

Public Act No. 06-112, AN ACT CONCERNING UNDERAGE DRINKING.

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2006*) (a) No person having possession of, or exercising dominion and control over, any dwelling unit or private property shall (1) knowingly permit any minor to possess alcoholic liquor in violation of subsection (b) of section 30-89 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, in such dwelling unit or on such private property, or (2) knowing that any minor possesses alcoholic liquor in violation of subsection (b) of section 30-89 of the general statutes, as amended by this act, in such dwelling unit or on such private property, fail to make reasonable efforts to halt such possession. For the purposes of this subsection, "minor" means a person under twenty-one years of age

(b) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall, for a first offense, have committed an infraction and, for any subsequent offense, be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

(b) Any minor who possesses any alcoholic liquor on public or private property shall, for a first offense, have committed an infraction and, for any subsequent offense, be fined not less than two hundred dollars or more than five hundred dollars.

Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to burden a person's exercise of religion under section 3 of article first of the

Constitution of the state in violation of subsection (a) of section 52-571b.

- This does not negate the Local Ordinances, if your city/town's ordinance is more stringent than the law's the punishments still apply.

- This law does not grant police anymore power, probable cause is still required before Police come to your premises (for example, a noise complaint).

- The criminal charges for a parent/house owner that is out of town have not changed, but civil liability still applies.

- In essence, this law holds youth ages 16-20 who host drinking parties more accountable by charging them first with an infraction, then a misdemeanor. The law also holds youth ages 16-20 consuming alcohol accountable, charging them first with an infraction, then a misdemeanor.