ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 3E
TENLEYTOWN AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PARK FRIENDSHIP HEIGHTS
c/o Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home 5425 Western Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20015
www.anc3e.org

Resolution Supporting Sunday Liquor Sales

Whereas, The Council has been considering abolishing the (blue) law that prohibits the sale of liquor by authorized stores on Sundays; and

Whereas, the District's blue law does not prohibit consumption of liquor or purchase of liquor at a restaurant on Sundays, but in what appears to be a remnant of the flawed spirit of prohibition, it prohibits the sale of liquor by authorized stores on Sundays;

Whereas, such laws were once common and grounded on a religious rationale, many jurisdictions have moved away from them, including Maryland and Virginia and thirty three other states; and

Whereas, District residents wishing to purchase liquor on Sundays can do so by traveling to nearby jurisdictions delivering business and tax revenue to those jurisdictions; and

Whereas, the District has good public transit and is a relatively easy place to drink and not drive, but requiring residents to travel to other jurisdictions to purchase liquor on Sundays could encourage drinking and driving; and

Whereas, we know of no good or reasonable reason not to permit businesses that desire to sell liquor responsibly and in accordance with all applicable laws to do so on Sundays, just as they do the other six days of the week in the District, and just as they do already in many jurisdictions, including neighboring jurisdictions; and

Whereas, the District is facing a gap in balancing the budget; and

Whereas, the Council has considered allowing the Sunday sale of liquor as a way of bring our laws up to date and into conformity of laws in other jurisdictions and increasing revenues in order to close the budget gap; and

Whereas, increasing revenues in this manner and more fully serving residents would deliver benefits that would outweigh any costs associated with such a change; and

Whereas, the Council seems to be backing away from supporting Sunday liquor sales; and

Whereas, we would like Council members to reconsider their positions (if in opposition);

Now therefore be it resolved that ANC 3E urges the Council and the Mayor's office to:

Put Sunday liquor sales back on the table for the District as a partial solution to the budget situation we face and place the District on similar footing with other jurisdictions, including neighboring jurisdictions.

ANC 3E approved this resolution at its meeting on May 10, 2012, which was properly noticed and at which a quorum was present. The resolution was approved by a vote of x-x-x. Commissioners Jonathan Bender, Matthew Frumin, Tom Quinn, Sam Serebin and Beverly Sklover were present.

Respectfully submitted,

ANC 3E
By Matthew Frumin, Chairperson