

VISIT BALTIMORE

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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

BALTIMORE.ORG

HB0885

February 20, 2023

TO: Members of the Economic Matters Committee
FROM: Al Hutchinson, President & CEO, Visit Baltimore
RE: HB0885 Baltimore City - Alcoholic Beverages - Related Event Promoter's Permit
POSITION: SUPPORT

Honorable Chair Wilson and Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

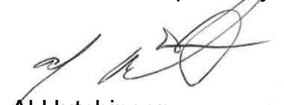
Visit Baltimore strongly **supports HB0885** which incorporates a few technical changes in the existing legislation that extends the permit process and structure for event promoters during the CIAA tournament week.

We are excited to welcome back students, alumni and basketball fans for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) Basketball Tournament in Baltimore this February 20-26, 2023. In 2022 this long-standing tradition saw 36,000 fans spending \$8.3 million at local businesses and we look forward to building upon that success.

In 2019 SB792 was created to identify when and where CIAA-related but non-sponsored/sanctioned events are happening during the tournament week; ensure that those events are taken into consideration in the city's holistic planning and communication efforts; and create a positive revenue model for the city and the CIAA contracted financial commitments.

We respectfully ask for your support of HB0885.

Submitted respectfully,



Al Hutchinson
President & CEO