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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that underage drinking is  
2 a continuing problem in Hawaii. The number of arrests by police  
3 for persons under the age of twenty-one for driving under the  
4 influence and zero tolerance has increased over the years. The  
5 Hawaii department of health 2003 student survey concluded that  
6 there has been a decrease in youth alcohol consumption in grades  
7 six, eight, ten, and twelve. Those in grades ten and twelve  
8 showed less of a decrease than those in the sixth and eighth  
9 grades. The report concluded that those surveyed in the tenth  
10 and twelfth grades showed a 59.1 and 72.5 per cent lifetime use  
11 rate in 2003. The majority of tenth and twelfth graders have  
12 tried alcohol in their lifetime and nearly half of the seniors  
13 have reported being drunk. In a monthly trend, of those having  
14 a drink in the past thirty days, it showed that twenty-seven per  
15 cent of tenth graders and thirty-six per cent of twelfth graders  
16 had consumed alcohol. The consumption of alcohol among the  
17 young becomes a health problem in that it affects the  
18 development of the brain at that young age. This alters the



1 learning process in a way that may lead to behavioral problems.  
2 To protect the young, thirty-seven states have enacted laws that  
3 prohibit the consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of  
4 twenty-one.

5 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit the  
6 consumption of intoxicating liquor by anyone under the age of  
7 twenty-one years.

8 SECTION 2. Section 281-101.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 **"§281-101.5 Prohibitions involving minors; penalty.** (a)

11 No adult shall provide or purchase liquor for consumption or use  
12 by a person under twenty-one years of age.

13 (b) No minor shall consume or purchase liquor and no minor  
14 shall have liquor in the minor's possession or custody in any  
15 motor vehicle on a public highway or in any public place, public  
16 gathering, or public amusement or at any public beach or public  
17 park; provided that notwithstanding any other law to the  
18 contrary, this subsection shall not apply to:

19 (1) Possession or custody of liquor by a minor in the  
20 course of delivery, pursuant to the direction of the  
21 minor's employer lawfully engaged in business  
22 necessitating the delivery;



1           (2) Possession or custody of liquor by a minor in  
2           connection with the minor's authorized participation  
3           in religious ceremonies requiring the possession or  
4           custody; or

5           (3) Any person between the ages of eighteen and twenty,  
6           who is participating in a controlled purchase as part  
7           of a law enforcement activity or a study authorized by  
8           the department of health to determine the level of  
9           incidence of liquor sales to minors.

10          (c) No minor shall falsify any identification or use any  
11         false identification or identification of another person or of a  
12         fictitious person for the purpose of buying or attempting to buy  
13         liquor or for the purpose of obtaining employment to sell or  
14         serve liquor on licensed premises.

15          (d) Any person under age eighteen who violates this  
16         section shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the family  
17         court. Any person age eighteen or older who violates subsection  
18         (a) shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Any person age eighteen  
19         to twenty-one who violates [~~subsections~~] subsection (b) or (c)  
20         shall be guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

21          (e) As used in this section, "consume" or "consumption"  
22         includes the ingestion of liquor."



1 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
3 begun, before its effective date.

4 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 3242

**Report Title:**

Intoxicating Liquor; Minors

**Description:**

Prohibits consumption of liquor by minors.

