



BALTIMORE HOUSING

SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO
Executive Director, HABC
Commissioner, HCD

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: November 23, 2009

Re: **City Council Bill 09- 0169R Operation of Bottle Clubs and the Transfer of Bottle Club Registrations**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 09-0169R, which was introduced for the purpose of requesting the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City Senate and House Delegations to the 2010 Maryland General Assembly to introduce legislation governing the operation of Bottle Clubs and the transfer of Bottle Club Registrations.

The DHCD believes that the changes proposed in City Council Bill 09-0169R will be helpful in the regulation of bottle club establishments, which pose significant and complicated problems to the neighborhoods and communities in which they might sit. The proposed changes would be particularly helpful in establishing "bright line" guidance for the issuance of bottle club registrations; such guidance would prevent problematic situations from occurring such as the ones we have seen at the Suite Ultralounge in The Belvedere.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 09-0169R.

PTG:rd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Diane Hutchins, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Mr. Andrew Frank, *First Deputy Mayor*

