

Good morning

My name is Cynthia Gross; and I am a lifelong resident of the East Baltimore. I am here to testify in support of SB45/HB335- Baltimore City- Alcoholic Beverages, B-D-7, License Hours of Sale. My home is one (1) block from an establishment, located at the corner of Orleans St and Montford Ave, which carries a Bd7 liquor license. As currently allowed by law, this establishment is open very late at night; actually, open into the next morning. Establishments that stay open late have a tendency, in my area, to attract individuals who use the location and hours of late hours of operation as an excuse to loiter and partake in illegal activities.

A quick review of Baltimore City's Open Data Police database showed in the last 365 days, that the 400 block of N Montford Ave /2400 block of Orleans St, where the BD7 establishment is located, experienced 2 Homicides, 3 Shootings, 5 Aggravated Assaults, 4 Auto Thefts, 4 Larcenies and 1 burglary. A police car now sits on or at the tip of the 400 block of N Montford Ave each day to attempt to deter crime for a few hours.

I understand that businesses exist to service a need/desire/want and make money. However, business owners must be responsive to and responsible for the neighborhoods they or located in, and the conditions their establishment contributes to. Limiting the hours of operation on BD7 establishments will, in my opinion, serve the same purpose as the police car that sits in the block, to deter crime. I support SB45 and urge this delegation to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Gross

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Registered Voter and District 45th Resident.