AN ACT
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- PLASTIC BOTTLE AND CONTAINER LABELING ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Bennett, McEntee, Fogarty, Ruggiero, Cortvriend, Carson, Ackerman, Abney, and Edwards

Date Introduced: January 12, 2022

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 23-18.15 of the General Laws entitled "Plastic Bottle and Container Labeling Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

23-18.15-5. Prohibition on the sale of miniature alcoholic beverage containers.
(a) As used in this section, the term “miniature alcoholic beverage container” (“container”) means any sealable bottle, can, jar, or carton, which is primarily composed of glass, metal, plastic, rigid plastic, or any combination of those materials that has a capacity of not more than one hundred milliliters (100 ml) and is produced for the purpose of containing an alcoholic beverage as described in chapter 1 of title 3, which containers are sometimes colloquially referred to as "nips."
(b) No person shall purchase, obtain, sell, or otherwise distribute any miniature alcoholic beverage container in the state. This prohibition shall not apply to the sale or distribution of miniature alcoholic beverage containers to passengers on commercial railroad trains or commercial aircraft while operating within Rhode Island, provided that any containers so distributed shall be collected prior to passengers disembarking off the train or aircraft, regardless of whether the contents of the container are consumed or not.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.
EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1. This act would prohibit the sale of miniature alcoholic beverage containers in Rhode Island.

2. This act would exempt the sale or distribution of miniature alcoholic beverage containers to passengers on commercial railroad trains or aircraft, as long as the containers are collected prior to passengers disembarking off the train or aircraft.

3. This act would take effect upon passage.