

§ 67-1-81. Sales to minors prohibited; penalties.

(1) Any permittee or other person who shall sell, furnish, dispose of, give, or cause to be sold, furnished, disposed of, or given, any alcoholic beverage to any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for a first offense. For a second or subsequent offense, such permittee or other person shall be punished by a fine of not less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) nor more than Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), or by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the court. Upon conviction of a second offense under the provisions of this section the permit of any permittee so convicted shall be automatically and permanently revoked.

(2) Any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years who purchases, receives, or has in his or her possession in any public place, any alcoholic beverages, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00). Provided, that clearing or busing tables that have glasses or other containers that contain or did contain alcoholic beverages, or stocking, bagging or otherwise handling purchases of alcoholic beverages shall not be deemed possession of alcoholic beverages for the purposes of this section. Provided further, that a person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age but under the age of twenty-one (21) years who waits on tables by taking orders for or delivering orders of alcoholic beverages shall not be deemed to unlawfully possess or furnish alcoholic beverages if in the scope of his employment by the holder of an on-premises retailer's permit. This exception shall not authorize a person under the age of twenty-one (21) to tend bar or act in the capacity of bartender. Any person under the age of twenty-one (21) who knowingly makes a false statement to the effect that he or she is twenty-one (21) years old or older to any person engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of obtaining the same shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), and a sentence to not more than thirty (30) days' community service.

(3) The term "community service" as used in this section shall mean work, projects or services for the benefit of the community assigned, supervised and recorded by appropriate public officials.

(4) If a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years is convicted or enters a plea of guilty of purchasing, receiving or having in his or her possession in any public place any alcoholic beverages in violation of subsection (2) of this section, the trial judge, in lieu of the penalties otherwise provided under subsection (2) of this section, shall suspend the minor's driver's license by taking and keeping it in the custody of the court for a period of time not to exceed ninety (90) days. The judge so ordering the suspension shall enter upon his docket "DEFENDANT'S DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED FOR _____ DAYS IN LIEU OF CONVICTION" and such action by the trial judge shall not constitute a conviction. During the period that the minor's driver's license is suspended, the trial judge shall suspend the imposition of any fines or penalties that may be imposed under subsection (2) of this section and may place the minor on probation subject to such conditions as the judge deems appropriate. If the minor violates any of the conditions of probation, then the trial judge shall return the driver's license to the minor and impose the fines, penalties or both, that he would have otherwise imposed, and such action shall constitute a conviction.

Sources: Codes, 1942, § 10265-31; Laws, 1966, ch. 540, § 31; Laws, 1979, ch. 380; Laws, 1992, ch. 460, § 1, eff from and after July 1, 1992; Laws, 2002, ch. 570, § 3, eff from and after passage (approved Apr. 11, 2002.)

§ 67-3-54. Exemption for person over age 18 but less than 21; parental consent; military personnel; employee of establishment licensed to sell light wine or beer.

(1) A person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age but under the age of twenty-one (21) years may possess and consume light wine or beer with the consent of his parent or legal guardian in the presence of his parent or legal guardian, and it shall not be unlawful for the parent, legal guardian or spouse of such person to furnish light wine or beer to such person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age.

(2) A person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age and who is serving in the armed services of the United States may lawfully possess and consume light wine or beer on military property where the consumption of light wine or beer is allowed.

(3) A person who is under twenty-one (21) years of age shall not be deemed to unlawfully possess or furnish light wine or beer, if in the scope of his employment such person:

- (a) Clears or buses tables that have glasses or other containers that contain or did contain light wine or beer;
- (b) Waits on tables by taking orders for light wine or beer; or
- (c) Stocks, bags or otherwise handles purchases of light wine or beer at a store.

Sources: Laws, 1985, ch. 431, § 4, eff from and after October 1, 1986.

§ 67-3-70. Purchase of light wine or beer by person under age of 21; penalties; expungement of conviction.

(1) Except as otherwise provided by [Section 67-3-54](#), any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years who purchases or possesses any light wine or beer shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and a sentence to not more than thirty (30) days' community service.

(2) Any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years who falsely states he is twenty-one (21) years of age or older or presents any document that indicates he is twenty-one (21) years of age or older for the purpose of purchasing or possessing any light wine or beer shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and a sentence to not more than thirty (30) days community service.

(3) Except as otherwise provided by [Section 67-3-54](#), any person who knowingly purchases light wine or beer for, or gives or makes available light wine or beer to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be punished by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) nor more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) and a sentence to not more than thirty (30) days community service.

(4) The term "community service" as used in this section shall mean work, projects or services for the benefit of the community assigned, supervised and recorded by appropriate public officials.

(5) If a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years is convicted or enters a plea of guilty of violating subsection (1) or subsection (2) of this section, the trial judge, in lieu of the penalties otherwise provided under this section, shall suspend the minor's driver's license by taking and keeping it in the custody of the court for a period of time not to exceed ninety (90) days. The judge so ordering the suspension shall enter upon his docket "DEFENDANT'S DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENDED FOR _____ DAYS IN LIEU OF CONVICTION" and such action by the trial judge shall not constitute a conviction. During the period that the minor's driver's license is suspended, the trial judge shall suspend the imposition of any fines or penalties that may be imposed under this section and may place the minor on probation subject to such conditions as the judge deems appropriate. If the minor violates any of the conditions of probation, then the trial judge shall return the driver's license to the minor and impose the fines, penalties, or both, that he would have otherwise imposed, and such action shall constitute a conviction.

(6) Any person who has been charged with a violation of subsections (1) or (2) of this section may, not sooner than one (1) year after the dismissal and discharge or completion of any sentence and/or payment of any fine, apply to the court for an order to expunge from all official records all recordation relating to his arrest, trial, finding or plea of guilty, and dismissal and discharge. If the court determines that such person was dismissed and the proceedings against him discharged or that such person had satisfactorily served his sentence and/or paid his fine, it shall enter such order.

Sources: Laws, 1985, ch. 431, § 3, eff from and after October 1, 1986; Laws, 2002, ch. 570, § 5, eff from and after passage (approved Apr. 11, 2002.)

