

# FLORIDA RESPONSIBLE VENDOR ACT

## **561.702 Legislative Intent. It is the intent of the Legislature to:**

- (1) Eliminate the sale of alcoholic beverages to, and consumption of alcoholic beverages by underage persons.
  - (2) Reduce intoxication-related accidents, injuries, and deaths in the state.
  - (3) Encourage alcoholic beverage vendors and their employees to prevent drug activity on their premises.
  - (4) Encourage alcoholic beverage vendors to be prudent in their serving practices and to restrict the sanctions that may be imposed in administrative proceedings against those vendors who comply with responsible practices in accordance with this act.
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## **561.706 Exemption from license suspension or revocation; mitigation for certain beverage law violations; records of arrests.**

(1) The license of a vendor qualified as a responsible vendor under this act may not be suspended or revoked for an employee's illegal sale or service of an alcoholic beverage to a person who is not of lawful drinking age or for an employee's engaging in or permitting others to engage in the illegal sale, use of, or trafficking in controlled substances, if the employee had completed the applicable training prescribed by this act prior to committing such violation, unless the vendor had knowledge of the violation, should have known about such violation, or participated in or committed such violation. No vendor may use as a defense to suspension or revocation the fact that he was absent from the licensed premises at the time a violation of the Beverage Law occurred if the violations are flagrant, persistent, repeated, or recurring.

(2) The division shall consider qualification as a responsible vendor in mitigation of administrative penalties for an employee's illegal sale or service of an alcoholic beverage to a person who is not of lawful drinking age and if the vendor has administered the applicable courses for controlled substances, for an employee's engaging in the illegal sale, use of, or trafficking in controlled substances.