

ACT 207

H.B. NO. 1023

A Bill for an Act Relating to Liquor.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. The U.S. General Accounting Office and the National Highway Safety Administration studies have found that minimum drinking age laws have helped to reduce the number of alcohol related accidents, injuries, and fatalities among the affected age groups.

As a result, the legislature passed Act 342, Session Laws of Hawaii 1986, as amended by Act 283, Session Laws of Hawaii 1987, to temporarily raise the minimum drinking age from eighteen to twenty-one. The reasons for raising the minimum drinking age were to:

- (1) Reduce the number of traffic accidents involving young adults;
- (2) Mitigate other social problems such as juvenile crime and poor school performance; and
- (3) Prevent the loss of federal highway funds for the State as a consequence of Public Law 98-363.

Act 342 was scheduled to be repealed on September 30, 1991. However, in 1991, the legislature passed Act 206 requesting the director of transportation to conduct a study evaluating the effectiveness of Act 342 and temporarily extending the repeal date of Act 342 to September 30, 1992.

Based on that study, the legislature finds that Act 342 has been partially successful in reducing accidents, injuries, and fatalities caused by driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor. The legislature further finds that one of the recommendations contained in the study is to set the minimum drinking age at twenty-one.

The purpose of this Act is to permanently raise the minimum drinking age to twenty-one.

SECTION 2. Act 342, Session Laws of Hawaii 1986, is amended by amending section 9, as amended by section 70 of Act 283, Session Laws of Hawaii 1987, and Act 206, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991, to read as follows:

“SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on October 1, 1986[, and shall be repealed as of September 30, 1992; provided that on-repeal sections 281-1, 281-78, 294-13, 712-1250.5, and 712-1252, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are reenacted in the form in which they read on September 30, 1986].”

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SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 12, 1992.)