



2023-2024 General Assembly

SENATE BILL 527: ABC Omnibus 2023-24, Sec. 31: Allow Possession and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages in the Security-Screened Area of Airports

Committee:
Introduced by:
Analysis of: Sec. 31 of S.L. 2024-41

Date: August 26, 2024
Prepared by: Chris Saunders
Staff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Section 31 of S.L. 2024-41 allows the consumption of malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine, and mixed beverages sold by a permitted establishment throughout the Transportation Security Administration-screened portion of the establishment's respective airport terminal. A beverage sold for consumption throughout the airport terminal must be served in a container that is not made of glass, does not hold more than 16 fluid ounces, and displays the statement "Drink Responsibly – Be 21." This section applies only to airports that service airplanes boarding at least 150,000 passengers annually.

This section became effective July 8, 2024.

CURRENT LAW: Under prior existing law, the consumption of alcoholic beverages at airports in this State was allowed only on the premises of the establishment in the airport where the alcoholic beverage was sold.

BILL ANALYSIS: Section 31 of S.L. 2024-41 allows the consumption of malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine, and mixed beverages sold by a permitted establishment throughout the Transportation Security Administration-screened portion of the establishment's respective airport terminal. A beverage sold for consumption throughout the airport terminal must be served in a container that is not made of glass, does not hold more than 16 fluid ounces, and displays the statement "Drink Responsibly – Be 21." This section applies only to airports that service airplanes boarding at least 150,000 passengers annually.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This section became effective July 8, 2024.

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