

2015 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 168

BY SENATORS MORRELL AND PETERSON

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES. Request the Responsible Vendor Program to include certain server training courses.

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Responsible Vendor Program to include server training courses addressing sexual assault and appropriate responses as part of its licensing requirements.

WHEREAS, since its creation, the Louisiana Responsible Vendor Program has trained and permitted thousands of servers in the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Responsible Vendor Program was established to educate vendors and their employees about selling, serving, and consuming alcoholic beverages in a responsible manner; and

WHEREAS, there is also a need to educate vendors and their employees about identifying sexual assault behaviors and strategies to prevent sexual assault from occurring; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that one-half of all violent crimes, including sexual assault, involve alcohol or drug consumption by the perpetrator, the victim, or both; and

WHEREAS, bartender training should increase bar staff understanding of the scope and causes of unwanted sexual aggression, manipulation, and violence and increase bar staff recognition of inappropriate behavior as it relates to sexual or relationship violence; and

WHEREAS, bartender trainer should provide bar staff with the skills needed to

1 identify and respond to inappropriate behavior safely and appropriately, whether by stepping  
2 in as a bystander or when asked for help; and

3 WHEREAS, bartenders should be trained on how to effectively share with bar  
4 patrons safety messages that encourage respect and let customers know that bar staff are  
5 available for help; and

6 WHEREAS, to accomplish these goals, training should include but not be limited to  
7 the following: (1) Introduction to sexual assault and its effects on primary and secondary  
8 victims; (2) Louisiana law as it relates to sexual assault; (3) Information on physical  
9 appearance of drugs, the effects of drugs, street names for drugs, and methods of delivery;  
10 and (4) Identifying predators; and

11 WHEREAS, by strengthening bartender licensing requirements to include  
12 information on alcohol-facilitated and drug-facilitated sexual assault, Louisiana would be  
13 at the forefront of training bar staff to help identify and address sexual violence.

14 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana  
15 does hereby urge and request the Responsible Vendor Program to include server training  
16 courses addressing sexual assault and appropriate responses as part of its licensing  
17 requirements.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
19 Louisiana Office of Alcohol and Tobacco Control.

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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part  
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by James Benton.

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SR 168 Original

DIGEST  
2015 Regular Session

Morrell

Urge and request the Responsible Vendor Program to provide server training courses dealing  
with sexual assault and its prevention as part of its licensing requirements.