



PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ward 4 Councilmember Bowser introduces extension of Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium

(Washington, DC) – “I have heard from residents, ANC Commissioners and members of the Metropolitan Police Department all over Ward 4 about how effective the Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium has been to eliminate litter, public drunkenness and other quality of life issues,” said Councilmember Bowser during the legislative session on Tuesday, March 4. During yesterday’s session, Councilmember Muriel Bowser introduced a bill to amend Title 25 of the District of Columbia Official Code to eliminate the sunset date on the sale of individual containers of beer, malt liquor or ale in targeted areas of Ward 4. Eight of her Council colleagues endorsed this extension of the Ward 4 Moratorium by cosponsoring the bill. Those Council members include: Council Chair Vincent Gray, Yvette Alexander, Marion Barry, Kwame Brown, David Catania, Mary Cheh, Carol Schwartz, and Tommy Wells.

After surviving a legal challenge, on August 1, 2007, all holders of off-premises retailer liquor licenses, Class A and B licensees, located within Ward 4, were prohibited from dividing a manufacturer’s package of more than one container of beer, malt liquor, or ale, to sell an individual container of the package if the container is less than 70 ounces or less. This law enacting the Ward 4 moratorium zone will expire on September 30, 2008 (four years after the enactment). Councilmember Bowser’s bill will eliminate this sunset date.

The Councilmembers from Wards 7 and 8 have recently introduced similar legislation to ban single sales in their wards modeled after the Ward 4 moratorium.

“I am pleased that many of my Council colleagues agree with me that the Ward 4 Single Sales Moratorium needs to be extended beyond September 30, 2008 to continue to improve the quality of life in Ward 4,” added Councilmember Bowser.

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