

Effective: April 14, 2026

T. C. A. § 57-7-103

§ 57-7-103. License required for manufacturing, producing, or selling hemp-derived cannabinoid products -- Offenses and penalties

(a)(1) It is an offense for a person to engage in the business of manufacturing, the wholesale distribution of, or selling HDCPs in this state without a valid license required by this chapter.

(2) An HDCP that is manufactured, produced, wholesaled, sold, or offered for sale in violation of subdivision (a)(1) is subject to seizure in the same manner as beer pursuant to chapter 5, part 4 of this title.

(b)(1) It is an offense to knowingly sell or distribute an HDCP without having first obtained proof of age from the purchaser or recipient.

(2) It is an offense for a person to knowingly sell or distribute an HDCP to a person who is under twenty-one (21) years of age or to purchase an HDCP on behalf of a person who is under twenty-one (21) years of age.

(3) It is an offense for a person to knowingly assist a person who is under twenty-one (21) years of age to purchase, acquire, receive, or attempt to purchase an HDCP.

(4) It is an offense for a person who is under twenty-one (21) years of age to knowingly purchase, possess, or accept receipt of an HDCP or to knowingly present purported proof of age that is false, fraudulent, or not actually that person's proof of age for the purpose of purchasing or receiving an HDCP.

(5) For purposes of enforcing this chapter, this subsection (b) does not preclude commission or law enforcement efforts involving:

(A) The use of a minor if the minor's parent or legal guardian has consented to assisting the commission or law enforcement; or

(B) The use of a person under twenty-one (21) years of age who is not a minor if the individual has consented to assisting the commission or law enforcement.

(6) It is an offense to knowingly distribute samples of HDCPs in or on a public street, sidewalk, or park.

(7) It is an offense for a supplier, wholesaler, or retailer to knowingly employ a person under eighteen (18) years of age for the physical manufacture, storage, sale, or distribution of HDCPs, or to knowingly permit any such underage person on the premises of its place of business to engage in the manufacture, storage, sale, or distribution of HDCPs.

(c) A violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

(d) Notwithstanding this chapter to the contrary and except as provided in [§ 57-7-105](#), state and local law enforcement officers have concurrent jurisdiction with the commission to enforce violations of this section and [§ 57-7-104](#).

Effective: January 1, 2025

T. C. A. § 57-3-406

§ 57-3-406. Retailers; rules and regulations

(a)(1)(A) Except for retailers licensed under [§ 57-3-204](#), no person, corporation or other entity shall, directly or indirectly, operate any licensed retail establishment selling alcoholic spirituous beverages, not including wine, for off-premises consumption in this state.

(B) “Indirectly” means any kind of interest in such a retail business by way of stock ownership, loan, partner's interest or otherwise.

(C) A landlord shall be deemed to have an indirect interest in such a retail business when the lease agreement is based upon a percentage of profits or any other factor based upon sales of alcoholic beverages by the tenant as distinguished from being simply an interest in land for a period of time at a definite rate.

(2) Except as provided in this subsection (a), nothing shall prohibit the holder of a retail license from having more than one (1) retail license; provided, however, that the holder of a retail license shall not have more than two (2) retail licenses. If the commission has issued more than two (2) licenses to any person prior to April 12, 2016, such person shall be allowed to continue to have all such licenses and may renew all such licenses.

(3) In any municipality or county in which the issuance of two (2) or more retail licenses have been authorized under [§ 57-3-208\(c\)](#), no retail licensee shall hold more than fifty percent (50%) of the licenses authorized for issuance in such municipality or county.

(4) For five (5) years beginning January 1, 2014, no retail license shall be issued to any applicant for a new location that is within one thousand five hundred feet (1,500') of an existing operating establishment holding a license issued pursuant to [§ 57-3-204](#) as of July 1, 2014, (an “existing licensed premises”) if the applicant for such new retail license already holds one (1) or more retail licenses issued under [§ 57-3-204](#), unless the commission receives the written consent from each retail licensee owning an existing licensed premises within one thousand five hundred feet (1,500') of such new location. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the holder of one (1) or more retail licenses issued under [§ 57-3-204](#) may purchase the business or assets of an existing licensed premises and obtain a retail license to operate such existing licensed premises, as the same may be expanded or modified, from time to time. Nothing in this subdivision (a)(4) shall be deemed to prohibit a retailer licensed under [§ 57-3-204](#) from obtaining a new or replacement license in connection with the relocation of an existing licensed premises, as long as the new location is within the jurisdiction of the municipality or county issuing the certificate required under [§ 57-3-208](#) for such existing licensed premises.

