

## P.L. 2000, CHAPTER 33

**AN ACT** concerning possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages by underaged persons, supplementing Title 40 of the Revised Statutes and amending R.S.40:48-1.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.40:48-1.2 Enactment of ordinance prohibiting possession, consumption of alcoholic beverages by underaged person on private property, permitted.

1. a. A municipality may enact an ordinance making it unlawful for any person under the legal age who, without legal authority, knowingly possesses or knowingly consumes an alcoholic beverage on private property. The ordinance shall provide that a violation shall be punished by a fine of \$250 for a first offense and \$350 for any subsequent offense.

b. The ordinance shall provide that the court may, in addition to the fine authorized for this offense, suspend or postpone for six months the driving privilege of the defendant. Upon the conviction of any person and the suspension or postponement of that person's driver's license, the court shall forward a report to the Division of Motor Vehicles stating the first and last day of the suspension or postponement period imposed by the court pursuant to this section. If a person at the time of the imposition of a sentence is less than 17 years of age, the period of license postponement, including a suspension or postponement of the privilege of operating a motorized bicycle, shall commence on the day the sentence is imposed and shall run for a period of six months after the person reaches the age of 17 years.

If a person at the time of the imposition of a sentence has a valid driver's license issued by this State, the court shall immediately collect the license and forward it to the division along with the report. If for any reason the license cannot be collected, the court shall include in the report the complete name, address, date of birth, eye color, and sex of the person, as well as the first and last date of the license suspension period imposed by the court.

The court shall inform the person orally and in writing that if the person is convicted of operating a motor vehicle during the period of license suspension or postponement, the person shall be subject to the penalties set forth in R.S.39:3-40. A person shall be required to acknowledge receipt of the written notice in writing. Failure to receive a written notice or failure to acknowledge in writing the receipt of a written notice shall not be a defense to a subsequent charge of a violation of R.S.39:3-40.

If the person convicted under such an ordinance is not a New Jersey resident, the court shall suspend or postpone, as appropriate, the non-resident driving privilege of the person based on the age of the person and submit to the division the required report. The court shall not collect the license of a non-resident convicted under this section. Upon receipt of a report by the court, the division shall notify the appropriate officials in the licensing jurisdiction of the suspension or postponement.

c. (1) No ordinance shall prohibit an underaged person from consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage in connection with a religious observance, ceremony, or rite or consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage in the presence of and with the permission of a parent, guardian or relative who has attained the legal age to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.

(2) As used in this section:

"Guardian" means a person who has qualified as a guardian of the underaged person pursuant to testamentary or court appointment.

"Relative" means the underaged person's grandparent, aunt or uncle, sibling, or any other person related by blood or affinity.

d. No ordinance shall prohibit possession of alcoholic beverages by any such person while actually engaged in the performance of employment by a person who is licensed under Title 33 of the Revised Statutes, or while actively engaged in the preparation of food while enrolled in a culinary arts or hotel management program at a county vocational school or post secondary educational institution; however, no ordinance enacted pursuant to this section shall be construed to preclude the imposition of a penalty under this section, R.S.33:1-81, or any other section of law against a person who is convicted of unlawful alcoholic beverage activity on or at premises licensed for the sale of alcoholic beverages.

2. R.S.40:48-1 is amended to read as follows:

Ordinances; general purpose.

40:48-1. Ordinances; general purpose. The governing body of every municipality may make, amend, repeal and enforce ordinances to:

Finances and property. 1. Manage, regulate and control the finances and property, real and personal, of the municipality;

Contracts and contractor's bonds. 2. Prescribe the form and manner of execution and approval of all contracts to be executed by the municipality and of all bonds to be given to it;

Officers and employees; duties, terms and salaries. 3. Prescribe and define, except as otherwise provided by law, the duties and terms of office or employment, of all officers and employees; and to provide for the employment and compensation of such officials and employees, in addition to those provided for by statute, as may be deemed necessary for the efficient conduct of the affairs of the municipality;

Fees. 4. Fix the fees of any officer or employee of the municipality for any service rendered in connection with his office or position, for which no specific fee or compensation is provided. In the case of salaried officers or employees, such fee shall be paid into the municipal treasury;

Salaries instead of fees; disposition of fees. 5. Provide that any officer or employee receiving compensation for his services, in whole or in part by fees, whether paid by the municipality or otherwise, shall be paid a salary to be fixed in the ordinance, and thereafter all fees received by such officer or employee shall be paid into the municipal treasury;

