

19 and 20 Year Old Privileges Signed, No Booze Till Sept. 25

JUNEAU—Governor Keith H. Miller has signed a bill which extends to 19 and 20 year-olds a number of privileges and responsibilities that are presently withheld from all persons under 21 years of age.

"The State has always prescribed 19 years as the age of majority," said Miller.

"Although Alaska therefore considers a 19-year-old to be legally in control of his actions with all the rights and responsibilities of full citizenship, including the right to vote, a number of other statutory provisions have specifically denied certain attributes of 'full citizenship' to Alaskans between the age of 19 and 21 years," the Governor continued.

"The provisions of this bill will eliminate a number of these disparities," Miller said.

The new law will extend to 19 and 20 year-olds the responsibilities of jury duty and will remove them from the jurisdiction of the juvenile courts.

It will authorize 19 and 20-

year olds to act as incorporator of corporations and serve as special law enforcement officers.

Other provisions of the bill lower to 19 years the age at which a person may purchase intoxicating beverages and be employed as a waiter or waitress in an establishment licensed to sell intoxicating beverages.

Governor Miller cautioned 19 and 20-year-olds who might be anxious to celebrate their newly acquired privileges that the bill's provisions do not become effective until September 25, 1970.