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Good evening, everyone!

Thank you, Chairman Wiggins, Vice Chair Dean, Ranking Member Brennan, and all the State and Local government Members for allowing me to provide Sponsor Testimony in support of Naming Oct. 10th Black Brewer's Week. The City of Cleveland has already taken the step of naming Oct. 10th Black Brewer's Week, and we are hoping Ohio does the same.

This will be a momentous occasion to recognize and honor the outstanding contributions of Black brewers to the brewing industry. It is a time to uplift and amplify the voices and talents of Black brewers who have been integral to shaping the rich tapestry of brewing history here in Ohio.

This week-long celebration will not only celebrate the artistry of brewing but also acknowledge the resilience, creativity, and innovation that Black brewers bring to the table. Their passion for brewing has undoubtedly left an indelible mark on the industry for generations.

Black Brewer's Week is an opportunity to spotlight the diversity of talent within the brewing community and foster inclusivity and representation. It will be a time for Ohioans to come together, learn from one another, and uplift each other as we continue to push for greater diversity and equity in the brewing world.

Throughout this week, we hope many will have the chance to experience the exceptional craft and artistry of Black brewers through tastings, events, and discussions in Ohio. We know many will gain insights into Black brewers' unique stories and journeys, further recognizing their impact on the brewing landscape.

As I raise my glasses to toast Black Brewer's Week, this week will also allow us to raise awareness, promote dialogue, and create opportunities for the next generation of diverse brewers. Let us commit to supporting and empowering Black brewers as we work towards a more inclusive and equitable brewing industry.

So, here's to Black Brewer's Week—a celebration of excellence, innovation, and the rich tapestry of brewing traditions. Let's make this week a resounding success and a testament to the

incredible contributions of Black brewers. Cheers to the past, present, and future of Black brewing excellence!

Again, thank you, Chair Wiggam, Vice Chair Dean, and Ranking Member Breenan, for allotting this time. We hope to move forward with this.

Thank you.

