



Text File

Introduced: 7/14/2009

Bill No: 2009-1627, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, all municipalities deserve to have a formal voice and authority over the location of liquor-licensed establishments within the municipalities, as such establishments can have significant effects on the neighborhoods in which they are located, especially if such establishments are highly concentrated in one area; and,

WHEREAS, the South Side, with over 50 establishments licensed to serve alcohol in an approximately 10 block area and over 100 in the larger neighborhood, is over-saturated with liquor-licensed establishments and is experiencing negative by-products of this saturation on the quality of life in the neighborhood; and,

WHEREAS, presently, local municipalities, like the City of Pittsburgh, are given no voice, authority, or recourse in the transfer of liquor licenses *within* the municipality, thus allowing for liquor licenses to be moved from neighborhood to neighborhood without the approval of the local governing body ; and,

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Liquor Code already grants municipalities the authority to approve or not approve the transfer of liquor licenses *into* that municipality from another neighboring municipality; and,

WHEREAS, following this same logic, the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Bill No. 115, now under consideration in the Senate Law and Justice Committee, grants municipalities the authority to control the transfer of liquor licenses *within* their municipality by bestowing upon the governing body of the municipality the power to approve or not approve the relocation of a liquor license within their jurisdiction; and,

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 115 requires that a proposed intramunicipal transfer of a liquor license be vetted with a public hearing, where the public, including those residents who would be most effect by the transfer of the liquor license, would be afforded the opportunity to make their voices heard; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 115 also requires that all establishments with liquor licenses appoint a manager who must complete the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board's manager/owner training, which consists of "training on how to monitor employees, proper service of alcohol and how to develop an appropriate alcohol service policy," thus ensuring that all establishments have at least one individual trained in managing responsible alcohol service; and,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Council of the City of Pittsburgh, does hereby endorse House Bill No. 115 and applaud the actions of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in passing this legislation unanimously on March 23, 2009; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council of the City of Pittsburgh, does hereby call upon the members of the Senate Law and Judiciary Committee to pass House Bill No. 115 out of committee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Council of the City of Pittsburgh, does hereby call upon the members of the Pennsylvania Senate to pass House Bill No. 115 with all due speed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to the Pennsylvania Legislature.