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Beverage Retailers Join Industry Partners in Celebration of Alcohol in American History

Bethesda, MD — June 26, 2015 — More than 600 beverage alcohol industry representatives, members of Congress and staff came together on June 10 to celebrate “Spirited Republic: Alcohol in American History”, the new exhibit at the National Archives that showcases the important history and impact of the beverage alcohol industry over the last 100 years.

The event highlighted the newly opened exhibit, which shares the story of beverage alcohol in America from pre-Prohibition to the modern day. It is housed in the Lawrence F. O’Brien Gallery of the National Archives and presents a historic overview of the role of government and alcohol with relics and documents spanning the time of George Washington through contemporary day, and includes photos of memorable presidential toasts.

The reception was hosted in conjunction with nine industry groups: American Beverage Licensees; Distilled Spirits Council of the United States; The Beer Institute; National Association of Beverage Importers; National Beer Wholesalers Association; The Presidents’ Forum of the Distilled Spirits Industry; WineAmerica; The Wine Institute; and the Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of America.

“ABL was excited to support this important event that brought together all three tiers of the industry,” said John Bodnovich, executive director of ABL. “The Spirited Republic exhibit provided a great opportunity to recognize the historical place of beverage alcohol in American culture and support the industry we are all so passionate about. The history of beverage alcohol in the United States is a varied and vibrant one, and this exhibit tells the story of our industry’s unique role over the last century.”

For more information on the “Spirited Republic” exhibition, click [here](#).

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American Beverage Licensees is the preeminent national trade association for beverage alcohol retailers. Direct retail beverage alcohol sales in the United States generate as many as 1.77 million well-paying jobs. ABL’s thousands of on-premise and off-premise licensee members are independent and often family-owned establishments. The beverage retailing industry pays over \$19.3 billion in federal taxes and \$16.9 billion in state and local taxes. To learn more about ABL, visit www.ablusa.org.