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Beer Institute Names Senator Tammy Baldwin a 2018 Beer Champion

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Beer Institute announced U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) as one of the Beer Institute’s “2018 Beer Champions.” The Senator was selected for her leadership in championing policies that provide tax relief for all brewers and beer importers and ensure the Dietary Guidelines for Americans continue to reflect that beer is distinct from other alcohol beverages.

“America’s brewers and importers are pleased to honor Senator Baldwin. Her tireless efforts to build support for policies that enable our nation’s breweries and beer importers to continue to innovate ensure they can quench the thirst for America’s most popular alcohol beverage,” said Jim McGreevy, President and CEO of the Beer Institute. “I look forward to continuing to work with her on issues that will allow brewers and beer importers of all sizes to create even more good-paying jobs in America.”

“In Wisconsin, we have a long and proud tradition of making iconic beers that are celebrated around the world. Our brewers are an important part of our made in Wisconsin economy and our heritage,” said Senator Baldwin. “I’m honored to be named the Beer Institute’s 2018 Beer Champion, and I am committed to continuing my work to support America’s breweries so they continue moving our economy forward and keep making great beer.”

Wisconsin is home to 260 breweries and the beer industry helps create 69,000 jobs in the state.

“Senator Baldwin has been incredibly supportive, not only with issues relating to MillerCoors, but those that impact the entire beer category and beer consumers,” said Gavin Hattersley, CEO of MillerCoors. “She is a more than deserving recipient of the Beer Institute’s Beer Champion Award, and we look forward to working with her on additional legislation that will create jobs and growth within the industry.”

Senator Baldwin was an original co-sponsor of the Craft Beverage Modernization and Tax Reform Act (S. 236), provisions of which were [signed](#) into law in December 2017, providing temporary federal excise tax relief to brewers and beer importers. As a result of the law, brewers and beer importers have resources to reinvest in their businesses, hire new employees and continue to innovate and create America’s favorite beers. However, this tax relief is scheduled to expire by on December 31, 2019, unless Congress acts to extend the new excise tax rates or make them permanent.

The excise tax relief will save U.S. brewers and beer importers \$130 million and yield \$320 million in annual GDP growth, making it a smart return on investment for Americans.

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***The Beer Institute** is a national trade association for the American brewing industry, representing brewers of all sizes, as well as beer importers and industry suppliers. First founded in 1862 as the U.S. Brewers Association, the Beer Institute is committed today to the development of sound public policy and to the values of civic duty and personal responsibility. For additional updates from the Beer Institute, visit our [website](#), follow [@BeerInstitute](#) on Twitter, like the Beer Institute on [Facebook](#), and follow the Beer Institute on [Instagram](#).*