

Dear Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Brant Fisher, and I am here today to express my support for Senate Bill 774.

For the past 17 years, my family and I have resided in Southeast Baltimore. Over the last seven years, I have served as the President of the Brewers Hill Neighbors Association, and for the past four years, I have been the President of the Baltimore Police Department Community Relations Council, where I coordinate public safety efforts across Southeast Baltimore.

Our community is home to an entertainment district situated within a residential area. This district boasts several businesses that cater to residents and visitors alike, offering drinks, entertainment, and special events. Located just blocks away from the harbor waterfront, our community attracts visitors from the city, state, and beyond.

During special events, ensuring public safety becomes a top priority, as the population swells with attendees. Surrounding communities have diligently pursued grant funding to enhance safety measures, including security cameras, traffic calming measures, and café lighting, which have significantly improved safety in and around our entertainment district.

Despite our volunteer efforts, additional assistance is needed. I believe that SB 774 will help establish a connection between unique entertainment districts like ours in Canton and much-needed resources. By supporting this legislation, you will help communities such as ours better ensure the safety of residents, business owners, employees, and visitors who come to our city for sports activities, concerts, festivals, and tourism.

For these reasons and more, I respectfully request a favorable report on SB 774.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brant Fisher