

2023 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 169

BY SENATOR MIZELL

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Requests the commissioner of the office of alcohol and tobacco control, Department of Revenue, to submit a written report concerning the sale or service of alcoholic beverages to underage persons.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the commissioner of the office of alcohol and tobacco control,
3 Department of Revenue, to submit a written report by September 1, 2023, to the
4 Senate Committee on Judiciary B and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research
5 Library in accordance with R.S. 24:771 and 772 concerning the sale or service of
6 alcoholic beverages to underage persons.

7 WHEREAS, underage drinking occurs when someone under the legal drinking age
8 of twenty-one consumes alcohol; and

9 WHEREAS, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism,
10 underage drinking is a serious public health problem in the United States as alcohol is the
11 most widely used substance among America's youth and can cause enormous health and
12 safety risks; and

13 WHEREAS, according to a 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, close to
14 six million youth ages twelve to twenty reported drinking alcohol beyond "just a few sips"
15 in the previous month; and

16 WHEREAS, in Louisiana, it is unlawful for any underage person to purchase or have
17 public possession of any alcoholic beverages and it is unlawful for a person holding a retail
18 dealer's permit issued by the office of alcohol and tobacco control to sell or serve alcoholic

1 beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one; and

2 WHEREAS, the office of alcohol and tobacco control, Department of Revenue, is
3 the regulatory body for the alcohol and tobacco industries and is required by law to enforce
4 state laws and regulations, including the prohibition against the sale or service of alcoholic
5 beverages to underage persons; and

6 WHEREAS, the office's stated mission is "to maintain the integrity of Louisiana's
7 alcoholic beverage and tobacco industries through effective regulation that promotes
8 responsible business practices and the prevention of access to underage persons"; and

9 WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the commissioner of the office of alcohol and
10 tobacco control to carry out the mission of the office by ensuring the laws and regulations
11 of the state are followed by permitted retail dealers and that such dealers are not engaged in
12 the sale or service of alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one.

13 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana
14 does hereby urge and request the commissioner of the office of alcohol and tobacco control,
15 Department of Revenue, to submit a written report by September 1, 2023, to the Senate
16 Committee on Judiciary B and the David R. Poynter Legislative Research Library in
17 accordance with R.S. 24:771 and 772 concerning the sale or service of alcoholic beverages
18 to underage persons.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report shall, at a minimum, include for the
20 time period between July 1, 2021, and June 30, 2023, all of the following:

21 (1) The number of active retail alcoholic beverage permits, delineated by permit type
22 and parish.

23 (2) The number of alcoholic beverage compliance checks conducted pursuant to R.S.
24 26:793(C), delineated by permit type and parish.

25 (3) The number of complaints received regarding the sale or service of alcoholic
26 beverages to underage persons, delineated by permit type and parish.

27 (4) The average number of days taken by the agency to investigate complaints
28 received regarding the sale or serve of alcoholic beverages to underage persons.

29 (5) The number of citations issued for violations of R.S. 26:90(A) and 286(A),
30 delineated by permit type, parish, and offense.

