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**Testimony in Support of SB 1046**  
**“Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B-D-7 Licenses”**  
**Submitted to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**  
**February 28, 2020**

Chairman Pinsky; Members of the Committee. Thank you for providing me the opportunity to testify before you today. My name is Nicholas Dewey. I am the Senior Vice President of Strategic Partnerships for Mayson-Dixon Properties & Development, a minority-owned real estate development and public affairs firm with offices in Baltimore City and Prince George’s County. I support our organization’s business development and strategic expansion operations and I come here before you today in support of SB 1046.

Our company has recently engaged with a growing and exciting nonprofit theater company in Baltimore City that has garnered a significant following over the past decade despite not having a home base, a permanent location out of which to operate: the Baltimore Rock Opera Society (aka the BROS). The founders of the company approached us to help them find such a home. They are not real estate developers and have no interest in owning or managing a property. They want to do what they do best – put on iconic shows that draw thousands of fans from the entire mid-Atlantic region to Baltimore.

To that end, we have found what will be a perfect long-term location for them to continue growing in the Charles North Arts & Entertainment District and, at the same time, be a driver of continued advancement in this energized neighborhood of Baltimore City. This theater will be one of a growing list of cultural institutions and entertainment venues in central Baltimore including the Charles and Parkway movie theaters, the Maryland Film Festival, and Artscape.

As part of the redevelopment of the property, we are requesting approval of the Legislature to open an entertainment venue that would operate with a Class B-D-7 alcoholic beverages license. This venue is critical to supporting the operations of the theater company as well as the success of this venture for our small business. We are engaged with the community in making this a success story for Charles North and have numerous letters of support. We will work hand-in-hand with the Charles North community association, the Mid-Town Community Benefits District, and other area business owners to ensure the success not only of this project, but of the greater community that the BROS want to call home.

We ask for a favorable review of SB 1046 by the Committee. Thank you again for your time and consideration.

Regards,

Nicholas L. Dewey  
Senior Vice President  
Mayson-Dixon Properties and Development