

By Representative Bitner

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the alcoholic beverage
3 surcharge; amending s. 561.501, F.S.; providing
4 for the reduction and future repeal of the
5 surcharge; providing an effective date.
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7 WHEREAS, the employment of WAGES participants by the
8 food and beverage industry has generated a significant,
9 positive economic benefit to the state, and

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

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

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

18 561.501 Surcharge on sale of alcoholic beverages for
19 consumption on the premises; penalty.--

20 (1) Notwithstanding s. 561.50 or any other provision
21 of the Beverage Law, a surcharge of 5 ~~10~~ cents is imposed upon
22 each ounce of liquor and each 4 ounces of wine, a surcharge of
23 3 ~~6~~ cents is imposed on each 12 ounces of cider, and a
24 surcharge of 2 ~~4~~ cents is imposed on each 12 ounces of beer
25 sold at retail for consumption on premises licensed by the
26 division as an alcoholic beverage vendor.

27 Section 2. Effective September 1, 2000, section
28 561.501, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

29 Section 3. This act shall take effect September 1,
30 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.