from Atlanta; and Director  
25 of Events and Retail, Kelly Chasteen, originally from Snellville; and

26 WHEREAS, in November 2016, ASW Distillery launched Fiddler Bourbon, which is aged  
27 using toasted heartwood from white oak trees harvested in Jackson County; and

28 WHEREAS, in December 2016, ASW Distillery launched Resurgens Rye, the first rye  
29 produced in Atlanta since before Prohibition; and

30 WHEREAS, in January 2017, ASW Distillery launched Armour & Oak Georgia Orchard  
31 Apple Brandy, which is made entirely from Georgia apples produced by Mercier Orchards  
32 in Blue Ridge; and

33 WHEREAS, in February 2017, ASW Distillery and Monday Night Brewing, an Atlanta  
34 based craft brewery, teamed up to create Monday Night Whiskey, a single malt Scottish style  
35 whiskey, which is one of the first major collaborations between a Georgia distillery and a  
36 Georgia brewery; and

37 WHEREAS, ASW Distillery is working with fellow Georgia distilleries and breweries to  
38 build a strong, vibrant Georgia alcohol manufacturing industry which provides jobs and  
39 tourism opportunities and advances economic development in the State of Georgia.

40 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
41 the members of this body commend ASW Distillery for its contributions to the craft beverage  
42 industry and happiness of citizens in the State of Georgia.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
44 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
45 public and press.