

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 291

BY SENATOR MIZELL

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Increases the minimum age of bartenders. (8/1/24)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 26:90.2 and 286.1, relative to alcoholic beverages; to provide for the employment of persons in certain permitted establishments; to provide relative to certain responsibilities of employees; to provide for violations; to provide for terms and conditions; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 26:90.1 and 286.1 are hereby enacted to read as follows:

**§90.2. Bartender; minimum age**

**A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no person holding a Class A retail liquor permit shall employ, permit, or suffer to work any person under the age of twenty-one to open or prepare, or both, alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises by paying customers, or prepared with an appropriate lid or cover on the container for take out service.**

**B. A violation of this Section is punishable as provided in R.S. 26:171 and is also sufficient cause for the suspension or revocation of a permit.**

**C. Notwithstanding the issuance of permit by way of renewal, the commissioner may revoke or suspend the permit, as prescribed by this Chapter,**

1 for violations of this Section that occurred during the permit period  
2 immediately preceding the issuance of the permit.

3 \* \* \*

4 **§286.1. Bartender; minimum age**

5 **A. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, no person**  
6 **holding a Class A retail permit for beverages of low alcoholic content shall**  
7 **employ, permit, or suffer to work any person under the age of twenty-one to**  
8 **open or prepare, or both, alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises**  
9 **by paying customers, or prepared with an appropriate lid or cover on the**  
10 **container for take out service.**

11 **B. A violation of this Section is punishable as provided in R.S. 26:521 and**  
12 **is also sufficient cause for the suspension or revocation of a permit.**

13 **C. Notwithstanding the issuance of permit by way of renewal, the**  
14 **commissioner may revoke or suspend the permit, as prescribed by this Chapter,**  
15 **for violations of this Section that occurred during the permit period**  
16 **immediately preceding the issuance of the permit.**

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Ridge.

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Present law prohibits any person under 21 years of age to purchase or have public possession of any alcoholic beverage.

Present law defines "public possession" as the possession of any alcoholic beverage for any reason, including consumption, on any street, highway, or waterway or in any public place or any place open to the public, including a club which is de facto open to the public. Excepts from the definition the sale, handling, transport, or service in dispensing of any alcoholic beverage pursuant to lawful employment of a person under 21 years of age by a duly licensed manufacturer, wholesaler, or retailer of beverage alcohol.

Proposed law prohibits a person who holds a Class A retail permit of either high or low alcoholic content from employing any person under the age of 21 to open or prepare, or both, alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises by paying customers, or prepared with an appropriate lid or cover on the container for take out service.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Adds R.S. 26:90.2 and 286.1)