

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 16-0661

Introduced by: Councilmembers Kraft, Henry, Middleton, Costello, Scott, Stokes, Branch,
Clarke, Reisinger, Mosby, Welch, Holton, Curran, Spector, President Young

Introduced and read first time: May 2, 2016

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with an amendment

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: June 6, 2016

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

**Adult Entertainment Businesses – National Human Trafficking Resource
Center Hotline Information Sign Posting**

FOR the purpose of requiring adult-entertainment businesses to post a National Human
Trafficking Resource Center hotline information sign in each restroom; and generally relating
to adult-entertainment businesses.

BY adding

Article 15. Licencing and Regulation

Section(s) 1-26

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

BY repealing and reordaining, without amendments

Article 15. Licencing and Regulation

Section(s) 1-28 (a) and 1-29

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the
Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

Baltimore City Code

Article 15. Licencing and Regulation

Subtitle 1. Adult Entertainment Businesses

Part 3. Standards of Operation

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by
amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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§ 1-26. HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION SIGNS TO BE POSTED.

(A) IN GENERAL.

- (1) THE OWNER OF AN ADULT-ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS MUST POST, IN EACH RESTROOM ON THE PREMISES OF THE ADULT-ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS, A SIGN THAT STATES THE FOLLOWING:

“REPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER

1-888-373-7888

CALL FOR HELP IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW:

- IS BEING FORCED TO HAVE SEX WITHOUT CONSENT
- HAS HAD AN ID OR DOCUMENTS TAKEN AWAY
- IS BEING THREATENED BY OR IS IN DEBT TO AN EMPLOYER
- WANTS TO LEAVE A JOB BUT CANNOT FREELY DO SO

TOLL-FREE ‡ 24/7 ‡ CONFIDENTIAL ‡ INTERPRETERS AVAILABLE

THIS SIGN IS REQUIRED BY BALTIMORE CITY LAW”

- (2) THE SIGN MUST:

(I) BE AT LEAST 3 BY 5 INCHES IN SIZE;

(II) CONTAIN THE TEXT REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IN ENGLISH, SPANISH, AND ANY OTHER LANGUAGES REQUIRED BY THE FEDERAL VOTING RIGHTS ACT FOR VOTING MATERIALS IN BALTIMORE CITY; AND

(III) DRAW ATTENTION TO THE PHONE NUMBER OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING RESOURCE CENTER HOTLINE BY SHOWING THE PHONE NUMBER IN BOLD TYPE.

- (3) THE OWNER OF AN ADULT-ENTERTAINMENT BUSINESS MAY MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION BY USING COPIES OF THE SIGNS CREATED AND MADE AVAILABLE ONLINE BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, LICENSING, AND REGULATION UNDER MARYLAND BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE § 15-207 IF THE SIGNS ARE ALTERED TO INDICATE THAT THEY ARE REQUIRED BY BALTIMORE CITY LAW RATHER THAN STATE LAW.

(B) SIGN LOCATION.

A SIGN REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION MUST BE POSTED:

(1) ON THE INSIDE OF EACH STALL DOOR IN THE RESTROOM; OR

(2) ON THE BACK OF THE DOOR AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE RESTROOM.

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Part 4. Administrative Sanctions

§ 1-28. Denial, suspension, or revocation.

(a) *In general.*

The Board may deny, suspend, or revoke an adult-entertainment business license or renewal license for any of the following causes:

- (1) failing to pay the applicable license fee on or before the due date;
- (2) making any material false statement in any application for an initial or renewal license;
- (3) lack of accessibility for fire and police protection;
- (4) failing to comply with any provision of the City Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article, Health Code Article, or Zoning Code Article;
- (5) failing to comply with any provision of this subtitle or of any rule or regulation adopted under this subtitle; or
- (6) failing to comply with any provision of any other local, state, or federal law that affects or relates to the operation of the adult-entertainment business.

§ 1-29. Fines.

For any violation that is cause for suspending or revoking a license, the Board may, instead of or in addition to suspending or revoking the license, impose a civil fine of:

- (1) for a 1st offense, not more than \$500; and
- (2) for any subsequent offense, not more than \$1,000.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior Ordinance.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day after the date it is enacted.

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Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,
this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City