Maintain order. 6. Prevent vice, drunkenness and immorality; to preserve the public peace and order; to prevent and quell riots, disturbances and disorderly assemblages; to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons on private property pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2000, c.33 (C.40:48-1.2);

Punish beggars; prevention of loitering. 7. Restrain and punish drunkards, vagrants, mendicants and street beggars; to prevent loitering, lounging or sleeping in the streets, parks or public places;

Auctions and noises. 8. Regulate the ringing of bells and the crying of goods and other commodities for sale at auction or otherwise, and to prevent disturbing noises;

Swimming; bathing costume; prohibition of public nudity. 9. Regulate or prohibit swimming or bathing in the waters of, in, or bounding the municipality, and to regulate or prohibit persons from appearing upon the public streets, parks and places clad in bathing costumes or robes, or costumes of a similar character; regulate or prohibit persons from appearing in a state of nudity upon all lands within its borders which are under the jurisdiction of the State including, without limitation, all lands owned by, controlled by, managed by or leased by the State;

Prohibit annoyance of persons or animals. 10. Regulate or prohibit any practice tending to frighten animals, or to annoy or injure persons in the public streets;

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Animals; pounds; establishment and regulation. 11. Establish and regulate one or more pounds, and to prohibit or regulate the running at large of horses, cattle, dogs, swine, goats and other animals, and to authorize their impounding and sale for the penalty incurred, and the costs of impounding, keeping and sale; to regulate or prohibit the keeping of cattle, goats or swine in any part of the municipality; to authorize the destruction of dogs running at large therein;

Hucksters. 12. Prescribe and regulate the place of vending or exposing for sale articles of merchandise from vehicles;

Building regulations; wooden structures. 13. Regulate and control the construction, erection, alteration and repair of buildings and structures of every kind within the municipality; and to prohibit, within certain limits, the construction, erection or alteration of buildings or structures of wood or other combustible material;

Inflammable materials; inspect docks and buildings. 14. Regulate the use, storage, sale and disposal of inflammable or combustible materials, and to provide for the protection of life and property from fire, explosions and other dangers; to provide for inspections of buildings, docks, wharves, warehouses and other places, and of goods and materials contained therein, to secure the proper enforcement of such ordinance;

Dangerous structures; removal or destruction; procedure. 15. Provide for the removal or destruction of any building, wall or structure which is or may become dangerous to life or health, or might tend to extend a conflagration; and to assess the cost thereof as a municipal lien against the premises;

Chimneys and boilers. 16. Regulate the construction and setting up of chimneys, furnaces, stoves, boilers, ovens and other contrivances in which fire is used;

Explosives. 17. Regulate, in conformity with the statutes of this State, the manufacture, storage, sale, keeping or conveying of gunpowder, nitroglycerine, dynamite and other explosives;

Firearms and fireworks. 18. Regulate and prohibit the sale and use of guns, pistols, firearms, and fireworks of all descriptions;

Soft coal. 19. Regulate the use of soft coal in locomotives, factories, power houses and other places;

Theaters, schools, churches and public places. 20. Regulate the use of theaters, cinema houses, public halls, schools, churches, and other places where numbers of people assemble, and the exits therefrom, so that escape therefrom may be easily and safely made in case of fire or panic; and to regulate any machinery, scenery, lights, wires and other apparatus, equipment or appliances used in all places of public amusement;

Excavations. 21. Regulate excavations below the established grade or curb line of any street, not greater than eight feet, which the owner of any land may make, in the erection of any building upon his own property; and to provide for the giving of notice, in writing, of such intended excavation to any adjoining owner or owners, and that they will be required to protect and care for their several foundation walls that may be endangered by such excavation; and to provide that in case of the neglect or refusal, for 10 days, of such adjoining owner or owners to take proper action to secure and protect the foundations of any adjacent building or other structure, that the party or parties giving such notice, or their agents, contractors or employees, may enter into and upon such adjoining property and do all necessary work to make such foundations secure, and may recover the cost of such work and labor in so protecting such adjacent property; and to make such further and other provisions in relation to the proper conduct and performance of said work as the governing body or board of the municipality may deem necessary and proper;

