

MARLON AMPREY
Legislative District 40
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

January 27, 2026

Chair Wells
Vice Chair Kerr
House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
Lowe House Office Building
Room 145
Annapolis, MD 21401

FAV Written Testimony for HB20 Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Related Event Promoter's Permit

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee,

The CIAA Basketball Tournament has been both a cultural and economic success for Baltimore City since the city began hosting in 2021.

According to current Maryland law, local boards of license commissioners can issue special alcoholic beverage licenses for use during specified periods. In 2019, Chapter 764 authorized the board to issue a related event promoter's permit for social events related to and occurring around the same time and location as the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Basketball Tournament. The termination date was extended to June 30, 2025 in 2023, with an updated application process and newly clarified definitions.

HB20 was created to enhance and strengthen the safety and oversight of the events related to the CIAA Tournament by establishing accountability for promoters and caterers and ensuring that alcohol service is properly licensed. This proposal aims to balance public safety and regulatory compliance with the promotion of tourism. HB20 will essentially extend the law implemented in 2019 and 2023 for the entirety of the contract between Baltimore and the CIAA.

This bill sets essential application requirements and defines integral aspects of the legislation. This includes a rule in which a person or business entity must apply for a permit at least 30 days before the related event and the definition of “related event promoter” as an individual, for-profit organization, or non-profit, organization that is promoting a social event related to the CIAA Basketball Tournament, and around the same time and location as the tournament. The bill clearly outlines the application fee of \$50 and the penalties for violation of the law.

HB20 is a crucial and necessary measure for Baltimore City in order to hold the CIAA Basketball Tournament safely and responsibly. This bill ensures safety and regulation while maintaining a positive cultural and economic impact.

I urge a favorable report on House Bill 20.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marlon Amprey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marlon" and last name "Amprey" clearly distinguishable.

Delegate Marlon Amprey
40th Legislative District of Maryland