

## Senate Bill No. 340

### CHAPTER 786

An act to amend Sections 25658, 25658.1, and 25658.4 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to alcoholic beverages.

[Approved by Governor October 7, 1999. Filed  
with Secretary of State October 10, 1999.]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 340, Baca. Alcoholic beverages: minors: license revocations: off-sale licensees: applications and acknowledgment.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act prohibits the sale of alcoholic beverages to, or the purchase of alcoholic beverages by, persons under the age of 21 years, and imposes penalties in that regard, but permits minors to be used as decoys in the enforcement of these provisions. Existing law requires that, after the completion of each minor decoy program, the law enforcement agency using the decoy shall notify licensees of the results of the program.

This bill would require the notification to be given to the licensees within 72 hours.

Under existing law, the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control may revoke a license for a 3rd violation of provisions relating to selling alcoholic beverages to minors within any 36-month period.

This bill would provide that no violation of these provisions may be considered unless it has become final.

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act prohibits a clerk from making a sale of alcoholic beverages unless the clerk executes, under penalty of perjury, on the first day he or she makes that sale, an application and acknowledgment, on a form prepared by the department, that includes at a minimum a summary of certain requirements and prohibitions in the act, as specified.

The bill would permit nonprofit organizations and licensees to obtain videotapes and other training materials on the Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drugs (LEAD) program, as specified.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 25658 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25658. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (c), every person who sells, furnishes, gives, or causes to be sold, furnished, or given away, any alcoholic beverage to any person under the age of 21 years is guilty of a misdemeanor.



(b) Any person under the age of 21 years who purchases any alcoholic beverage, or any person under the age of 21 years who consumes any alcoholic beverage in any on-sale premises, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) Any person who violates subdivision (a) by purchasing an alcoholic beverage for a person under the age of 21 years and the person under the age of 21 years thereafter consumes the alcohol and thereby proximately causes great bodily injury or death to himself, herself, or any other person, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(d) Any on-sale licensee who knowingly permits a person under the age of 21 years to consume any alcoholic beverage in the on-sale premises, whether or not the licensee has knowledge that the person is under the age of 21 years, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(e) (1) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) or (3), any person who violates this section shall be punished by a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), no part of which shall be suspended, or the person shall be required to perform not less than 24 hours or more than 32 hours of community service during hours when the person is not employed and is not attending school, or a combination of fine and community service as determined by the court.

(2) Any person who violates subdivision (a) by furnishing an alcoholic beverage, or causing an alcoholic beverage to be furnished, to a minor shall be punished by a fine of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), no part of which shall be suspended, and the person shall be required to perform not less than 24 hours of community service during hours when the person is not employed and is not attending school.

(3) Any person who violates subdivision (c) shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail for a minimum term of six months not to exceed one year, by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000), or by both imprisonment and fine.

(f) Persons under the age of 21 years may be used by peace officers in the enforcement of this section to apprehend licensees, or employees or agents of licensees, who sell alcoholic beverages to minors. Notwithstanding subdivision (b), any person under the age of 21 years who purchases or attempts to purchase any alcoholic beverage while under the direction of a peace officer is immune from prosecution for that purchase or attempt to purchase an alcoholic beverage. Guidelines with respect to the use of persons under the age of 21 years as decoys shall be adopted and published by the department in accordance with the rulemaking portion of the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). Law enforcement-initiated minor decoy programs in operation prior to the effective date of regulatory guidelines adopted by the department shall be authorized as long as the minor decoy displays to the seller of alcoholic beverages the appearance of a person under the age of 21 years. This subdivision shall not be



construed to prevent the department from taking disciplinary action against a licensee who sells alcoholic beverages to a minor decoy prior to the department's final adoption of regulatory guidelines. After the completion of every minor decoy program performed under this subdivision, the law enforcement agency using the decoy shall notify licensees within 72 hours of the results of the program. When the use of a minor decoy results in the issuance of a citation, the notification required shall be given within 72 hours of the issuance of the citation. A law enforcement agency may comply with this requirement by leaving a written notice at the licensed premises addressed to the licensee, or by mailing a notice addressed to the licensee.

