



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

*“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”*

July 15, 2023

Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie  
Chair, Committee on Business and Economic Development  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 506  
Washington, DC 20004  
[kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov](mailto:kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov)

**RE: DC Council Bill B25-0056 – the “Dram Shop Clarification Amendment Act of 2023”**

Dear Councilmember McDuffie,

At its regular meeting on June 21, 2023, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of nine commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted (5-2-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Patel and seconded by Commissioner Malec, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2023, Councilmembers Brooke Pinto and Christina Henderson introduced B25-0056, the “Dram Shop Clarification Amendment Act of 2023” (dram shop),<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, the definition of an “intoxicated” individual would be revised, placing the burden of judgment on the server/bartender to determine if a patron is drunk,

WHEREAS, the bill would remove civil liability from an establishment to any injured individual or their estate as result of being drunk, which would result in the following:

- Make claims of injury that result from a drunk offender harder to bring to court,
- Establishments will have less incentive to make sure patrons are not leaving intoxicated,

WHEREAS, there would be a cap for civil damages should a case be filed in the amount of \$250,000 if any action of harm is committed by a patron towards an individual,

WHEREAS, the training and support from management that bartenders and servers rely on in regards to alcohol service would disappear, and

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<sup>1</sup> [B25-0056 - Dram Shop Clarification Amendment Act of 2023 \(dccouncil.gov\)](https://www.dccouncil.gov/bills/2023/b25-0056)



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WHEREAS, this bill will violate the spirit of Vision Zero<sup>2</sup> and will be in direct conflict and opposition to it, as it will make our streets more dangerous for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A encourages the members of the DC Council to oppose this bill.

Commissioners Trupti Patel ([2A03@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A03@anc.dc.gov)) and Jim Malec ([2A02@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A02@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Jim Malec  
Chairperson

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<sup>2</sup> [Vision Zero DC](#)