(b) This chapter does not prohibit a retailer from offering a discount in such manner as the retailer deems appropriate as long as the discount being offered is not below the cost to the retailer. As used in this subsection (b), “cost to the retailer” has the same meaning as defined in [§ 57-3-1002](#).

(c) No retailer shall sell any alcoholic beverages or beer to any person who is visibly intoxicated, nor shall any retailer selling alcoholic beverages or beer sell to any person accompanied by a person who is visibly intoxicated.

(d)(1) A retailer or any employee thereof shall not make or permit to be made any sales of alcoholic beverages or beer to minors. Prior to making a sale of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption, the adult consumer whose physical appearance does not reasonably demonstrate an age of fifty (50) years or older must present to the retailer or any employee of the retailer a valid, government-issued document, such as a driver license or other form of identification deemed acceptable to the retailer that includes the photograph and birth date of the adult consumer attempting to make an alcoholic beverage purchase. Persons exempt under state law from the requirement of having a photo identification shall present identification that is acceptable to the retailer. The retailer or employee shall make a determination from the information presented whether the purchaser is an adult. In addition to the prohibition of making a sale to a minor, no sale of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption shall be made to a person whose physical appearance does not reasonably demonstrate an age of fifty (50) years or older who does not present such a document or other form of identification to the license holder or any employee of the license holder in a face-to-face transaction.

(2) As used in this section, “other form of identification” includes a secure identity verification system that uses an electronic scan of a unique physical characteristic identifiable to the individual that is used by a retailer for the purpose of aiding the employee in determining whether or not the person is at least twenty-one (21) years of age when such person desires to purchase alcoholic beverages or beer procured from a retailer if the system demonstrates that:

(A) The adult consumer is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

(B) The adult consumer had previously registered with a secure identity verification system provider a valid, government-issued document that includes the photograph and birth date of the adult consumer attempting to make an alcoholic beverage or beer purchase.

Effective: January 1, 2025

T. C. A. § 57-3-808

§ 57-3-808. Sale to minors; identification; penalty

(a) A retail food store wine license holder engaging in the business regulated under this part, or any employee thereof, shall not make or permit to be made any sales to minors. Prior to making a sale of wine for off-premises consumption, the adult consumer must present to the license holder or any employee of the license holder a valid, government-issued document, such as a driver license or other form of identification deemed acceptable to the license holder, that includes the photograph and birth date of the adult consumer attempting to make a wine purchase. Persons exempt under state law from the requirement of having a photo identification shall present identification that is acceptable to the license holder. The license holder or employee shall make a determination from the information presented whether the purchaser is an adult. In addition to the prohibition of making a sale to a minor, no sale of wine for off-premises consumption shall be made to a person who does not present such a document or other form of identification to the license holder or any employee of the license holder in a face-to-face transaction; however, it is an exception to any criminal punishment or adverse administrative action, including license suspension or revocation, for a violation of this section if the sale was made to a person who is or reasonably appears to be over fifty (50) years of age and who failed to present an acceptable form of identification.

(b) As used in this section, “other form of identification” includes a secure identity verification system that uses an electronic scan of a unique physical characteristic identifiable to the individual that is used by a license holder for the purpose of aiding the employee in determining whether or not the person is at least twenty-one (21) years of age when such person desires to purchase alcoholic beverages procured from a license holder if the system demonstrates that:

(1) The adult consumer is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

(2) The adult consumer had previously registered with a secure identity verification system provider a valid, government-issued document that includes the photograph and birth date of the adult consumer attempting to make a wine purchase.

(c) A violation of subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor.

Effective: April 11, 2025

T. C. A. § 57-4-203

§ 57-4-203. Crimes and offenses; fines and penalties

(a) EXTERIOR SIGNS.

