

The Connecticut General Assembly



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Contact: Bhumika Choudhary

860-240-8579

REP. ALLIE-BRENNAN ENSURES SUPPORT FOR LOCAL BREWERIES

Legislation Eliminates Limitations on Breweries, Cideries, and Distilleries

State Rep. Raghiv Allie-Brennan (D-Bethel) applauded the recent passage of legislation designed to remove outdated restrictions on Connecticut’s growing craft brewery industry. The legislation co-sponsored by Rep. Allie-Brennan makes changes to existing laws and expands what breweries, cideries, and distilleries can sell.

“Craft breweries represent a rapidly growing segment of the local economy,” **added Rep. Allie-Brennan** “Connecticut’s independent, craft beer industry is booming, resulting in a nearly \$750 million economic impact annually and more than 4,600 part-time and full-time jobs statewide. Local businesses such as Bethel’s own Broken Symmetry Brewery, Reverie Brewing Company in Newtown, Charter Oak Brewing Company in Danbury and the Redding Beer Company, not only provide jobs but also add flavor and character to our local communities. We must continue to do everything we can to support their success and this legislation is an important step forward.”

The bill significantly increases the amount of beer consumers can buy directly from Connecticut craft breweries, allows craft breweries to manufacture wine, cider, and distilled spirits, gives wineries, cideries, and distilleries the ability to sell Connecticut craft beer, and includes updates to the permitting structure.

Paul Mannion, Lisa Tassone, Chris Sanzeni and Kevin Arrington, partners of Broken Symmetry Gastro Brewery said, “We are very happy with the new conditions for Breweries like ours. The increase in quantity is definitely huge! It gives Connecticut the ability to compete with neighboring states that are already a destination for craft beer followers. With the increase it will make Connecticut a destination and drive more business into the state while also keeping residents shopping local. Definitely a win-win for our industry.”

The 2019 legislative session ended on June 5.

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