In 1984, the Uniform Drinking Age Act was passed mandating all states to adopt 21 as the legal drinking age. By 1988, all states had set 21 as the minimum legal drinking age. This law has been responsible for saving about 900 lives per year and a reduction of alcohol consumption among America’s youth. The National Safety Council supports the minimum drinking age of 21 and opposes any attempt to lower this age and reaffirms the need for Federal sanctions for states that violate this provision.

This position statement reflects the opinions of the National Safety Council but not necessarily those of each member organization.