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STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF LIQUOR LICENSE COMMISSIONERS
FOR BALTIMORE CITY
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PHONE: (410) 396-4377
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Hon. Brandon M. Scott
President, Baltimore City Council
100 N. Holliday Street
Suite 400
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: Council Bill 19-0158R - "Approval for the Exchange of a Class B-D-7 License to a Class A-7 License - 1503-05 Light Street"

President Scott,

I write to you today concerning City Council Bill 19-0158R, which was introduced by Councilman Eric Costello. If adopted this resolution would allow for the holder of a Class BD7 Beer, Wine, and Liquor (BWL) license located at 1503-05 Light Street to apply to the Board of Liquor License Commissioners for Baltimore City (BLLC) to exchange said license for a Class A-7 BWL License.

In 2018 the Maryland General Assembly (MGA) passed SB519, which allowed Class BD7 BWL license holders to exchange their licenses for a Class A-7 BWL license contingent upon passage of a City Council Resolution in support of the exchange. Only the holders of a Class BD7 BWL license prior to July 1, 2018 are eligible for such an exchange. In addition, the Board may not issue a Class A-7 BWL license after July 1, 2020.

The Class A-7 BWL license authorizes its holder to sell Beer, Wine, and Liquor at retail for off-premise consumption from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm 7-days per week. In 2019, the MGA passed HB637, which – effective July 1, 2019 – eliminated the prohibition on Class BD7 BWL license holders not located within a Planned Unit Development (PUD) in the 46th Legislative District from exchanging their licenses.

As such, Alc. Bev. Art. 12-902(c)(1), now allows the current holder of the Class BD7 BWL license located at 1503-05 Light Street (this property is not located in a PUD) to exchange their license for a Class A-7 BWL license, contingent on the adoption of Council Bill 19-015R. The BLLC has no objections to the adoption of this resolution.

If you have any other questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-396-4385.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Akras", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Thomas R. Akras
Deputy Executive Secretary
Board of Liquor License Commissioners
For Baltimore City