

Board of Chosen Freeholders County of Burlington

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MOUNT HOLLY, NEW JERSEY

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Office of:

COUNTY FREEHOLDERS

Kate Gibbs, *Director*

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Tuesday, October 9, 2018



EVE A. CULLINAN
County Administrator

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Clerk of the Board

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Honorable Dawn Marie Addiego
Honorable Joe Howarth
Honorable Ryan Peters
176 Route 70, Suite 13
Medford, NJ 08055

Dear Senator Addiego, Assemblymen Howarth and Peters,

Recently, the state Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control issued a special ruling that temporarily placed new drastic limitations on eight craft breweries located here in Burlington County, as well as others like it throughout New Jersey. The Freeholder Board immediately took action and joined thousands of consumers all across the state to urge that the rules be withdrawn. Thankfully, we were able to help provide a successful outcome in the short term; but, we must work towards a permanent solution.

I am requesting that you introduce legislation as soon as possible that would address the issues outlined in the special ruling in a way that is fair and allows our craft breweries to continue to grow and become part of our communities.

Small businesses and the job opportunities they provide our residents are so important to our main streets and families all across the county. That's why I was appalled to learn about the state ABC's special ruling which would have severely restricted the number of popular public events held at craft breweries, such as weekly trivia nights, musical performances, movie nights, and gatherings for live sporting events on television.

In addition, the rules would have also dampened other potential revenue sources by both limiting the number of on-site private events and off-site permits for festivals, holiday celebrations, and more. The rules would have even banned take-out menus from local restaurants on-site.

As someone who enjoys visiting our craft breweries in Burlington County, I know how harmful these rules would have been. I am standing firmly on their side and hope to partner with you to advocate on their behalf.

Sincerely,

Kate Gibbs, Burlington County Freeholder Director