

Assembly Bill No. 749

Passed the Assembly September 3, 1999

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

Passed the Senate August 31, 1999

Secretary of the Senate

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 1999, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor



CHAPTER _____

An act to amend Sections 25354, 25612.5, 25658, 25658.5, 25661, and 25662 of the Business and Professions Code, and to amend Section 11474 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to alcoholic beverage control.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 749, Wesson. Alcoholic beverage control: minors: penalties: controlled substances: destruction.

(1) The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act makes it a misdemeanor for any person under the age of 21 years to purchase any alcoholic beverage or consume any alcoholic beverage in any on-sale premises. Existing law provides that any person who violates that provision shall be punished by a fine of \$250, or not less than 24 hours or more than 32 hours of community service, or a combination thereof as determined by the court.

This bill would provide that a 2nd or subsequent violation would be punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or community service, as specified, or a combination of fine and community service as determined by the court.

(2) The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act provides that any person under the age of 21 years who attempts to purchase any alcoholic beverage from a licensee, or the licensee's agent or employee, is guilty of an infraction. The act further provides, with respect to this infraction, that a first violation is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100 and for subsequent violations, a fine of \$250 or community service.

This bill would increase the penalty for a first violation by requiring as an alternative or in combination with the fine between 24 and 32 hours of community service, as determined by the court. This bill would also revise the community service alternative for subsequent violations.

(3) The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act provides that any person under the age of 21 years who presents to a licensee any false identification for the purpose of



ordering or purchasing or attempting to order or purchase alcoholic beverages is guilty of a misdemeanor, and subject to a fine of at least \$250, or specified community service, or both.

This bill would provide that a 2nd or subsequent violation would be punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or community service, as specified, or a combination of fine and community service, as the court deems just.

(4) The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act makes it a misdemeanor for a person under the age of 21 years to have in his or her possession any alcoholic beverage on any street or highway or in any public place or place open to the public.

This bill would make a first violation of that provision punishable by a fine of at least \$250 or between 24 and 32 hours of community service. The bill would make a 2nd or subsequent violation a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, 36 to 48 hours of community service, and would provide that any grant of probation shall include the fine and not less than 50 hours of community service.

(5) Existing law provides that alcoholic beverages, when seized for forfeiture as specified, may be disposed of by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, as specified.

This bill would provide that controlled substances, instruments, or paraphernalia seized by the department may only be disposed of pursuant to a court order for destruction.

(6) Existing law provides that a court order for the destruction of controlled substances, instruments, or paraphernalia, as specified, may be carried out by a police or sheriff's department, the Department of Justice, or the Department of the California Highway Patrol.

This bill would provide that, in addition, a court order for the destruction of controlled substances, instruments, or paraphernalia, as specified, may be carried out by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

(7) This bill would impose a state-mandated local program by changing the penalties for these crimes.



(8) 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.

(9) Existing law establishes certain general operating standards that are applicable, as provided, to the licensed premises of certain retailers of alcoholic beverages, the violation of which is punishable as a misdemeanor.

This bill would impose a state-mandated local program by requiring these retail licensees who sell or rent video recordings to arrange them in a specified manner, a violation of which would be an infraction.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

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

SECTION 1. Section 25354 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25354. Alcoholic beverages manufactured or produced in this state by any person other than a licensed manufacturer or winegrower, when seized for forfeiture under this division, may be disposed of by the department, its officers, or employees by summary destruction. Controlled substances, instruments, or paraphernalia seized by the department may only be disposed of pursuant to a court order for destruction.

SEC. 2. Section 25612.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:



25612.5. (a) This section shall apply to licensees other than a retail on-sale licensee or on-sale beer and wine licensee who is licensed and operates as a bona fide public eating place, as defined in Section 23038, 23038.1, or 23038.2, or as a hotel, motel, or similar lodging establishment, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 25503.16; a winegrowers license; a licensed beer manufacturer, as defined in Section 23357; a retail licensee who concurrently holds an off-sale retail beer and wine license and a beer manufacturer's license for those same or contiguous premises; and a retail on-sale licensee or on-sale beer and wine licensee who is licensed and operates as a bona fide public eating place, as defined in Section 23038, 23038.1, or 23038.2, or as a hotel, motel, or similar lodging establishment, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 25503.16, a licensed beer manufacturer, as defined in Section 23357, or a winegrowers license, who sells off-sale beer and wine under the on-sale license on those same or contiguous premises.

