



**Baltimore**  
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August 27, 2008

**TO: President Rawlings-Blake and Members of the Baltimore City Council**  
**FR: Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association**  
**RE: City of Baltimore Council Bill 08-0163**  
**Ordinance: Live Entertainment – Licensing and Regulation – Hospitality Services – Promotion and Coordination**

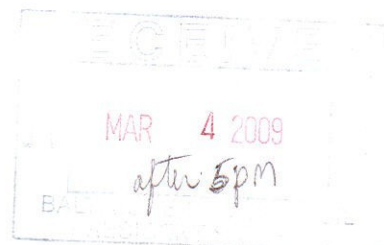
Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association  
Response to the Above-Referenced Bill:

The Baltimore Area Convention and Visitors Association (BACVA) has been asked to comment on City Council Bill 08-0163, an ordinance for the purpose of deleting live entertainment and dancing as a zoning use category; requiring the licensing of certain establishments that provide live entertainment or dancing; establishing the Board of Licenses for live entertainment and providing for its powers and duties; establishing an Office of Hospitality Services and providing for its powers and duties; defining certain terms; imposing certain penalties; and generally relating to the licensing and regulation of live entertainment and to the promotion and coordination of hospitality services.

BACVA supports this measure as long as the licensing process is strictly monitored so there is little disruption to the neighborhood residents. It's important for the growth of our tourism industry that Baltimore be a lively and exciting city that provides tourists and conventioners with a vibrant nightlife scene. Visitors are looking for things to do at night, and, if we want to remain competitive as a destination, the city must do everything it can to deliver what visitors want while maintaining a stable environment and superb quality of life for the people who live in Baltimore.

Sincerely,

Tom Noonan  
BACVA President & CEO



*F / comments*