

9:17B-1

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA: 9:17B-1; 5:12-119 (Casino gambling - raises age to 21)

LAWS OF: 1983

CHAPTER: 134

Bill No: A1709

Sponsor(s): Riley and others

Date Introduced: June 28, 1982

Committee: Assembly: _____

Senate: Judiciary

Amended during passage: Yes // Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks. Substituted for S2068 (OCR & Senate committee statement attached)

Date of Passage: Assembly: July 1, 1982

Senate: Feb. 24, 1983

Date of Approval: April 13, 1983

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement:		Yes	// (Below)
Committee statement:	Assembly	///	No
	Senate	Yes	//
Fiscal Note:		///	No
Veto Message:		///	No
Message on Signing:		Yes ///	No
Following were printed:			
Reports:		///	No
Hearings:		///	No

Sponsors' statement:

The purpose of this bill is to establish the age at which a person is authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages as the minimum age for attendance and participation in casino gaming. The sponsor specifically recognizes the availability of alcoholic beverages without charge for persons who participate in gaming.

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CHAPTER 134 LAWS OF N. J. 1983
APPROVED 4-13-83

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ASSEMBLY, No. 1709

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 28, 1982

By Assemblymen RILEY, FORTUNATO, MARSELLA, LACORTE,
SCHUBER, MUZLANI and BRYANT

An Act to establish the age at which a person is authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages as the minimum age for attendance and participation in casino gaming and amending P. L. 1972, c. 81 and P. L. 1977, c. 110.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
2 *of New Jersey:*

1 1. Section 1 of P. L. 1972, c. 81 (C. 9:17B-1) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 1. The Legislature finds and declares and by this act intends,
4 pending the revision and amendment of the many statutory pro-
5 visions involved, to:

6 a. Extend to persons 18 years of age and older the basic civil
7 and contractual rights and obligations heretofore applicable only to
8 persons 21 years of age or older, including the right to contract,
9 sue, be sued and defend civil actions, apply for and be appointed
10 to public employment, apply for and be granted a license or au-
11 thority to engage in a business or profession subject to State regu-
12 lation, serve on juries, marry, adopt children, attend and partici-
13 pate in horse race meetings and parimutuel betting and other
14 legalized games and gaming, *except as otherwise provided in sub-*
15 *section c. of this section*, sell alcoholic beverages, act as an incorpo-
16 rator, registered agent or director of a corporation, consent to
17 medical and surgical treatment, execute a will, and to inherit,
18 purchase, mortgage or otherwise encumber and convey real and
19 personal property.

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter printed in italics thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in asterisks or stars has been adopted as follows:

*—Senate committee amendments adopted January 31, 1983.

20 b. Extend to persons ***[19 years of age and older, heretofore**
 21 **applicable only to persons 18 years of age and older, the right to**
 22 **purchase and consume alcoholic beverages, except that any one**
 23 **attaining the age of 18 years prior to the effective date of this act**
 24 **shall be able to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.]** * *21
 25 *years of age and older the right to purchase and consume alcoholic*
 26 *beverages on January 1, 1983, provided that anyone attaining the*
 27 *age to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages legally prior to*
 27A *January 1, 1983, shall retain that right.** Nothing in this act shall
 27B preclude any licensee under R. S. 33:1-1 et seq. from making pur-
 27C chases in the regular course of his licensed activities.

28 c. *Extend to persons at or over the age at which a person is*
 29 *authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages, hereto-*
 30 *fore applicable only to persons 18 years of age or older, the right*
 31 *to attend and participate in casino gaming. Nothing in this act*
 32 *shall preclude any licensee under the "Casino Control Act," P. L.*
 33 *1977, c. 110 (C. 5:12-1 et seq.) from attending and participating in*
 34 *casino gaming in the regular course of his licensed activities.*

35 [c.] d. Abolish the right of a person between the ages of 18 and
 36 21 years to disaffirm and be relieved of contractual obligations by
 37 reason of age.

1 2. Section 119 of P. L. 1977, c. 110 (C. 5:12-119) is amended to
 2 read as follows:

3 119. Gaming by ***[Minors]** * *Certain Persons* * Prohibited; Pen-
 3A alties; Defenses.

4 a. No person under the age **[of 18 years]** *at which a person is*
 5 *authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages, other*
 6 *than a person licensed under the provisions of this act in the*
 7 *regular course of his licensed activities,* shall enter a licensed
 8 casino except by way of passage to another room.

9 b. Any licensee or employee of a casino who allows a **[minor]**
 10 *person under the age [of 18] at which a person is authorized to*
 11 *purchase and consume alcoholic beverages to remain in a casino*
 12 *is a disorderly person; except that the establishment of all of the*
 13 *following facts by a * [person] * licensee or employee* allowing*
 14 *any such [minor] underage person to remain shall constitute a*
 15 *defense to any prosecution therefor:*

16 (1) That the **[minor] underage person** *falsely represented in*
 17 *writing that he or she was [18 years of age or over] at or over*
 18 *the age at which a person is authorized to purchase and consume*
 19 *alcoholic beverages;*

20 (2) That the appearance of the **[minor] underage person** *was*
 21 *such that an ordinary prudent person would believe him or her to*

22 be [18 years of age or over] *at or over the age at which a person*
23 *is authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages; and*

24 (3) That the admission was made in good faith, relying upon
25 such written representation and appearance, and in the reason-
26 able belief that the [minor] *underage person* was actually [18
27 years of age or over] *at or over the age at which a person is*
28 *authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.*

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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3

26 able belief that the [minor] *underage person* was actually [18
27 years of age or over] *at or over the age at which a person is*
28 *authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages.*

1 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

SPONSOR'S¹ STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to establish the age at which a person is authorized to purchase and consume alcoholic beverages as the minimum age for attendance and participation in casino gaming. The sponsor specifically recognizes the availability of alcoholic beverages without charge for persons who participate in gaming.

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1709

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: JANUARY 31, 1983

Enactment of this bill would have the effect of raising the age at which individuals may participate in casino gambling from 18 to 21 years of age. This purpose is accomplished by amending both the Casino Control Act and Title 9 which contains the age of majority to indicate that the age at which the consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted shall be the age at which participation in casino gambling is permitted.

The committee adopted amendments to Assembly Bill No. 1709 to conform its provisions to those of recently enacted chapter 215 of the Laws of 1982 which raised the drinking age to 21.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

CONTACT: PAUL WOLCOTT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 1983

Governor Thomas H. Kean has signed the following bills:

A-1466, sponsored by Assembly Minority Leader Dean A. Gallo, R-Morris, which regulates the resale of tickets for entertainment events at public facilities in the state. The bill requires that ticket brokers be licensed, post a bond and maintain an office in the state. It limits the resale value of tickets to \$3 or 20 percent over face value, whichever is greater.

The provisions of the bill apply to tickets for events at publicly owned venues: the Meadowlands Sports Complex, Rutgers University Athletic Center and the Garden State Arts Center. The bill makes violation of the law a crime of the fourth degree, carrying maximum penalties of 18 months in jail and a \$7,500 fine.

A-1709/S-2068, sponsored by Assemblyman Dennis L. Riley, D-Camden and State Senator John F. Russo, D-Ocean, which establishes the age at which a person is able to legally purchase and consume alcoholic beverages as the minimum age for attendance and participation in casino gambling.

- RPTG -