
HOUSE BILL 1117

State of Washington

55th Legislature

1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Benson, Sheahan, Costa, D. Sommers, McDonald, Gombosky, Mulliken, Robertson, O'Brien, D. Schmidt, Backlund, Sterk, Wood, Sheldon, Quall, Anderson, Boldt and DeBolt

Read first time 01/14/97. Referred to Committee on Law & Justice.

1 AN ACT Relating to penalties for the supplying of liquor to or the
2 consumption of liquor by persons under the age of twenty-one; amending
3 RCW 66.44.270; and prescribing penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 66.44.270 and 1993 c 513 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 (1) It is unlawful for any person to sell, give, or otherwise
8 supply liquor to any person under the age of twenty-one years or permit
9 any person under that age to consume liquor on his or her premises or
10 on any premises under his or her control. For the purposes of this
11 subsection, "premises" includes real property, houses, buildings, and
12 other structures, and motor vehicles and watercraft. A violation of
13 this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable as provided for in
14 chapter 9A.20 RCW.

15 (2)(a) It is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one
16 years to possess, consume, or otherwise acquire any liquor. A
17 violation of this subsection is a gross misdemeanor punishable as
18 provided for in chapter 9A.20 RCW.

1 (b) It is unlawful for a person under the age of twenty-one years
2 to be in a public place, or to be in a motor vehicle in a public place,
3 while exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor. For purposes
4 of this subsection, exhibiting the effects of having consumed liquor
5 means that a person has the odor of liquor on his or her breath and
6 either: (i) Is in possession of or close proximity to a container that
7 has or recently had liquor in it; or (ii) by speech, manner,
8 appearance, behavior, lack of coordination, or otherwise, exhibits that
9 he or she is under the influence of liquor. This subsection (2)(b)
10 does not apply if the person is in the presence of a parent or guardian
11 or has consumed or is consuming liquor under circumstances described in
12 subsection (4) or (5) of this section.

13 (3) Subsections (1) and (2)(a) of this section do not apply to
14 liquor given or permitted to be given to a person under the age of
15 twenty-one years by a parent or guardian and consumed in the presence
16 of the parent or guardian. This subsection shall not authorize
17 consumption or possession of liquor by a person under the age of
18 twenty-one years on any premises licensed under chapter 66.24 RCW.

19 (4) This section does not apply to liquor given for medicinal
20 purposes to a person under the age of twenty-one years by a parent,
21 guardian, physician, or dentist.

22 (5) This section does not apply to liquor given to a person under
23 the age of twenty-one years when such liquor is being used in
24 connection with religious services and the amount consumed is the
25 minimal amount necessary for the religious service.

26 (6) Conviction or forfeiture of bail for a violation of this
27 section by a person under the age of twenty-one years at the time of
28 such conviction or forfeiture shall not be a disqualification of that
29 person to acquire a license to sell or dispense any liquor after that
30 person has attained the age of twenty-one years.

--- END ---