



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700 County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

PG 303-24 (SB186) - Prince George's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Cigar Lounge License
Senator Ron Watson
(Finance)

POSITION:

SUPPORT

PG 303-24 (SB186) – Establishing a Class B-CL (cigar lounge) beer, wine, and liquor license in Prince George's County; excluding the license from certain distance restrictions; excluding a certain business that operates in the county under the license from the requirements of the Clean Indoor Air Act; and providing an annual license fee of \$900.

The Prince George's County Council shares Senator Watson's desire to expand the commercial tax base within our borders and increase the amenities available to both our residents and visitors. The Blue Line Corridor Project offers Prince George's County businesses a tremendous opportunity for growth and prosperity. This bill will allow businesses along this corridor. The Council greatly appreciates the amendments that have been offered to ensure a finite number of licenses, and, having those licenses targeted to specific areas in the County that have been identified for economic development activities. The Council, after debate and deliberation offer the following amendments to the bill. Those amendments add clarifying language so that it is clear that there cannot be more than 10 facilities operating within the County at any given time, and establishes a mileage restriction of 10 miles between each of these businesses.

For the foregoing reasons, the Prince George's County Council **SUPPORTS PG 303-24/SB186** as amended, and the amendments offered by our Council, and respectfully request your favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: Carrington & Associates, LLC
On behalf of Prince George's County Council