

NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives Representative Jeff Weninger (R-17)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007-2844

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Bill to Lower Age Restriction on Alcohol Servers Sent to Governor Following Passage at Legislature

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – Representative Jeff Weninger (R-17) today applauded the Arizona Senate for overwhelmingly passing <u>HB 2047</u>, legislation that will reduce the age requirement of alcohol servers from 19 to 18. It will be sent next to Governor Ducey for signature into law.

"I believe that 18-year-olds working under supervision in the food service industry are responsible enough to serve alcohol," said Representative Weninger. "We have made strides in Arizona to be a pro-business state, which includes standing behind our employees when burdensome laws and regulations prevent them from doing their job and making a living."

The drinking age in Arizona was lowered to 19 in 1972 and later returned to 21 in 1985. Although the drinking age increased, the serving age was left behind and remains at 19 today.

"This bill is designed to update this 'left behind' law so that we can defend young adults, many of whom are eager to begin their careers in the service industry and acquire the skills necessary to achieve success," said Representative Weninger.

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CONTACT: Matthew Specht Director of Communications House Majority Staff 602-926-5518 mspecht@azleg.gov