

By Senators Latvala and Cowin

19-132-99

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the alcoholic beverage surcharge; amending s. 561.501, F.S.; providing for the reduction and future repeal of the surcharge; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, the employment of WAGES participants by the food and beverage industry has generated a significant, positive economic benefit to the state, and

WHEREAS, the alcoholic beverage surcharge is a grossly unfair, inefficient, and burdensome tax on Florida's food and beverage industry, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 561.501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

561.501 Surcharge on sale of alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises; penalty.--

(1) Notwithstanding s. 561.50 or any other provision of the Beverage Law, a surcharge of 5 ~~10~~ cents is imposed upon each ounce of liquor and each 4 ounces of wine, a surcharge of 3 ~~6~~ cents is imposed on each 12 ounces of cider, and a surcharge of 2 ~~4~~ cents is imposed on each 12 ounces of beer sold at retail for consumption on premises licensed by the division as an alcoholic beverage vendor.

Section 2. Effective September 1, 2000, section 561.501, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 3. This act shall take effect September 1, 1999.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Reduces by one-half the surcharge on alcoholic beverages consumed on the premises of licensed establishments until September 1, 2000, at which time the surcharge is abolished.