**ABC Licensees with 18 to 20-year-old alcohol servers (only 020 Restaurants)**

* **28-1-5**

#### Minimum age for purchase, etc., of alcohol; employment of underage persons by board licensee.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 26-1-1, it shall be unlawful for a person less than 21 years of age to purchase, consume, possess, or to transport any alcohol, liquor or malt or brewed beverages within the State of Alabama. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, it shall not be unlawful for any Alcoholic Beverage Control Board licensee to employ any person under the legal drinking age to work, provided there is an adult in attendance at all times. It shall be permissible to employ persons in an on-premise licensed establishment under legal drinking age such as professional entertainers, show people, musicians, cashiers, hostesses, ushers, waiters and waitresses, busboys or girls, and the like, provided they do not serve, dispense or consume alcoholic beverages and there is an adult in attendance at all times. **Notwithstanding the previous sentence**, persons who are 18 years of age or older and working as a waiter, waitress, or server (not a bartender, bartenders must be 21 or over) may serve alcoholic beverages during normal dining hours in a restaurant which holds an Alcoholic Beverage Control Board restaurant retail license. **An employer who employs a person between the ages of 18 and 21 to serve alcoholic beverages as provided in the preceding sentence shall be a licensee of the board who has been annually certified as a *responsible vendor* under the Alabama Responsible Vendor Act as provided in Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 28-10-1) of this title.**

* **18 years of age or older applies only to servers who have been trained in the program at the licensee and work for a Responsible Vendor (610 certified) licensee. It doesn’t mean bartender or manager, both of which must be 21 or above.**
* **Restaurant means 020 Alabama ABC Restaurant not 040, 060, 010, 032 or other. All on-premise licensees other than 020 must have alcohol servers 21 years of age or older.**
* **Annually certified means to continue certification each year by renewing ABC RVP certification when you renew your ABC license. Train and test all new employees within 30 days. Follow all rules, regulations and laws pertaining to the sale and service of alcohol and do Semi-Annual updates every 6 months.**
* **As of 7/1/2022 the server age (not bartender or manager) changes to 18 instead of 19. ALL other standards remain the same. HB-176, email me if you want a copy of the bill.**
* **George Burgess,** **past@knology.net**