HOUSE No. 3549

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John J. Mahoney

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to promote economic development and market access for emerging businesses.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
John J. Mahoney	13th Worcester	1/7/2019
William M. Straus	10th Bristol	1/11/2019
Joan B. Lovely	Second Essex	1/10/2019
Diana DiZoglio	First Essex	1/14/2019
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	12th Hampden	1/14/2019
Shawn Dooley	9th Norfolk	1/14/2019
Hannah Kane	11th Worcester	1/14/2019
Bradford Hill	4th Essex	1/14/2019
William J. Driscoll, Jr.	7th Norfolk	1/15/2019
Norman J. Orrall	12th Bristol	1/15/2019
Kimberly N. Ferguson	1st Worcester	1/15/2019
Steven Ultrino	33rd Middlesex	1/15/2019
Paul K. Frost	7th Worcester	1/16/2019
Nicholas A. Boldyga	3rd Hampden	1/16/2019
David K. Muradian, Jr.	9th Worcester	1/17/2019
Elizabeth A. Poirier	14th Bristol	1/17/2019
Carole A. Fiola	6th Bristol	1/18/2019
John C. Velis	4th Hampden	1/30/2019

Paul A. Schmid, III	8th Bristol	1/23/2019
Brian M. Ashe	2nd Hampden	1/23/2019
Mathew J. Muratore	1st Plymouth	1/24/2019
James Arciero	2nd Middlesex	1/24/2019
Susan Williams Gifford	2nd Plymouth	1/24/2019
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester	1/24/2019
Michael J. Soter	8th Worcester	1/24/2019
Steven S. Howitt	4th Bristol	1/24/2019
Michael J. Finn	6th Hampden	1/24/2019
James T. Welch	Hampden	1/24/2019
Daniel M. Donahue	16th Worcester	1/24/2019
Mark J. Cusack	5th Norfolk	1/24/2019
Claire D. Cronin	11th Plymouth	1/24/2019
Christopher M. Markey	9th Bristol	1/25/2019
Louis L. Kafka	8th Norfolk	1/25/2019
José F. Tosado	9th Hampden	1/28/2019
Dylan A. Fernandes	Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket	1/28/2019
Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.	28th Middlesex	1/28/2019
Daniel J. Hunt	13th Suffolk	1/28/2019
Mary S. Keefe	15th Worcester	1/28/2019
Marc T. Lombardo	22nd Middlesex	1/28/2019
Jeffrey N. Roy	10th Norfolk	1/28/2019
Paul W. Mark	2nd Berkshire	1/29/2019
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	20th Middlesex	1/28/2019
Tackey Chan	2nd Norfolk	1/29/2019
James J. O'Day	14th Worcester	1/29/2019
Nick Collins	First Suffolk	1/29/2019
Patrick Joseph Kearney	4th Plymouth	2/1/2019
Joseph D. McKenna	18th Worcester	1/30/2019
Angelo L. D'Emilia	8th Plymouth	1/30/2019
Edward F. Coppinger	10th Suffolk	1/30/2019
Daniel J. Ryan	2nd Suffolk	1/30/2019
Thomas A. Golden, Jr.	16th Middlesex	1/31/2019
Jennifer E. Benson	37th Middlesex	1/31/2019
Michelle M. DuBois	10th Plymouth	1/31/2019
Natalie M. Higgins	4th Worcester	1/31/2019
Paul F. Tucker	7th Essex	1/31/2019
Rady Mom	18th Middlesex	1/31/2019
Michael S. Day	31st Middlesex	1/31/2019

