



The Extra Mile

Advocating for evidence-based policies and practices to prevent and reduce alcohol-related harms



Our goal is to raise \$1,500
to sponsor 15 students
to attend our annual
Youth Leadership Retreat at no cost.

This retreat plays a powerful role in equipping young people with the tools and confidence to advocate for positive change in their communities. With your support, we can ensure that cost is not a barrier to their growth and impact.

Give at SHAREomaha.org

  **#GIVINGTUESDAY402**
powered by SHARE Omaha

Miles to Go: 20 Omaha Area Businesses Sold Alcohol to Minors *Highest non-compliant rate since 2008!*

EXCERPT FROM PRESS RELEASE: Local and state law enforcement agencies conducted compliance checks between September 9, 19, and 20 in Cass and Douglas counties to ensure that retailers are refusing the sale of alcohol to minors. Underage drinking causes a number of harms to youth and their communities if left unchecked. Unfortunately, it was the highest rate of non-compliance in nearly two decades.



It's just this simple...

Horizontal = 21+.
Check photo ID, verify age.

don't sell alcohol to minors.

Vertical = underage.
Refuse sale.

This project is funded (200%, \$15,000) by the Strategic Prevention Framework - Partnership for Safer and Healthier Communities (SPF-PSC) through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, contracted through the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health and Regional Behavioral Health Services.

"We were concerned to see the percentage of businesses that sold to minors during this round of checks increase drastically from recent operations," said Omaha Police Department Sergeant Lindsey Fox. "We urge businesses to train their employees about IDs so that they can easily verify the minor ID and refuse the sale."

"It's unfortunate that the Nebraska Legislature killed a proposal requested by the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission this year that would've required all licensees to train

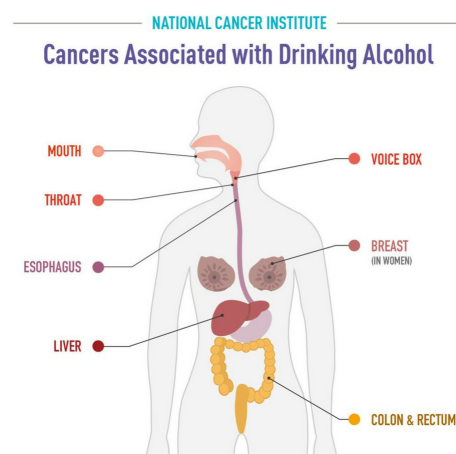
their employees about how to legally sell alcohol in Nebraska, which would've included training on IDs," said Chris Wagner, Executive Director of Project Extra Mile. "We are trying to fill the gap by distributing our It's Just This Simple campaign to all of the nearly 5,000 retail liquor licenses in the State of Nebraska to help these businesses and their employees distinguish between adult and minor IDs and lists additional steps that can be taken to reduce illegal sales."

20 (17%) out of 121 businesses checked in Cass and Douglas counties were cited for selling alcohol to minors. A summary sheet of the enforcement results and a full list of businesses checked are available [here](#). One of the businesses cited is facing enhanced penalties due to a prior sale to minor within the last four years -- the time frame used by the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission (LCC) to assess penalties.

- Mega Saver, 5444 Center St, Omaha (4/2021; 12/2021).

To read the rest of the press release, [click here](#).

The Trump Administration Buried a Major Study on Alcohol and Cancer



Members of the US Department of Health and Humans Services (HHS) were commissioned in 2022 to author the [Alcohol Intake and Health Study](#) and were informed in August 2025 that the [Trump administration does not intend to publish the final draft](#) of the study or its findings.

The authors of the research emphasized they had sought to conduct a study that would fairly represent America's alcohol consumption. They not only reviewed a wide range of observational studies but also ran data through a statistical model based on US population, specifically to estimate the mortality effects of alcohol for Americans.

The findings were broken into three different drinking levels – from one drink per day to three – and found that among the US population, the negative health effects of drinking alcohol increase sharply the more a person drinks. The analysis was supposed to be submitted to Congress as part of an annual report on underage drinking and was to be shared with USDA and HHS for consideration in drafting the U.S. Dietary Guidelines, which are expected to be released soon.

The authors of the study are currently working on publishing their findings in an independent academic journal.

House and Senate File Reports for FY 2026 Budget

Focus turns to continuing funding resolution

In May 2025, the [President's Budget Request \(PBR\)](#) for fiscal year 2026 (FY 2026) was released proposing cuts and elimination of programs pertaining to underage drinking prevention. The PBR is utilized as a blueprint for how Congress could fund the federal government in the coming year. Funding for these prevention programs falls under the jurisdiction of the Labor-HHS-Education Committee of Congress.



