



Additional Legislative and Funding Priorities

CHEERS Act

The *Creating Hospitality Economic Enhancement for Restaurants and Servers Act* (CHEERS Act) would give breweries, taprooms, restaurants, hotels, and other hospitality businesses a meaningful tax incentive to invest in modern, energy-efficient draft systems that are essential to serving beer on-premises. By allowing businesses to deduct the cost of qualifying draft equipment, the CHEERS Act helps reduce upfront operating costs at a time of tight margins and rising expenses. The resulting savings can be reinvested in hiring and retaining staff, upgrading facilities, and supporting local brewers. Encouraging the adoption of efficient draft systems also advances sustainability goals by reducing waste and improving energy use.

AGRITOURISM Act

H.R.3470/S.3392, the *AGRITOURISM Act* would expand opportunities for agricultural producers, including farm breweries, to engage visitors, diversify income streams, and integrate experiential tourism into rural economic strategies. By clarifying federal definitions and enhancing access to agritourism resources and programs, this legislation would help small businesses boost on-farm sales of locally made products, strengthen community ties, and support job creation in rural areas. This policy recognizes agritourism's role in enriching agricultural heritage and increasing the visibility of American producers.

Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) Funding

Maintaining Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB) funding at \$157.8 million strengthens the Bureau's ability to issue timely permits, process label and formula approvals, and deliver clear regulatory guidance that small brewers depend on to launch and expand products. Adequate appropriations ensure TTB can modernize legacy systems, reduce administrative backlogs, and enhance voluntary compliance while supporting economic growth in the alcohol beverage sector by minimizing regulatory delays that hinder business operations.

Barley and Hops Research Funding

Sustained federal investment in barley and hops research is essential to secure a stable, high-quality domestic supply of key brewing ingredients and to mitigate threats from pests, disease, and climate stressors. The FY 2026 USDA funding provides discretionary agricultural research support through the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and includes targeted increases such as a \$500,000 boost for the Wheat & Barley Scab Initiative, \$250,000 for barley pest research, and a \$1 million increase for the Resilient Barley Initiative, which together advance disease resistance and crop resilience for barley, a cornerstone of U.S. malting supply. Continued research investment helps growers adapt to evolving challenges, reduces reliance on imports, and enhances the competitiveness of America's brewing supply chain.

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