(1) No licensee shall place any sign of any description on the exterior of the licensee's hotel, convention center, premier type tourist resort, restaurant, or club which is not in compliance with all duly adopted local ordinances relative to such exterior signs.

(2) A violation of subdivision (a)(1) is a Class C misdemeanor.

(b) SALES TO MINORS PROHIBITED.

(1)(A) Any licensee or other person who sells, furnishes, disposes of, gives, or causes to be sold, furnished, disposed of, or given, any alcoholic beverage to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age commits a Class A misdemeanor and shall be punished in accordance with [§ 39-15-404](#), as well as any other applicable section.

(B) Any licensee engaging in business regulated hereunder or any employee thereof who sells, furnishes, disposes of, gives, or causes to be sold, furnished, disposed of, or given any beer or malt beverage as defined in [§ 57-6-102](#) to any person under twenty-one (21) years of age is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

(C) The commission may, upon finding that a licensee has violated subdivision (b)(1)(A) or (b)(1)(B) two (2) or more times during any two-year period, and for good cause shown, fine the licensee not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) and require retraining of all employees of the licensee under the supervision of the commission in lieu of suspending or revoking the license of the licensee.

(2) Any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years who:

(A) Purchases, attempts to purchase, receives, or has in such person's possession in any public place, any alcoholic beverage, commits a Class A misdemeanor; or

(B) Knowingly makes a false statement or exhibits false identification to the effect that the licensee is twenty-one (21) years of age or older to any person engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages for the purpose of purchasing or obtaining the same commits a Class A misdemeanor.

(i) If a person violating this subdivision (b)(2)(B) is less than eighteen (18) years of age, such person shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50.00) or not less than twenty (20) hours of community service work, which fine or penalty shall not be suspended or waived. The fine imposed by this subdivision (b)(2)(B)(i) shall apply regardless of whether the violator cooperates with law enforcement officers by telling them the place the alcohol was purchased or obtained or from whom it was purchased or obtained.

(ii) If the person violating this subdivision (b)(2)(B) is eighteen (18) years of age or older but less than twenty-one (21) years of age, such person shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two hundred dollars (\$200) or by imprisonment in the local jail or workhouse for not less than five (5) days nor more than thirty (30) days. The penalties imposed by this subdivision (b)(2)(B)(ii) apply regardless of whether the violator

cooperates with law enforcement officers by telling them the place the alcohol was purchased or obtained or from whom it was purchased or obtained.

(C)(i) In addition to any criminal penalty established by this section, a court in which a person younger than twenty-one (21) years of age is convicted of the purchase, attempt to purchase or possession of alcoholic beverages, or the making of a false statement or exhibition of false identification for the purpose of purchasing or obtaining alcoholic beverages in violation of this section, shall prepare and send to the department of safety, driver control division, within five (5) working days of the conviction an order of denial of driving privileges for the offender.

(ii) The court and the department of safety shall follow the same procedures and utilize the same sanctions and costs for an offender younger than twenty-one (21) years of age but eighteen (18) years of age or older as provided in title 55, chapter 10, part 7, for offenders younger than eighteen (18) years of age but thirteen (13) years of age or older.

(3) This chapter does not prohibit any person eighteen (18) years of age or older from selling, transporting, possessing or dispensing alcoholic beverages in the course of such person's employment.

Effective: January 1, 2025

T. C. A. § 57-5-301

§ 57-5-301. Children and minors; aliens and convicts; hours for sale; sign display

(a)(1) A permit holder engaging in the business regulated hereunder or any employee thereof shall not make or permit to be made any sales to minors or persons visibly intoxicated. Prior to making a sale of beer for off-premise consumption, the adult consumer must present to the permit holder, or any employee of the permit holder, a valid, government-issued document, such as a driver license, or other form of identification deemed acceptable to the permit holder, that includes the photograph and birth date of the adult consumer attempting to make a beer purchase. Persons exempt under state law from the requirement of having a photo identification shall present identification that is acceptable to the permit holder. The permit holder or employee shall make a determination from the information presented whether the purchaser is an adult. In addition to the prohibition of making a sale to a minor, no sale of beer for off-premises consumption shall be made to a person who does not present such a document or other form of identification to the permit holder or any employee of the permit holder; however, it is an exception to any criminal punishment or adverse administrative action, including license suspension or revocation, as provided for in a violation of this section if the sale was made to a person who is or reasonably appears to be over fifty (50) years of age and who failed to present an acceptable form of identification. Responsible vendors shall post signs on the vendor's premises informing customers of the vendor's policy against selling beer to underage persons. The signs shall be not less than eight and one-half inches by eleven inches (8 ½ " x 11"), and contain the following language:

STATE LAW REQUIRES IDENTIFICATION FOR THE SALE OF BEER.