The President's Budget Request called for the following:

- Elimination of funding (\$14.5M) for the Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking (STOP) Act
- Elimination of funding (\$125.4M) for the Strategic Prevention Framework/Partnerships for Success grant

Both the [House](#) and [Senate](#) have now filed their reports proposing the FY 2026 Budget, generally ignoring the President's cuts. Details can be seen in the table below:

	HOUSE	SENATE
SPF-PFS	\$140,848,000, a \$5,364,000 increase from FY2025	\$135,484,000, same as FY2025
STOP Act	\$14,500,000, same as FY2025, but cuts ICCPUD (\$1M)	\$14,500,000, same as FY2025
SUPTRS Block	\$2,013,079,000, a \$5,000,000 increase from FY2025	\$2,028,079,000, a \$20,000,000 increase from FY2025
CDC Alcohol Program	Fold Excessive Alcohol Use program into Chronic Disease Education & Awareness Program	Fund Excessive Alcohol Use program at \$4,000,000, a \$2,000,000 decrease from FY2025

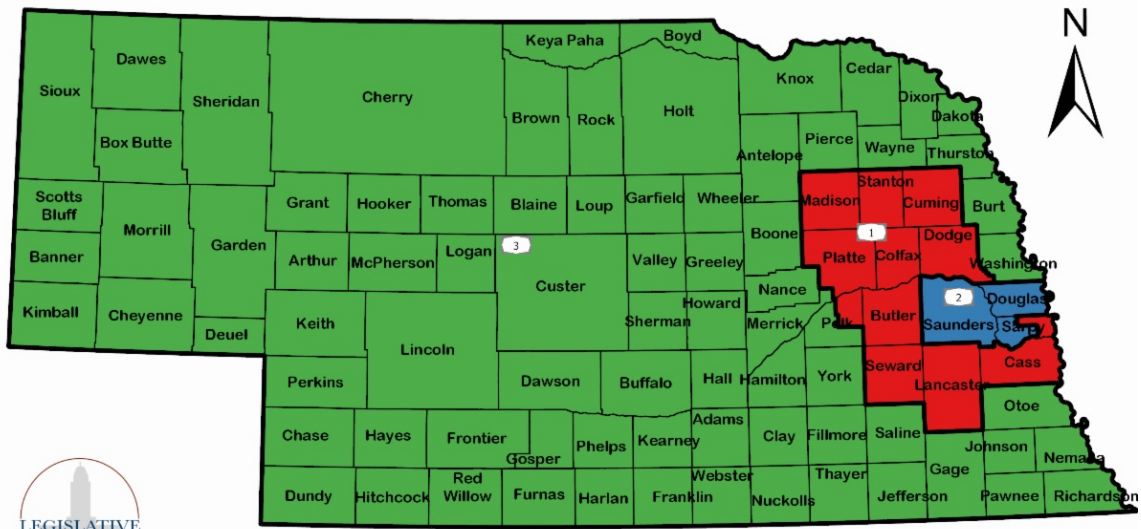
[Congress failed to pass the FY 2026 appropriations bills](#) by September 30, 2025 and a continuing funding resolution, resulting in a federal government [shutdown since October 1](#). This means that all non-essential services have been suspended and thousands of federal employees have been furloughed. While typical shutdowns last a few days at most, the last shutdown lasted for 35 days between December 2018 and January 2019. The House and Senate must come to a consensus to pass a continuing resolution to fund the government while both chambers work towards a permanent funding solution.

News Brief: Upheaval at Nebraska Liquor Control Commission



On September 24th, [Hobert Rupe, former executive director of the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission \(LCC\) was indicted](#) on seven felony charges, including honest services fraud, conspiracy, wire fraud, and extortion. Federal prosecutors allege Rupe accepted cash, free drinks, lap dances, sexual favors, and other benefits from two Lincoln strip clubs in exchange for favorable treatment. Rupe resigned shortly after search warrants were served at the LCC in May.

Governor Jim Pillen condemned the misconduct, calling it a betrayal of public trust and pledging to restore integrity to the LCC, which also oversees the state's Medical Cannabis Commission. In addition to Rupe's alleged conduct, the governor rejected rule changes proposed by the LCC that would have allowed touching between strip club employees and customers. He recently asked for and received the resignation of two commissioners and is accepting applications for the two vacancies. One vacancy represents Nebraska's third congressional district and the other will represent its first congressional district. If you are interested in bringing a public health or safety voice to the LCC and you live in either of these districts, [please apply here by October 17](#). Micah Chaffee, an attorney who previously worked in the Nebraska Legislature, has been hired as the next executive director of the Commission. He formerly served with State Sen. Rick Holdcroft and the General Affairs Committee.



Created by Legislative Research
Source: US Census Bureau
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Coalition Spotlight: Julie Chytil

Julie Chytil is this month's spotlight. She has served as the Program Coordinator for the Nebraska Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NECCCP) for two years, with more than 25 years of experience in public health. She's passionate and committed to improving the lives of individuals affected by chronic health conditions. Prior to her current position, she held a leadership role at the Alzheimer's Association Nebraska Chapter and worked in the health promotion section of the Douglas County Health Department. In her role at NECCCP, Julie leads statewide collaboration efforts to advance the [Nebraska State Cancer Plan](#) which was successfully updated last year.



The partnership with Project Extra Mile was strengthened during the update process to ensure the inclusion of a key objective focused on reducing excessive alcohol consumption. Julie shared that "this addition aligns with growing public health momentum; earlier this year, the U.S. Surgeon General proposed that alcoholic beverages carry cancer risk warning labels—a move that strongly reinforces the goals of Nebraska's updated cancer plan." Thanks for being a part of our coalition, Julie!

Please Join Us!

Coalition Meeting

Wednesday, October 8, 2025

UNO's Community Engagement Center

Room 209

9:00 a.m.



For more information: 402-963-9047



Meetings are held at
UNO's Community Engagement Center
6400 University Drive South



2025 Meeting Dates

January 22nd

February 12th

Join us at our
30th Anniversary
Recognition Dinner
on March 12th

April 9th

May 14th

No Meeting in June

No Meeting in July

August 13th

September 10th

October 8th

November 12th

December 10th



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