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H.671

Introduced by Representatives Ram of Burlington, Baker of West Rutland,
Consejo of Sheldon, Deen of Westminster, French of Randolph
and Sharpe of Bristol

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Alcoholic beverages; underage drinking; parental supervision

Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to permit people under the age of 21
to consume alcoholic beverages under parental supervision in private homes.

An act relating to consumption of alcoholic beverages under parental
supervision in private homes

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 7 V.S.A. §§ 656, 657, and 658 are amended to read:

§ 656. MINORS MISREPRESENTING AGE, PROCURING, POSSESSING,
OR CONSUMING LIQUORS; FIRST OFFENSE; CIVIL
VIOLATION

* * *

(h) A minor who possesses or consumes alcoholic beverages in his or her
home under the supervision of the minor's parent or guardian or as a part of a

1 bona fide religious rite, ritual, or ceremony, shall not be prosecuted under this
2 section.

3 § 657. MINORS MISREPRESENTING AGE OR PROCURING OR
4 POSSESSING LIQUORS; ALCOHOL AND DRIVING EDUCATION

5 * * *

6 (i) A minor who possesses or consumes alcoholic beverages in his or her
7 home under the supervision of his or her parent or guardian or as a part of a
8 bona fide religious rite, ritual, or ceremony shall not be prosecuted under this
9 section.

10 § 658. SALE OR FURNISHING TO MINORS; ENABLING
11 CONSUMPTION BY MINORS; MINORS CAUSING DEATH OR
12 SERIOUS BODILY INJURY

13 (a) No person shall:

14 (1) sell or furnish malt or vinous beverages or spirituous liquors to a
15 person under the age of 21; or

16 (2) knowingly enable the consumption of malt or vinous beverages or
17 spirituous liquors by a person under the age of 21.

18 (b) As used in this section, “enable the consumption of malt or vinous
19 beverages or spirituous liquors” means creating a direct and immediate
20 opportunity for a person to consume malt or vinous beverages or spirituous
21 liquors, but does not include a parent or guardian providing alcoholic

1 beverages to a minor child over the age of 12 in the minor's home under the
2 supervision of the minor's parent or guardian or as a part of a bona fide
3 religious rite, ritual, or ceremony.

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