

# ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 72

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 216th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 9, 2014

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman SAMUEL L. FIOCCHI**  
**District 1 (Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Assemblymen Caputo, Johnson, Mukherji, Assemblywoman Simon,**  
**Assemblyman Rible, Assemblywoman McHose, Assemblymen Peterson,**  
**Giblin, DeAngelo and Assemblywoman Quijano**

**SYNOPSIS**

Designates last full week of September of each year as “New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week” and Wednesday of that week as “New Jersey Dine Out Day.”

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 7/14/2014)**

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1   **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating the last full week of September  
2       of each year as “New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week” and  
3       Wednesday of that week as “New Jersey Dine Out Day.”  
4  
5   **WHEREAS**, New Jersey is home to a variety of microbreweries  
6       producing craft beer; and  
7   **WHEREAS**, More than three dozen craft breweries and brewpubs are  
8       operating in New Jersey, with more breweries anticipated to open  
9       within the next few years; and  
10   **WHEREAS**, Many craft beers from New Jersey have won awards at  
11       various beer competitions and festivals; and  
12   **WHEREAS**, Craft breweries are growing across the nation, with craft  
13       beer posting a national sales growth rate of 14 percent and a volume  
14       growth rate of 12 percent in the first half of 2012; and  
15   **WHEREAS**, In addition to New Jersey’s many breweries and brew  
16       pubs, New Jersey has dozens of licensed wineries throughout the  
17       State, producing more than 40 varieties of wine; and  
18   **WHEREAS**, Over 1.5 million gallons of wine are produced in New  
19       Jersey each year, and New Jersey is the seventh highest wine-  
20       producing state in the country; and  
21   **WHEREAS**, The climate and sandy soil of New Jersey are well-suited  
22       to the development of sophisticated and delicious wines; and  
23   **WHEREAS**, In 1999, New Jersey instituted the Quality Wine Alliance  
24       Program to ensure that all wines sold to consumers meet certain  
25       quality standards; and  
26   **WHEREAS**, Wines from a variety of New Jersey vineyards have won  
27       prestigious awards for taste and quality; and  
28   **WHEREAS**, The development of New Jersey wine complements a long  
29       tradition of superb produce cultivated in New Jersey, and adds  
30       another facet to New Jersey’s designation as the “Garden State”;  
31       and  
32   **WHEREAS**, Consumption of New Jersey wines benefits New Jersey  
33       farmers and residents and generates revenue in the State; and  
34   **WHEREAS**, With the enactment of legislation in August 2013, craft  
35       distilleries may now produce artisan distilled beverages in New  
36       Jersey; and  
37   **WHEREAS**, The produce of New Jersey, such as its famous sweet corn,  
38       lends itself to the production of fine distilled spirits; and  
39   **WHEREAS**, There is great hope that the establishment of distilleries in  
40       New Jersey leads to job creation and revenue for the State; and  
41   **WHEREAS**, The designation of the last full week of each September as  
42       “New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week” will encourage the  
43       consumption of New Jersey’s exceptional beers, wines and distilled  
44       spirits; and  
45   **WHEREAS**, New Jersey is host to a multitude of fine dining  
46       establishments, including many that allow patrons the opportunity  
47       to bring their own alcoholic beverages; and

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1 WHEREAS, Dining in New Jersey is a pleasurable way to contribute to  
2 the State's economy and support local restaurants; and

3 WHEREAS, The experience of dining out in New Jersey can be  
4 enhanced by enjoying a New Jersey beer, wine or distilled spirit  
5 along with a meal; and

6 WHEREAS, The designation of "New Jersey Dine Out Day" on the  
7 Wednesday of each "New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week"  
8 promotes the experience of consuming New Jersey beers, wines or  
9 distilled spirits at New Jersey restaurants; and

10 WHEREAS, New Jersey has the opportunity become a destination for  
11 gourmets, beer aficionados, wine connoisseurs and enthusiasts of  
12 distilled spirits as more and more consumers frequent New Jersey  
13 restaurants, breweries, wineries and craft distilleries; and

14 WHEREAS, It is therefore fitting and proper, and in the interest of the  
15 State of New Jersey and its residents, to designate the last full week  
16 of each September as "New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week"  
17 and Wednesday of that week as "New Jersey Dine Out Day"; now,  
18 therefore,

19

20 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the  
21 State of New Jersey:

22

23 1. The last full week of September of each year is designated as  
24 "New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week," and Wednesday of that  
25 week is designated as "New Jersey Dine Out Day" to encourage the  
26 dual experience of consumption of New Jersey beer, wine and  
27 distilled spirits in New Jersey restaurants.

28

29 2. The Governor shall annually issue a proclamation and call  
30 upon public officials, and all residents of this State, to observe  
31 "New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week" and "New Jersey Dine  
32 Out Day" with appropriate events and programs.

33

34 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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39 This resolution designates the last full week of September of  
40 each year as "New Jersey Beer, Wine and Spirits Week" and  
41 Wednesday of that week as "New Jersey Dine Out Day."

42 New Jersey is home to a variety of microbreweries producing  
43 craft beers. The craft-brewing industry is rapidly growing, and  
44 several beers produced in New Jersey have won awards and gained  
45 recognition at various competitions and festivals.

46 Additionally, although New Jersey has long and well-deservedly  
47 been recognized as an exceptional source of produce, the State's  
48 wine industry is still a relatively undiscovered treasure.

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1 New Jersey produces over 1.5 million gallons of wine each year,  
2 making New Jersey the seventh largest wine-producing state in the  
3 United States. As the climate and sandy soil of New Jersey provide  
4 the ideal environment to cultivate grapes, many of New Jersey's  
5 wines have received prestigious awards and are recognized for their  
6 quality.

7 Moreover, the enactment of legislation in August 2013 allows for  
8 the licensing of distilleries for the production of distilled spirits.  
9 There is great hope that the licensing of distilleries leads to job  
10 production and revenue generation in New Jersey.

11 With the multitude of fine dining establishments in New Jersey,  
12 many of them allowing patrons to bring their own wine, beer and  
13 distilled spirits, there is a great opportunity to enjoy New Jersey  
14 wine in New Jersey restaurants. Supporting New Jersey's beer,  
15 wine, distilled spirits and restaurant industries is a pleasurable way  
16 to contribute to the State's economy.

17 It is the sponsor's hope that by designating "New Jersey Beer,  
18 Wine and Spirits Week" and "New Jersey Dine Out Day," more and  
19 more people will come to appreciate New Jersey's beer, wine and  
20 distilled spirits and restaurants.