

**321.284 Open containers in motor vehicles — drivers.**

1. A person operating a motor vehicle upon a public street or highway shall not possess in the passenger area of the motor vehicle an open or unsealed bottle, can, jar, or other receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage or a beverage containing any amount of tetrahydrocannabinol. “*Passenger area*” means the area designed to seat the driver and passengers while the motor vehicle is in operation and any area that is readily accessible to the driver or a passenger while in their seating positions, including the glove compartment. An open or unsealed receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage or an otherwise lawful beverage containing tetrahydrocannabinol may be transported in the trunk of the motor vehicle. An unsealed receptacle containing an alcoholic beverage or an otherwise lawful beverage containing tetrahydrocannabinol may be transported behind the last upright seat of the motor vehicle if the motor vehicle does not have a trunk. A person convicted of a violation of [this section](#) is guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable as a scheduled violation under [section 805.8A, subsection 14](#), paragraph “e”.

2. A person under the age of twenty-one who possesses an alcoholic beverage in violation of [this section](#) is guilty of a violation of [section 123.47](#).

[95 Acts, ch 48, §5](#); [98 Acts, ch 1100, §47](#); [98 Acts, ch 1204, §3](#); [99 Acts, ch 77, §1](#); [2001 Acts, ch 137, §5](#); [2010 Acts, ch 1128, §5](#); [2025 Acts, ch 9, §1](#)

Referred to in §123.30, 123.31A, 123.31C, 123.49, 805.8A(14)(e)

Section amended