



CITY OF BALTIMORE
MAYOR BRANDON M. SCOTT

TO	The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
FROM	Christopher R. Lundy, Director MOSMBAD
CC	Mayor's Office of Government Relations
DATE	March 18, 2026
SUBJECT	25-0114 Zoning — Uses — Smoke Shop

Position: Favorable

BILL SYNOPSIS

Bill 25-0114 seeks to make the operation of a retail smoke shop a conditional use that is subject to Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals approval and limiting the use geographically.

SUMMARY OF POSITION

SMBA&D supports small local businesses in all sectors. We have seen an influx of smoke shops that can disproportionately dominant community commercial corridor retail space. The community has a host of needs and services that are necessary in commercial corridors to enable thriving communities. There are no anticipated impacts upon currently operating smoke shops due to them being grandfathered under the bill. There is a need for BMZA to review the types and number of businesses that can be established to ensure we consider the needs of each community. This bill will further our equitable economic development by providing a mechanism to evaluate the number and location of smoke shops in our local commercial corridors.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no anticipated fiscal impact.