

1 HJR213
2 219323-1
3 By Representative Isbell
4 RFD: Rules
5 First Read: 29-MAR-22

URGING STATE STUDY AND PUBLIC COMMENT IN REGARDS TO
SPIRIT INFUSED REFRESHMENTS.

WHEREAS, a new type of alcoholic beverage has entered the marketplace, consisting of ready-to-drink, low alcohol content, canned beverages infused with distilled spirits products; these beverages have been dubbed "spirit infused refreshments"; and

WHEREAS, although these beverages are almost indistinguishable from malt beverages that may be sold in grocery stores and convenience stores, they contain distilled spirits products which may legally be sold only in Alcoholic Beverage Control Board stores and private package stores, and may only be transported and distributed by the board; and

WHEREAS, the combination of public demand for canned, low alcohol content beverages, the number of new brands and labels of these beverages entering the marketplace, and the physical space required for storage and transportation of these beverages places unprecedented demand on the services of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board; for example,

1 distribution of these beverages by the Alcoholic Beverage
2 Control Board would require construction by the board of an
3 entirely new warehouse for the sole purpose of storing these
4 beverages, and would overload the board's current system of
5 transportation; and

6 WHEREAS, input from all industry stakeholders, as
7 well as the public, is needed to finalize a good and fair
8 marketplace for this new category of beverage; consumers from
9 Alabama want these new products, and it is the responsibility
10 of the state and its regulatory entities to provide for
11 delivery of these products to the public; now therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage
14 Control Board is urged to study spirit infused refreshments,
15 the demand for these products, and any necessary changes in
16 law that may be required to implement a new statutory
17 framework for regulation of these beverages; the alcoholic
18 beverage industry, other regulators, and the general public
19 are likewise urged to study these subjects and to deliver
20 comments to the board, in a manner established by the board,
21 regarding a proposed regulatory framework for these beverages
22 within the 30 days following enactment of this resolution.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Alabama Alcoholic
24 Beverage Control Board, no later than 14 days following the
25 conclusion of the 30-day comment period set forth within this
26 resolution, is requested to deliver to the Speaker of the
27 House of Representatives and the President of the Senate for

1 further distribution to the members of each chamber a copy of
2 its findings and any legislation proposed by the board
3 pursuant to this resolution, as well as any public commentary
4 that the board finds relevant.