Sample medicines. 22. Regulate and prohibit the distribution, depositing or leaving on the public streets or highways, public places or private property, or at any private place or places within any such municipality, any medicine, medicinal preparation or preparations represented to cure ailments or diseases of the body or mind, or any samples thereof, or any advertisements or circulars relating thereto, but no ordinance shall prohibit a delivery of any such article to any person above the age of 12 years willing to receive the same;

Boating. 23. Regulate the use of motor and other boats upon waters within or bounding the municipality;

Fire escapes. 24. Provide for the erection of fire escapes on buildings in the municipality, and to provide rules and regulations concerning the construction and maintenance of the same, and for the prevention of any obstruction thereof or thereon;

Care of injured employees. 25. Provide for the payment of compensation and for medical attendance to any officer or employee of the municipality injured in the performance of his duty;

Bulkheads and other structures. 26. Fix and determine the lines of bulkheads or other works or structures to be erected, constructed or maintained by the owners of lands facing upon any navigable water in front of their lands, and in front of or along any highway or public lands of said municipality, and to designate the materials to be used, and the type, height and dimensions thereof;

Lifeguard. 27. Establish, maintain, regulate and control a lifeguard upon any beach within or bordering on the municipality;

Appropriation for life-saving apparatus. 28. Appropriate moneys to safeguard people from drowning within its borders, by location of apparatus or conduct of educational work in harmony with the plans of the United States volunteer life-saving corps in this State;

Fences. 29. Regulate the size, height and dimensions of any fences between the lands of adjoining owners, whether built or erected as division or partition fences between such lands, and whether the same exist or be erected entirely or only partly upon the lands of any such adjoining owners, or along or immediately adjacent to any division or partition line of such lands. To provide, in such ordinance, the manner of securing, fastening or shoring such fences. In the case of fences thereafter erected contrary to the provisions thereof, the governing body may provide for a penalty for the violation of such ordinance, and in the case of such fence or fences erected or existing at the time of the passage of any such ordinance, may provide therein for the removal, change or alteration thereof, so as to make such fence or fences comply with the provisions of any such ordinance;

Advertise municipality. 30. Appropriate funds for advertising the advantages of the municipality;

Government Energy Aggregation Programs. 31. Establish programs and procedures pursuant to which the municipality may act as a government aggregator pursuant to sections 40 through 45 of P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-89 through C.48:3-94). Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, rule or regulation to the contrary, a municipality acting as a government aggregator pursuant to P.L.1999, c.23 (C.48:3-49 et al.) shall not be deemed to be a public utility pursuant to R.S.40:62-24 or R.S.48:1-1 et seq. or be deemed to be operating any form of public utility service pursuant to R.S.40:62-1 et seq., to the extent such municipality is solely engaged in the provision of such aggregation service and not otherwise owning or operating any plant or facility for the production or distribution of gas, electricity, steam or other product as provided in R.S.40:62-12.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved June 28, 2000.

**§ 82-9. Signing of licenses.**

Every such license shall be signed by the Chairman of the Township Committee and the Clerk of the Township.<sup>8</sup>

**§ 82-10. Issuance of licenses: statutory authorization.**

All applications for licenses under this Article and all licenses issued hereunder and proceedings in connection herewith shall be subject to the statute referred to in § 82-1 of this Article and the rules and regulations enacted by the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control of New Jersey, whether now in existence or those which may hereinafter be enacted affecting the subject matters of this Article.<sup>9</sup>

**ARTICLE II****Drinking in Public**

[Adopted 6-11-1975 as Ord. No. 75-8 (Ch. 51,  
Art. III, of the 1974 Code)]

**§ 82-11. Open containers with alcoholic beverages prohibited; exceptions.**

No person shall have in his possession any open bottle or other container containing liquor, wine, beer or any other alcoholic beverage while on any public highway, public street, public sidewalk, public parking area or lot, playground, park or other property owned by, belonging to or over which the Township of Waterford has control or in any vehicle or any public place in the Township of Waterford except those premises duly licensed for the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises.

<sup>8</sup> Editor's Note: Former § 51-10, Location of premises, was repealed 10-13-1993 by Ord. No. 93-14.

<sup>9</sup> Editor's Note: Former Article II, Use by Minors, adopted 6-13-1956 as Ord. No. 78, was deleted at time of adoption of Code; see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I.

