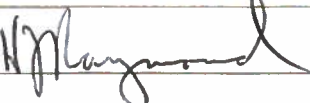



FROM	NAME & TITLE	Henry Raymond, Director 	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Finance		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 16-0639 Late Night Commercial Operations- Extended Scope		

DATE: May 9, 2016

TO Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

The Department of Finance has reviewed Council Bill 16-0639. This bill would extend the licensing, regulation, and related requirements governing late-night commercial operations to B-3 Business Zoning Districts.

Currently certain businesses in a Residence, Office- Residence, B-1 and B-2 zoning districts are required to obtain a late-night commercial operations license to be open to the public any time between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m. This bill expands the late-night commercial operations licensing requirement to businesses in B-3 zoning district.

The Department of Finance is responsible for the Late-Night Commercial Operations licensing process under Baltimore City Code Article 15 § 9 Late Night Commercial Operations. As part of the licensing application and renewal process the Department reviews a range of factors; including, but not limited to the applicants compliance with the ordinance, the specific days and hours proposed for late-night operations, the adequacy of the indoor and outdoor security plan and whether there are objections from the community. Thus the regulation of late-night establishments serves an important function in providing additional oversight and stabilizing neighborhoods. The Department of Finance often receives complaints about public safety and welfare concerns related to businesses operating during late-night hours that are located in B-3 zoning areas meaning they are not subject to the late-night commercial operations license requirement. This bill addresses this gap.

Under the proposed legislation the City of Baltimore would receive increased revenue related to additional licensing fees from businesses located in B-3 zones who apply for late-night commercial operations licenses. However, the anticipated revenue is nominal and will not cover the potential increased costs related to the additional resources from the Department of Finance required for notifying, issuing and enforcing new license requirements.

The Finance Department takes a favorable position on this legislation.

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