

CHAPTER 2010-47

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 33

An act relating to selling, giving, or serving alcoholic beverages to persons under 21 years of age; amending s. 562.11, F.S.; increasing the penalty imposed for a second or subsequent offense of selling, giving, or serving alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years of age within a specified period following the prior offense; providing a defense; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 562.11, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, to read:

562.11 Selling, giving, or serving alcoholic beverages to person under age 21; providing a proper name; misrepresenting or misstating age or age of another to induce licensee to serve alcoholic beverages to person under 21; penalties.—

(1)(a)1. It is unlawful for any person to sell, give, serve, or permit to be served alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years of age or to permit a person under 21 years of age to consume such beverages on the licensed premises. A person who violates this subparagraph commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. A person who violates this subparagraph a second or subsequent time within 1 year after a prior conviction commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

2. In addition to any other penalty imposed for a violation of subparagraph 1., the court may order the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to withhold the issuance of, or suspend or revoke, the driver's license or driving privilege, as provided in s. 322.057, of any person who violates subparagraph 1. This subparagraph does not apply to a licensee, as defined in s. 561.01, who violates subparagraph 1. while acting within the scope of his or her license or an employee or agent of a licensee, as defined in s. 561.01, who violates subparagraph 1. while engaged within the scope of his or her employment or agency.

(d) Any person charged with a violation of paragraph (a) has a complete defense if, at the time the alcoholic beverage was sold, given, served, or permitted to be served:

1. The buyer or recipient falsely evidenced that he or she was 21 years of age or older;

2. The appearance of the buyer or recipient was such that a prudent person would believe the buyer or recipient to be 21 years of age or older; and

3. Such person carefully checked a driver's license or an identification card issued by this state or another state of the United States, a passport, or a United States Uniformed Services identification card presented by the buyer or recipient and acted in good faith and in reliance upon the representation and appearance of the buyer or recipient in the belief that the buyer or recipient was 21 years of age or older.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.

Approved by the Governor May 11, 2010.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 11, 2010.