



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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WASHINGTON, DC 20004

JACK EVANS
Councilmember, Ward 2
Chair, Committee on Finance and Revenue

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May 21, 2013

Office of the General Counsel
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration
2000 14th Street, N.W.
Suite 400 South
Washington, DC 20009

Dear ABRA Board Members:

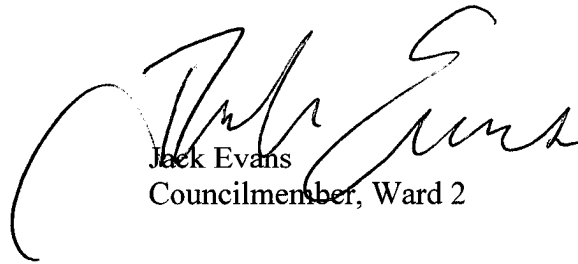
I am writing to share my views on an alcohol permit moratorium you are considering. Specifically, the Shaw-Dupont Citizens Alliance, on December 10, 2012, petitioned the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board of the District of Columbia ("ABC Board"), seeking to establish a moratorium on the issuance of new retailer-class liquor licenses, including those available to restaurants, taverns, nightclubs, and caterers. The proposed moratorium would encompass a zone extending within the boundaries of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions 2B and 2F.

As the relevant ANCs who would be impacted by the proposed moratorium, ANC 2B and ANC2F have discussed and received public comments on the proposed moratorium at a joint listening session held March 20, 2013, along with ANC 1B, which would also be affected. Based on these discussions and the sentiment of the overall community, including residents within and outside of the proposed moratorium zone, all relevant ANCs voted to oppose the proposed moratorium. They felt that there is insufficient evidence that a new moratorium will positively impact rates of crime, noise, parking concerns, and other issues. The ANCs also noted that other current tools exist, and other creative solutions should be pursued, to address the concerns raised in the petition, including enforcement of the existing ARTS Overlay, use of Settlement Agreements, encouraging reimbursable police details, among other ideas. The ANCs felt that it is bad public policy to institute a moratorium in this area, as moratoria treat all liquor-licensed establishments the same and do not distinguish among types of licenses and between good and bad actors, rather than allowing the ANC and the ABC Board the opportunity to consider each potential application on its own merits.

The ANCs feel that many of the new businesses, including liquor-licensed establishments in the proposed moratorium zone, have been welcome and positive additions to the 14th and U Street neighborhood, and I tend to agree. There has been strong collaboration among ANCs 2B, 1B, 2F, and 6E throughout the moratorium petition process, and all ANCs have come to similar conclusions regarding the proposed moratorium. In keeping with the opinion of my constituents and ANCs, I would urge ABRA to deny this moratorium.

As always, I appreciate your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Evans". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "E".

Jack Evans
Councilmember, Ward 2