SEC. 2. Section 25658.1 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25658.1. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, no licensee may petition the department for an offer in compromise pursuant to Section 23095 for a second or any subsequent violation of Section 25658 that occurs within 36 months of the initial violation.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 24200, the department may revoke a license for a third violation of Section 25658 that occurs within any 36-month period. This provision shall not be construed to limit the department's authority and discretion to revoke a license prior to a third violation when the circumstances warrant that penalty.

(c) For purposes of this section, no violation may be considered for purposes of determination of the penalty until it has become final.

SEC. 3. Section 25658.4 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25658.4. (a) On and after January 1, 1992, no clerk shall make an off sale of alcoholic beverages unless the clerk executes under penalty of perjury on the first day he or she makes that sale an application and acknowledgment. The application and acknowledgment shall be in a form understandable to the clerk.

(1) The department shall specify the form of the application and acknowledgment which shall include at a minimum a summary of this division pertaining to the following:

(A) The prohibitions contained in Sections 25658 and 25658.5 pertaining to the sale to, and purchase of, alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 years of age.

(B) Bona fide evidence of majority as provided in Section 25660.

(C) Hours of operation as provided in Article 2 (commencing with Section 25630) of Chapter 16.

(D) The prohibitions contained in subdivision (a) of Section 25602 and Section 25602.1 pertaining to sales to an intoxicated person.

(E) Sections 23393 and 23394 as they pertain to on-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages in an off-sale premises.

(F) The requirements and prohibitions contained in Section 25659.5 pertaining to sales of keg beer for consumption off licensed premises.



(2) The application and acknowledgment shall also include a statement that the clerk has read and understands the summary, a statement that the clerk has never been convicted of violating this division or, if convicted, an explanation of the circumstances of each conviction, and a statement that the application and acknowledgment is executed under penalty of perjury.

(3) The licensee shall keep the executed application and acknowledgment on the premises at all times and available for inspection by the department. A licensee with more than one licensed off-sale premises in the state may comply with this subdivision by maintaining an executed application and acknowledgment at a designated licensed premises, regional office, or headquarters office in the state. An executed application and acknowledgment maintained at the designated locations shall be valid for all licensed off-sale premises owned by the licensee. Any licensee maintaining an application and acknowledgment at a designated site other than the individual licensed off-sale premises shall notify the department in advance and in writing of the site where the application and acknowledgment shall be maintained and available for inspection. A licensee electing to maintain application and acknowledgments at a designated site other than the licensed premises shall maintain at each licensed premises a notice of where the executed application and acknowledgments are located. Any licensee with more than one licensed off-sale premises who elects to maintain the application and acknowledgments at a designated site other than each licensed premises shall provide the department, upon written demand, a copy of any employee's executed application and acknowledgment within 10 business days. A violation of this subdivision by a licensee constitutes grounds for discipline by the department.

(b) On and after January 1, 1992, the licensee shall post a notice that contains and describes, in concise terms, prohibited sales of alcoholic beverages, a statement that the off-sale seller will refuse to make a sale if the seller reasonably suspects that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act may be violated, and a statement that a minor who purchases or attempts to purchase alcoholic beverages is subject to suspension or delay in the issuance of his or her driver's license pursuant to Section 13202.5 of the Vehicle Code. The notice shall be posted at an entrance or at a point of sale in the licensed premises or in any other location that is visible to purchasers of alcoholic beverages and to the off-sale seller.

(c) On and after January 1, 1998, a retail licensee shall post a notice that contains and describes, in concise terms, the fines and penalties for any violation of Section 25658, relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages to, or the purchase of alcoholic beverages by, any person under the age of 21 years.



(d) Nonprofit organizations or licensees may obtain videotapes and other training materials from the department on the Licensee Education on Alcohol and Drugs (LEAD) program. The videotapes and training materials may be updated periodically and may be provided in English and other languages, and when made available by the department, shall be provided at cost.

(e) As used in this section:

(1) “Off-sale seller” means any person holding a retail off-sale license issued by the department and any person employed by that licensee who in the course of that employment sells alcoholic beverages.

(2) “Clerk” means an off-sale seller who is not a licensee.

(f) The department may adopt rules and appropriate fees for licensees that it determines necessary for the administration of this section.

