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For Immediate Release

MN BREWERS ADVOCATE FOR SMALL BUSINESS GROWTH & CONSUMER CHOICE

Two amendments in the MN Senate's Omnibus Liquor Bill would remove vessel size restrictions on Minnesota taprooms, providing growth opportunities for brewers and more choices for consumers.

April 3, 2019, Minneapolis, MN: The Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild, a nonprofit with 130 brewery members throughout the state of Minnesota, announced its support of two amendments to S.F. 2130, the Omnibus Liquor Bill up for vote by the Minnesota Senate on Thursday, April 4.

The amendments address the growler cap and vessel size limits under current law.

- Growler Cap – Currently, Breweries producing more than 20,000 barrels annually must halt the sale of growlers out of their taprooms, diminishing business and frustrating consumers.
- Vessel Size Limits – Minnesota breweries are restricted from selling beer in the vessel size that is most appropriate for consumers and their product. Additionally, breweries of all sizes are not currently allowed to sell products in vessels smaller than 750mL.

The two amendments to the Omnibus Liquor Bill would remove the restrictions outlined above, allowing Minnesota breweries of all sizes to sell beer from their taprooms in vessels between 350mL – 2L (a standard 12oz can to a European Growler).

The Growler Cap and Vessel Size Expansion amendments began as bipartisan bills introduced in both the House and Senate. Senator Housley authored the Growler Cap bill (S.F. 1737) with the support of Senators Pappas, Dziedzic, Benson, and Bakk. Senator Osmek authored the Vessel Size Expansion bill (S.F. 1849) with support from Senators Kent, Franzen, Pappas, and Klein.

Breweries across the state see these amendments as critical to improving their ability to meet consumer demand, provide more shelf-stable beer, and eliminate restrictions that punish them for success and growth.

The Senate is expected to vote April 4. Comments from MNCBG will be available upon request and by following our social accounts and the hashtag #BeerisBipartisan.

About The Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild: The Minnesota Craft Brewers Guild is a not-for-profit organization that was founded in 2000. The Guild promotes Minnesota's booming brewing industry by sponsoring festivals and special events, including Autumn Brew Review and All Pints North, promoting special events like the State Fair's Brewed in Minnesota exhibit, and ultimately showcasing the talent of Minnesota's craft brewers. The Guild's goals are to promote Minnesota breweries, create an open line of communication between brewers, and connect Minnesota beer to the consumer.

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