

HB 95 -- Alcohol-Related Problems of Minors

Sponsor: Johnson (47)

This bill requires each school district to implement a policy by January 1, 2006, that details the consequences for students who consume intoxicating beverages on or off school property. Failure to enact a policy is a misdemeanor.

Currently, minors are eligible for a temporary instruction driver's permit at 15 years of age and an intermediate license at 16. The bill delays eligibility for six months if the minor has pled guilty to or been found guilty of purchasing or possessing alcoholic beverages. Owners or renters who permit underage drinking on their property will be guilty of a misdemeanor; however, this does not apply to parents or guardians. Visible intoxication and detectable blood alcohol content are added to the grounds for finding a minor guilty of the purchase or possession of alcohol. A person who was more than 15 years of age but less than 21 when he or she committed a violation of the purchase or possession by a minor's law will have his or her driving privileges suspended or revoked. The bill clarifies that revocation or suspension includes temporary permits and intermediate licenses. Suspension for a first offense will be 30 days, a second offense will be 90 days, and a third or subsequent offense will be one year.