



**John Barilaro**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for Regional NSW  
Minister for Industry and Trade

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NSW GOVERNMENT KEEPS GLASS HALF FULL FOR INDEPENDENT BREWERS**

Independent brewers hit by drought, bushfire and COVID-19 will benefit from a special support package to help weather the next 12 months.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, Industry and Trade John Barilaro announced funding of \$135,000 to provide resources and support to the industry through the Independent Brewers Association.

“Two thirds of our state’s craft breweries are located in regional NSW and have been doing it tough throughout COVID as they rely so heavily on tourism and taprooms for survival,” Mr Barilaro said.

“Regional breweries play a significant role providing employment locally and as the focal point for community activities. They also bring additional business and visitors, attracted by their natural ingredients, artisan products and innovation.

“Many businesses have suffered from the COVID crisis, some losing their entire cash flow during the shutdown period.

“As restrictions continue to ease, the NSW Government is ensuring independent brewers have the resources they need to prepare for a new phase of growth.”

The package will cover one year’s annual membership funds, allowing the Association to continue providing services to over 150 independent brewing operations, including supporting a range of initiatives to foster growth as they rebuild after COVID.

The commitment follows development of the NSW Government’s Independent Brewers Action Plan, launched earlier this year to realise future development opportunities.

Independent Brewers Association Chairman Peter Philip said the funding would help the industry rebuild.

“This is a wonderful result for NSW indie brewers, particularly small breweries in regional areas who have been doing it tough,” Mr Philip said.

“Some have lost nearly all of their revenue due to the pandemic. This grant will provide a much-needed stimulus for the path to recovery for our members.”

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