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Baltimore City

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Monday, February 17, 2025

Chairman Wilson
Vice Chair Crosby
Maryland House Economic Matters Committee
230 Taylor House Office Building
231 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen St
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony of Delegate Marlon Amprey in Support of House Bill 1172 Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Authorizations and Revisions

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Committee Members,

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Authorizations and Revisions (HB1172) serves several purposes:

1. Creates a Pier Diem License (“Pier Diem License”) structure with a \$250 application fee for submissions made at least two weeks before an event. The bill also establishes regulations governing the application and approval process for Per Diem Licenses, ensuring consistency and efficiency.
2. Authorizes a Class C Beer and Light Wine License for Coppin State University, allowing the sale of beer and wine at games, events, and other campus activities. This measure makes Coppin State more competitive in attracting events and enhances the overall event experience.
3. Grants Class C Beer and Wine License to a barbershop on 800 Block of North Howard currently operating as the Groomatory, expanding service offerings and fostering small business growth.
4. Establishes two Class B Beer, Wine and Liquor Licenses for restaurants with fewer than 75 seats:
 - a. One on the even side of 1100 Block of Hollins Street (Rooted Rotisserie).

- b. One on the even side of South Carrollton Ave (Black Cat Bakery and Cafe).
5. Streamlines the licensing process for 1-day licenses, by establishing a clear, well-regulated and efficient approval **and** revocation process.

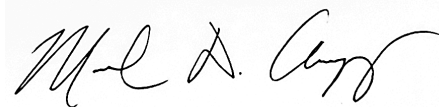
This bill grants the Baltimore City Board of Liquor License Commissioners the authority to develop an explicit vetting procedure for 1-day license acquisitions. It empowers the Board to revoke applications when necessary, reinforcing safeguards that protect public safety while maintaining a fair and consistent licensing framework

In terms of real-world application, this legislation promotes equity by providing long-overdue economic opportunities to a historically disenfranchised community. By stimulating local business growth, attracting tourism and reinvestment, and fostering greater civic and community engagement, this bill directly supports Baltimore City's broader revitalization efforts. Most importantly, it creates safe, well-regulated spaces for adult residents and visitors to enjoy the fruits of their continued support for the small businesses that anchor our communities.

By allowing Coppin State University in the 40th District to obtain Class C beer, wine, and liquor licenses, this bill fosters a more vibrant and dynamic corridor, enhancing sporting events, dining experiences, and community engagement. It is a necessary step toward supporting small businesses, boosting tourism, and driving sustained economic growth in the 40th District.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on HB1172.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlon Amprey". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Delegate Marlon Amprey
40th Legislative District of Maryland