(b) The Legislature finds and declares that it is in the interest of the public health, safety, and welfare to adopt operating standards as set forth in this section for specified retail premises licensed by the department. The standards set forth in this section are state standards that do not preclude the adoption and implementation of more stringent local regulations that are otherwise authorized by law.

(c) Other than as provided in subdivision (a), each retail licensee shall comply with all of the following:

(1) A prominent, permanent sign or signs stating "NO LOITERING IS ALLOWED ON OR IN FRONT OF THESE PREMISES" shall be posted in a place that is clearly visible to patrons of the licensee. The size, format, form, placement, and languages of the sign or signs shall be determined by the department. This paragraph shall apply to a licensee only upon written notice to the licensee from the department. The department shall issue this written notice only upon a request, from the local law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the



premises are located, that is supported by substantial evidence that there is loitering adjacent to the premises.

(2) A prominent, permanent sign or signs stating “NO OPEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTAINERS ARE ALLOWED ON THESE PREMISES” shall be posted in a place that is clearly visible to patrons of the licensee. The size, format, form, placement, and languages of the sign or signs shall be determined by the department. This paragraph shall apply to a licensee only upon written notice to the licensee from the department. The department shall issue this written notice only upon a request, from the local law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the premises are located, that is supported by substantial evidence that there is drinking in public adjacent to the premises.

(3) No alcoholic beverages shall be consumed on the premises of an off-sale retail establishment, and no alcoholic beverages shall be consumed outside the edifice of an on-sale retail establishment.

(4) The exterior of the premises, including adjacent public sidewalks and all parking lots under the control of the licensee, shall be illuminated during all hours of darkness during which the premises are open for business in a manner so that persons standing in those areas at night are identifiable by law enforcement personnel. However, the required illumination shall be placed so as to minimize interference with the quiet enjoyment of nearby residents of their property.

(5) Litter shall be removed daily from the premises, including adjacent public sidewalks and all parking lots under the control of the licensee. These areas shall be swept or cleaned, either mechanically or manually, on a weekly basis to control debris.

(6) Graffiti shall be removed from the premises and all parking lots under the control of the licensee within 72 hours of application. If the graffiti occurs on a Friday or weekend day, or on a holiday, the licensee shall remove the graffiti 72 hours following the beginning of the next weekday.



(7) No more than 33 percent of the square footage of the windows and clear doors of an off-sale premises shall bear advertising or signs of any sort, and all advertising and signage shall be placed and maintained in a manner that ensures that law enforcement personnel have a clear and unobstructed view of the interior of the premises, including the area in which the cash registers are maintained, from the exterior public sidewalk or entrance to the premises. However, this latter requirement shall not apply to premises where there are no windows, or where existing windows are located at a height that precludes a view of the interior of the premises to a person standing outside the premises.

(8) Upon request of the local law enforcement agency in whose jurisdiction the licensed premises are located or at the discretion of the department, each public telephone located on off-sale premises (or located in an adjacent area under the control of the off-sale licensee) shall be equipped with devices or mechanisms that prevent persons from calling into that public telephone.

(9) Every licensed retailer who sells or rents video recordings of harmful matter, as defined by Section 313 of the Penal Code, shall create an area within his or her business establishment for the placement of video recordings of harmful matter and for any material that advertises the sale or rental of these video recordings. This area shall be labeled “adults only.” The licensed retailer shall make reasonable efforts to arrange the video recordings in this area in such a way that minors may not readily access the video recordings or view the video box covers. The failure to create and label the “adults only” area is an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100). The failure to place a video recording or advertisement, regardless of its content, in this area shall not constitute an infraction.

(10) A copy of the applicable operating standards shall be available during normal business hours for viewing by the general public.

SEC. 3. 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. A second or subsequent violation of subdivision (b) shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or the person shall be required to perform not less than 36 hours or more than 48 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. It is the intent of the Legislature that the community service requirements prescribed in this section require service at an alcohol or drug treatment program or facility or at a county



coroner's office, if available, in the area where the violation occurred or where the person resides.