Shaunna L. O'Connell	3rd Bristol	1/31/2019
Denise C. Garlick	13th Norfolk	1/31/2019
Joseph F. Wagner	8th Hampden	1/31/2019
Daniel R. Cullinane	12th Suffolk	1/31/2019
Harold P. Naughton, Jr.	12th Worcester	1/31/2019
Peter Capano	11th Essex	1/31/2019
Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.	5th Worcester	1/31/2019
Ryan C. Fattman	Worcester and Norfolk	1/31/2019
John Barrett, III	1st Berkshire	1/31/2019
Jonathan D. Zlotnik	2nd Worcester	1/31/2019
Angelo M. Scaccia	14th Suffolk	1/31/2019
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk	2/1/2019
Daniel Cahill	10th Essex	2/1/2019
Alyson M. Sullivan	7th Plymouth	2/1/2019
Paul Brodeur	32nd Middlesex	2/1/2019
Kathleen R. LaNatra	12th Plymouth	2/1/2019
Daniel R. Carey	2nd Hampshire	2/1/2019
Tommy Vitolo	15th Norfolk	2/1/2019
John J. Lawn, Jr.	10th Middlesex	2/1/2019
Mindy Domb	3rd Hampshire	2/1/2019
David Biele	4th Suffolk	2/1/2019
Michael F. Rush	Norfolk and Suffolk	2/1/2019
Gerard J. Cassidy	9th Plymouth	2/1/2019
Donald H. Wong	9th Essex	2/1/2019
Susannah M. Whipps	2nd Franklin	2/1/2019
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex	2/1/2019
Thomas P. Walsh	12th Essex	2/1/2019
John H. Rogers	12th Norfolk	2/1/2019
Bruce J. Ayers	1st Norfolk	2/1/2019
Frank A. Moran	17th Essex	2/1/2019
RoseLee Vincent	16th Suffolk	2/1/2019
Lori A. Ehrlich	8th Essex	2/1/2019
Kevin G. Honan	17th Suffolk	2/1/2019
Carlos González	10th Hampden	2/2/2019

HOUSE No. 3549

By Mr. Mahoney of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3549) of John J. Mahoney and others for legislation to promote economic development and market access for emerging breweries. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Alassachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court (2019-2020)

An Act to promote economic development and market access for emerging businesses.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 10A of chapter 23A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
- 2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "companies", in line 7, the
- 3 following words:-; provided that such agricultural items shall include cereal grains, malted
- 4 grains, hops, fruits, flowers, plants, vegetables, or pure juices from fruits, vegetables or plants,
- 5 herbs, other natural flavoring materials or extracts derived from infusions, percolations, or
- 6 maceration of such materials.
- 7 SECTION 2. Chapter 138 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
- 8 section 25E the following section:-
- 9 Section 25E½. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 25E, an emerging brewery
- may, without good cause shown, terminate the right to distribute any brands of malt beverages
- for any licensed wholesaler to whom such emerging brewery has made regular sales of such
- brands of malt beverages, subject to the provisions of this section.

For purposes of this section, an emerging brewery shall mean any entity that (1) is authorized to sell malt beverages to wholesalers in the commonwealth, hereinafter referred to in this section as a "brewery", (2) is privately owned and operated, and (3) directly or indirectly, produced less than 100,000 barrels, also measured as 1,377,778 case equivalents, of malt beverages in the 12-month period immediately preceding the date of the written notice of termination of the right to distribute any brands of malt beverages required by this section; provided however, that an emerging brewery shall include: (1) an officer or director of an emerging brewery, and (2) an affiliate of such emerging brewery, regardless of whether the affiliation is corporate or by management, direction, or control.

For purposes of calculating the volume of production for the purposes of this section, an emerging brewery shall include the volume of products that are malt beverages as defined in section 1 or are determined to be malt beverages for the purpose of federal or state law and are produced by (1) the emerging brewery, (2) an officer or director of such emerging brewery, and (3) an affiliate of such emerging brewery, regardless of whether the affiliation is corporate or by management, direction, or control.

For the purposes of this section, a barrel shall be 31 U.S. gallons and a case equivalent shall be 2.25 U.S. gallons. For the purposes of this section, the volume produced under contract by a brewery shall be calculated in the volume of the agent brewery for whom the volume of brands is produced, and not in the volume of brands produced by the contracted brewery.