(2) Neither the person engaging in such business nor persons employed by that person shall be a person who has been convicted of any violation of the laws against possession, sale, manufacture, and transportation of intoxicating liquor or any crime involving moral turpitude within the last ten (10) years.

(3) As used in this section, "other form of identification" includes a secure identity verification system that uses an electronic scan of a unique physical characteristic identifiable to the individual that is used by a permittee for the purpose of aiding the employee in determining whether or not the person is at least twenty-one (21) years of age when such person desires to purchase beer procured from a permittee if the system demonstrates that:

(A) The adult consumer is at least twenty-one (21) years of age; and

(B) The adult consumer had previously registered with a secure identity verification system provider a valid, government-issued document that includes the photograph and birth date of the adult consumer attempting to make a beer purchase.

(4) A violation of subdivision (a)(1) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(b)(1) No alcoholic beverage within the scope hereof shall be sold between twelve o'clock midnight (12:00) and six o'clock a.m. (6:00 a.m.). No such beverage shall be sold between twelve o'clock midnight (12:00) on Saturday and eleven fifty-nine o'clock p.m. (11:59 p.m.) on Sunday. No such beverage shall be consumed, or opened for consumption, on or about any premises licensed hereunder, in either bottle, glass, or other container, after twelve fifteen o'clock a.m. (12:15 a.m.). Any county by resolution of the governing body may extend the hours for the sale of beer; provided, however, that the hours for the sale of beer in "clubs" as defined in § 57-4-102, shall conform to those hours for the sale of liquor by the drink as provided in chapter 4 of this title.

(2) A violation of subdivision (b)(1) is a Class C misdemeanor.

(3) This subsection (b) shall not affect the power of governing bodies of municipal corporations or of Class B counties by ordinance to fix the hours when such beverages may be sold within the incorporated limits of such respective municipalities or within the general services districts of Class B counties outside the limits of any smaller city as defined in § 7-1-101. Municipal corporations may authorize the sale of such beverages in their respective corporate limits on Sundays or at such hours as may be prescribed by ordinance. Class B counties may authorize the sale of such beverages on Sundays in their respective general services districts outside their urban services districts and outside the limits of any smaller city or cities or in their respective urban services districts or in both or at such hours as may be prescribed by ordinance.

(4) The governing body of any county that has adopted liquor by the drink, as provided for in chapter 4 of this title, may fix the hours for the sale of beer within the county (that part of the county outside of incorporated municipalities). This subdivision (b)(4) shall not affect business establishments selling liquor by the drink and malt beverages as authorized by chapter 4 of this title.

(5)(A) In any county in which an incorporated municipality has authorized the sale of liquor by the drink, as provided for in chapter 4 of this title, the hours for the sale of beer as defined in § 57-6-102, in that part of the county outside of incorporated municipalities and in all of its municipalities which have authorized the sale of liquor by the drink, shall be the same as the hours authorized by the rules and regulations promulgated by the alcoholic beverage commission for establishments selling liquor by the drink; provided, however, that the county legislative body of any such county and the governing body of each municipality within the county which has authorized the sale of liquor by the drink shall have the authority to extend the hours for the sale of beer as defined in § 57-6-102, within the territorial jurisdiction of each governing body. This subdivision (b)(5)(A) shall not apply to counties and municipalities that have legalized the sale of liquor by the drink by a county-wide referendum.

(B) In any jurisdiction that has elected Tennessee River resort district status pursuant to § 67-6-103(a)(3)(F) and is considered a Tennessee River resort district for purposes of chapter 4, part 1 of this title, the hours for the sale of beer within the boundaries of any such resort district shall not be less than the hours authorized for establishments selling liquor or wine for on-premises consumption.

