

HB 1859 -- OPEN ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTAINER IN A MOTOR VEHICLE

SPONSOR: Butz

Currently, vehicle passengers are not prohibited from possessing an open alcoholic beverage. This bill makes it an offense to possess an open alcoholic beverage in the "passenger area" of a motor vehicle, as defined in the bill, .

The provisions of this bill do not apply to:

(1) Any passenger of a motor vehicle that is designed, maintained, or used primarily for transporting people for compensation; or

(2) Any passenger in the living quarters of a motor home or house trailer.

Only a person who is in possession of an open alcoholic beverage container will be charged with an offense.

The offense of possession of an open alcoholic beverage is an infraction and will not be reflected on any records maintained by the Department of Revenue.

This bill is similar to HB 526 (2025) and HB 2539 (2024).