**§ 82-12. Open containers in vehicles.**

An open bottle or open container containing liquor, beer, wine or other alcoholic beverage in any vehicle shall be presumptive evidence that the same is in the possession of all of the occupants thereof in violation hereof.

**§ 82-13. Permission required for public areas.**

The Township Committee of the Township of Waterford, for good cause shown, may permit the drinking of beer at public parks or in other public areas by a resolution of the Township Committee, which resolution shall be preceded by a written request of the organization or organizations seeking such permission, addressed to the Township Committee, and which resolution shall state the hours within which such permission is granted and the exact location where such permission shall be in force.

**§ 82-14. Violations and penalties.<sup>10</sup>**

Any person or persons, firm or corporation who or which violates any provision of this Article, upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars (\$1,000.), imprisonment for a term not exceeding ninety (90) days or a period of community service not exceeding ninety (90) days, or any combination thereof.

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<sup>10</sup> Editor's Note: Amended at time of adoption of Code; see Ch. 1, General Provisions, Art. I.

## ARTICLE III

**Underage Possession and  
Consumption on Private Property  
[Adopted 6-27-2001 by Ord. No. 2001-15]**

**§ 82-15. Underage possession and consumption prohibited.**

It shall be unlawful for any person under the legal age to knowingly possess or knowingly consume an alcoholic beverage on private property without legal authority.

**§ 82-16. Violations and penalties.**

- A. Any person violating the provisions of this article shall be punished by a fine of \$250 for a first offense and \$350 for any subsequent offense.
- B. In addition to the fine authorized for this offense, the court may suspend or postpone for six months the driving privilege of a person convicted of this offense. Upon the conviction of any person and the suspension or the postponement of that person's driver's license, the court shall forward a report to the Division of Motor Vehicles stating the first and last day of the suspension or postponement period imposed by the court. If a person at the time of the imposition of sentence is less than 17 years of age, the period of license postponement, including a suspension or postponement of the privilege of operating a motorized bicycle, shall commence on the day the sentence is imposed and shall run for a period of six months after the person reaches the age of 17 years.
- C. If a person at the time of the imposition of a sentence has a valid driver's license issued by this state, the court shall immediately collect the license and forward it to the Division of Motor Vehicles along with the report. If for any reason the license can not be collected, the court shall include in the report the complete name, address, date of birth, eye color and sex of the person, as well as

the first and last date of the license suspension period imposed by the court.

- D. The court shall inform the person orally and in writing that, if a person is convicted of operating a motor vehicle during the period of license suspension or postponement, the person shall be subject to the penalties set forth in N.J.S.A. 39:3-40. A person shall be required to acknowledge receipt of the written notice in writing. Failure to receive a written notice or failure to acknowledge in writing the receipt of a written notice shall not be a defense to a subsequent charge of a violation of N.J.S.A. 39:3-40.
- E. If a person convicted under this article is not a New Jersey resident, the court shall suspend or postpone, as appropriate, the nonresident driving privilege of the person based on the age of the person and submit it to the Division of Motor Vehicles on the required report. The court shall not collect the license of a nonresident convicted under this article. Upon receipt of a report for the court, the Division of Motor Vehicles shall notify the appropriate officials of the licensing jurisdiction of the suspension or postponement.

**§ 82-17 Exceptions; definitions.**

- A. Nothing contained in this article is intended, nor shall it be construed, as prohibiting an underage person from consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage in connection with a religious observance, ceremony or rite, or consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage in the presence of and with the permission of a parent, guardian or relative who has attained the legal age to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.
- B. Definitions. As used in the preceding subsection, the following terms shall have the meaning set forth:

GUARDIAN — A person who is qualified as a guardian of the underage person pursuant to testamentary or court appointment.

RELATIVE — The underage person's grandparent, aunt or uncle, sibling, or any other person related by blood or affinity.

- C. Nothing contained in this article is intended, nor shall it be construed, as prohibiting possession of alcoholic beverages by any such person while actually engaged in the performance of employment by a person who is licensed under Title 33 of the Revised Statutes, or while actively engaged in the preparation of food while enrolled in a culinary arts or hotel management program at a county vocational school or post-secondary educational institution; provided, however, that this article shall not be construed to preclude the imposition of a penalty under this article, or N.J.S.A. 33:1-81, or any other section of law against the person who is convicted of unlawful alcoholic beverage activity on or at premises licensed for the sale of alcoholic beverages.