(c) It is unlawful for the management of any place where any beverage licensed hereunder is sold to allow any minor to loiter about such place of business, and the burden of ascertaining the age of minor customers shall be upon the owner or operator of such place of business.

(d)(1)(A) It is unlawful and punishable as provided in § 57-5-303, for any minor to purchase or attempt to purchase any such beverage.

(B)(i) In addition to any criminal penalty established in this section, a court in which a person younger than twenty-one (21) years of age but eighteen (18) years of age or older is convicted of the purchase or attempt to purchase or possession of beer in violation of this section shall prepare and send to the department of safety, driver control division, within five (5) working days of the conviction an order of denial of driving privileges for the offender.

(ii) The court and the department of safety shall follow the same procedures and utilize the same sanctions and costs for an offender younger than twenty-one (21) years of age but eighteen (18) years of age or older as provided in title 55, chapter 10, part 7, for offenders younger than eighteen (18) years of age but thirteen (13) years of age or older.

(2) Any person who purchases any such beverage for or on behalf of a person under twenty-one (21) years of age commits a Class A misdemeanor and, in addition to the punishment authorized by § 40-35-111, shall be punished pursuant to § 39-15-404.

(3) Any person under twenty-one (21) years of age who knowingly makes a false statement or exhibits false identification to the effect that the person is twenty-one (21) years of age or older to any person engaged in the sale of alcoholic beverages licensed hereunder for the purpose of purchasing or obtaining the same is guilty of a misdemeanor. In addition to any criminal penalty established by this subdivision (d)(3), a court in which a person younger than twenty-one (21) years of age but eighteen (18) years of age or older is convicted under this subdivision (d)(3) of a second or subsequent offense shall prepare and send to the department of safety, driver control division, within five (5) working days of the conviction, an order of denial of driving privileges for the offender for a period not to exceed one (1) year. The offender may apply to the court for a restricted driver license. The judge shall order the issuance of a restricted motor vehicle operator's license, in accordance with § 55-50-502. The court and the department shall follow the same procedures and utilize the same costs for a person younger than twenty-one (21) years of age but eighteen (18) years of age or older as provided in title 55, chapter 10, part 7, for offenders younger than eighteen (18) years of age but thirteen (13) years of age or older.

(A) If the person violating this subdivision (d)(3) is less than eighteen (18) years of age, the person shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty (\$50.00) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) and not less than twenty (20) hours of community service work, which fine or penalty shall not be suspended or waived. The fine imposed by this subdivision (d)(3)(A) shall apply regardless of whether the violator cooperates with law enforcement officers by telling them the place the alcohol was purchased or obtained or from whom it was purchased or obtained.

(B) If the person violating this subdivision (d)(3) is eighteen (18) years of age or older but less than twenty-one (21) years of age, the person shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than five hundred dollars (\$500) or by imprisonment in the local jail

or workhouse for not less than five (5) days nor more than thirty (30) days. The penalties imposed by this subdivision (d)(3)(B) shall apply regardless of whether the violator cooperates with law enforcement officers by telling them the place the alcohol was purchased or obtained or from whom it was purchased or obtained.

(e)(1) It is unlawful for any person under twenty-one (21) years of age to have in the person's possession beer for any purpose, and it is unlawful for any such minor to transport beer for any purpose except the same be in the course of employment.

(2) A violation of subdivision (e)(1) is a Class A misdemeanor.

(3) Any person under twenty-one (21) years of age found to have violated subdivision (e)(1) shall, regardless of the final disposition of such violation, have the right to have the records, as defined in § 40-32-101, of such violation destroyed after the passage of six (6) months from the date of the violation. Such destruction shall occur upon motion of the person to the court which heard the violation and shall be without cost to such person.

(f) Vendors shall post signs on the vendor's premises informing customers of the vendor's policy against selling beer to underage persons. The signs shall be not less than eight and one-half inches by five and one-half inches (8 ½ " x 5 ½ "), and shall contain the following language: IF YOU AREN'T 21 AND ARE IN POSSESSION OF BEER, YOU COULD LOSE YOUR DRIVER LICENSE.