(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. 4. Section 25658.5 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25658.5. Any person under the age of 21 years who attempts to purchase any alcoholic beverage from a licensee, or the licensee's agent or employee, is guilty of an infraction and shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100), 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 or is not attending school, or a combination of fine and community service as determined by the court. A second or subsequent violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250), or the person shall be required to perform not less than 36 hours or more than 48 hours of community service during hours when the person is not employed or is not attending school, or a combination of fine and community service, as the court deems just. It is the intent of the Legislature that the community service requirements prescribed in this section require service at an alcohol or drug treatment program or facility or at a county coroner's office, if available, in the area where the violation occurred or where the person resides.

SEC. 5. Section 25661 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25661. Any person under the age of 21 years who presents or offers to any licensee, his or her agent or employee, any written, printed, or photostatic evidence of age and identity which is false, fraudulent or not



actually his or her own for the purpose of ordering, purchasing, attempting to purchase or otherwise procuring or attempting to procure, the serving of any alcoholic beverage, or who has in his or her possession any false or fraudulent written, printed, or photostatic evidence of age and identity, is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of at least 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 nor 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. A second or subsequent violation of this section shall be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or the person shall be required to perform not less than 36 hours or more than 48 hours of community service during hours when the person is not employed or is not attending school, or a combination of fine and community service, as the court deems just. It is the intent of the Legislature that the community service requirements prescribed in this section require service at an alcohol or drug treatment program or facility or at a county coroner's office, if available, in the area where the violation occurred or where the person resides.

SEC. 6. Section 25662 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

25662. (a) Any person under the age of 21 years who has any alcoholic beverage in his or her possession on any street or highway or in any public place or in any place open to the public is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by a fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) 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 or is not attending school. A second or subsequent violation shall be punishable as a misdemeanor and the person shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars (\$500), or required to perform not less than 36 hours or more than 48 hours of community service during hours when the



person is not employed or is not attending school, or a combination of fine and community service as the court deems just. It is the intent of the Legislature that the community service requirements prescribed in this section require service at an alcohol or drug treatment program or facility or at a county coroner's office, if available, in the area where the violation occurred or where the person resides. This section does not apply to possession by a person under the age of 21 years making a delivery of an alcoholic beverage in pursuance of the order of his or her parent, responsible adult relative, or any other adult designated by the parent or legal guardian, or in pursuance of his or her employment. That person shall have a complete defense if he or she was following, in a timely manner, the reasonable instructions of his or her parent, legal guardian, responsible adult relative, or adult designee relating to disposition of the alcoholic beverage.

(b) Unless otherwise provided by law, where a peace officer has lawfully entered the premises, the peace officer may seize any alcoholic beverage in plain view that is in the possession of, or provided to, a person under the age of 21 years at social gatherings, when those gatherings are open to the public, 10 or more persons under the age of 21 years are participating, persons under the age of 21 years are consuming alcoholic beverages, and there is no supervision of the social gathering by a parent or guardian of one or more of the participants.

Where a peace officer has seized alcoholic beverages pursuant to this subdivision, the officer may destroy any alcoholic beverage contained in an opened container and in the possession of, or provided to, a person under the age of 21 years, and, with respect to alcoholic beverages in unopened containers, the officer shall impound those beverages for a period not to exceed seven working days pending a request for the release of those beverages by a person 21 years of age or older who is the lawful owner or resident of the property upon which the alcoholic beverages were seized. If no one requests release of the



seized alcoholic beverages within that period, those beverages may be destroyed.

SEC. 7. Section 11474 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

11474. A court order for the destruction of controlled substances, instruments, or paraphernalia pursuant to the provisions of Section 11473 or 11473.5 may be carried out by a police or sheriff's department, the Department of Justice, the Department of the California Highway Patrol, or the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. The court order shall specify the agency responsible for the destruction. Controlled substances, instruments, or paraphernalia not in the possession of the designated agency at the time the order of the court is issued shall be delivered to the designated agency for destruction in compliance with the order.

SEC. 8. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.



Approved _____, 1999

Governor

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