

February 12, 2024

HB 1235

Bill Title: Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages -License Extensions

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am writing to request a favorable vote for HB 1235 by madam delegate Jacqueline Addison. This bill aims to extend the expiration dates of certain alcoholic beverage licenses in Baltimore City until July 1, 2025, facilitating ownership transfers and renewals under specific circumstances.

The intended building renovations could not be completed in a timely fashion due to Covid impacts. The original BD-7 Tavern license expired as a result. It was because the contractor delayed the project. In addition, this was delayed by the supply chain. The business has been closed ever since COVID and as a new owner I can assure you that the reopening of the business will enrich the Hamilton community/Baltimore city. We intend to open an Indian and American bar food with the privilege it comes with the license.

We had several rounds of meetings with the community leaders, members, and business associations. They all were excited and supported our business idea. The only thing was as a new business owner I did not know the license had an expiration date. When I went to pick up the license at the liquor board, I learned the license was expired. Despite that also, it would have been a challenge to complete the renovations on time due to Covid impacts. It has had a devastating effect ever since and the business is closed. With your support granting vote, it will give us opportunity to reopen the business.

I humbly request a favorable vote for HB 1235 for the benefit of the small business owner and its community.

Respectfully,

Sushma Karki

Business owner of Subi & Maya LLC