

Testimony for Senator Hayes in Support of Senate Bill 0017: *Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Related Event Promoter’s Permit*

January 22, 2026

Dear Baltimore City Senate Delegation,

The Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Basketball Tournament has continued to be a cultural and economic success for Baltimore City. This bill was created to enhance the oversight and safety of large events tied to the CIAA tournament by ensuring that alcohol service is properly licensed and by establishing accountability for promoters and caterers. This initiative seeks to balance the promotion of tourism with the need for public safety and regulatory compliance.

SB 17 establishes essential application requirements, including the 30 days prior to an event in which a person, or business entity must apply for the permit. It also defines specific terms such as “related event promoter” to include individuals or organizations promoting social events related to CIAA Basketball. SB 17 defines critical aspects such as the \$50 application fee and penalties in the case this law is violated. This bill expires on June 30, 2029, unless renewed.

SB 17 is an urgent measure to ensure that Baltimore City can safely and responsibly host the CIAA Basketball Tournament. This bill provides the structure needed to manage these events effectively while preserving the economic and cultural benefits the CIAA brings to the city.

I urge you to vote favorably on SB0017.

Respectfully,

Senator Antonio L. Hayes

40th Legislative District – MD