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**SB0017**

January 22, 2026

**TO:** Members of the Finance Committee

**FROM:** Nina Themelis, Director of the Mayor's Office of Government Relations

**RE:** Senate Bill 0017 – Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Related Event Promoter's Permit

**POSITION: FAVORABLE**

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 0017.

SB 0017 would reestablish a related event promoter's permit in Baltimore City; authorizing the Board of Liquor License Commissioners (BLLC) for Baltimore City to issue a related event promoter's permit to certain applicants under certain circumstances. It incorporates a few technical changes to the permit process and structure for event promoters during the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Basketball Tournament week terminating on June 30, 2029.

In 2019, Chapter 764 initially authorized the BLLC to identify when and where CIAA-related but non-sponsored/sanctioned events are happening during the tournament week in order to create more productive and beneficial cross collaboration. The enactment of Chapter 764 in 2019 and Chapter 391 in 2023 have been highly successful in ensuring that all activity related to the Tournament is appropriately coordinated in order to maximize the impact on both the City and attendees.

In 2025, the CIAA Basketball Tournament welcomed 32,350 total attendees. The City saw participants and spectators spend \$15.1 million at off-site establishments in the local economy, including local restaurants, hotels, retailers, and other recreation/entertainment venues, 30% of which was spent in the food & beverage sector. With the passage of SB0017, this event will continue to be a highly impactful economic driver for the City through 2029.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully request a **favorable** report on SB0017.