



The Senate of Maryland
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1991

SB 1100 - Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - 46th Alcoholic Beverages District - Revisions

Testimony of Senate President Bill Ferguson

On February 23, 2024

Before the Senate Finance Committee

I respectfully urge my colleagues to support Senate Bill 1100, the 46th District Delegation's annual local liquor bill.

This year, SB 1100 currently has four main components:

1. Page 3, Lines 15-28 and Page 4, Lines 10-25: Allows for the transfer of two liquor licenses to establishments in Highlandtown and Greektown that are within 300 feet of a place of worship or school pending a letter of support from the institution in question. Both transfers are noncontroversial and have community support.
2. Page 5, Lines 11-12: Permits a 6-day license holder to apply to the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City for a waiver allowing their establishment to remain open to sell food beyond the hours attached to their liquor license. Currently, an establishment may only operate to sell food beyond the hours of their license if the establishment's dining room is entirely separated from their bar. These license holders would still be prohibited from selling alcoholic beverages beyond the hours attached to their 6-day license.
3. Page 5, Lines 14-17: Revives a license near O'Donnell Square in Canton for the purposes of transfer to a new owner.
4. Page 5, Lines 18-23: Allows Off the Rox in Highlandtown to convert their license from a Class D beer and light wine license to a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license so long as they meet the requirements codified from last year's Senate Bill 607 with the exception of the food sales requirement.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 1100 and I urge the Committee to report the bill favorably.