(b) (1) No termination of the right to distribute shall be effective until the wholesaler being terminated has received both written notice and full compensation as specified in this section. An emerging brewery shall provide the wholesaler with not less than 90 days written

notice of the termination of the right to distribute, which written notice shall identify the successor wholesaler who will begin servicing the affected territory.

- (2) Upon any termination of the right to distribute pursuant to this section, the wholesaler shall sell and the emerging brewery or the wholesaler newly assigned to distribute the brands being terminated shall repurchase the wholesaler's inventory and sales and marketing materials.
- (c) (1) The emerging brewery shall cause to be paid to the affected wholesaler, as full compensation for termination of the right to distribute the brands of an emerging brewery, an amount not less than the laid-in cost of the inventory plus the laid-in cost of the sales and marketing material plus the fair market value of the distribution rights for the brands which are being terminated by the emerging brewery.
- (2) For the purposes of this section, "fair market value" shall mean the price that the wholesaler's business that is related to the terminated brands of the emerging brewery would sell for in an arms length transaction between a willing buyer and a willing seller as of the date the notice was received by the wholesaler being terminated under paragraph (1) of subsection (b), with neither being required to act, and both having reasonable knowledge of the relevant facts.
- (d) (1) Any dispute whether a brewery is an emerging brewery within the meaning of this section shall be determined by the alcoholic beverages control commission, which either the emerging brewery or the wholesaler may request within 90 days of either party claiming rights under this section. The commission shall issue a decision within 90 days of receipt of any request to determine this issue. The commission may award the prevailing party its attorney's fees regarding the issue of whether a brewery is an emerging brewery.

(2) If the emerging brewery and the affected wholesaler cannot agree on the compensation due to the affected wholesaler under subsection (c) within the 90 days following the emerging brewery notice of its termination of the right to distribute any brands of malt beverages, either the affected wholesaler or the emerging brewery may request that the amount of compensation be determined by final binding arbitration conducted in the commonwealth, applying the laws of the commonwealth according to the arbitration process below.

- (e) (1) Arbitrations under this section shall be administered by the American Arbitration Association or its successor organization. The commercial arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association or its successor organization shall govern the arbitration. Arbitrations shall be conducted before a panel of 3 arbitrators. Within 15 days after the commencement of arbitration, each party shall select one person to act as arbitrator, and the two so selected shall select a third arbitrator within 30 days of the commencement of the arbitration. If any arbitrator is not selected within 45 days after notice of the arbitration being filed, such arbitrators shall be selected by the nearest office of the American Arbitration Association or its successor organization. All arbitrators shall serve as neutral, independent and impartial arbitrators.
- (2) The arbitration proceeding shall conclude not later than 90 days after the date of the notice of intent to arbitrate is transmitted to the other party, unless the parties agree to extend the time by agreement or the arbitrator extends the time for good cause shown. Any arbitration held pursuant to this section shall be in lieu of all other remedies and procedures. The costs of the arbitrators and any other costs of the arbitration shall be equally divided by the parties engaged in the arbitration. Each party shall bear all other expenses related to the arbitration. The panel of arbitrators shall render a written, reasoned decision not later than 30 days after the conclusion of

the arbitration proceeding, unless the parties agree to extend the time by agreement or the arbitrators extend the time for good cause shown.

- (3) The arbitration decision shall be subject to judicial review pursuant to chapter 30A.

 Any arbitration decision issued under this section may be enforced by commencing a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction in the commonwealth.
- (4) Any party duly notified of an arbitration involving its rights that fails to participate in an arbitration proceeding held pursuant to this section waives all rights it would have had in the arbitration and is considered to have consented to the determination of the panel of arbitrators.
- SECTION 3. Said chapter 138 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by adding the following section:-

Section 79. If any provision of this chapter 138, or its application to any person or circumstance, is determined by a court to be invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining provisions shall be construed in accordance with the intent of the general court to further limit rather than to expand commerce in alcoholic beverages, to enhance strict regulatory control over taxation, distribution and sale of alcoholic beverages through the three-tier regulatory system imposed by this chapter upon all alcoholic beverages including malt beverages.