

From: [adam.e.szymanski@gmail.com](mailto:adam.e.szymanski@gmail.com)

To: [rjfkrumer@aol.com](mailto:rjfkrumer@aol.com)

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Subj: Business Review Council Support for the On Sale Liquor License Amendment

Dear Richard,

I am writing on behalf of the Saint Paul Business Review Council (BRC). The BRC urges you to adopt the proposed City Charter amendment excluding restaurants from the on sale liquor license limit. We believe this change will foster greater dining experiences, encourage the establishment of new restaurants, and make our city competitive in the region.

Over this past year, the BRC has worked with the Department of Safety and Inspections (DSI) to evaluate Saint Paul laws that challenge and restrict restaurant owners operating in or looking to operate a restaurant in our city. Two clear problems emerged:

- The unavailability of on sale liquor licenses for restaurants.
- The food to alcohol sales requirement that fails to reflect changing alcohol choices (premium wines and craft beers and cocktails) of customers.

These challenges are due to changes in the restaurant market. The State and other cities in the region have recognized these changes and have amended their laws accordingly. The proposed Charter amendment would align Saint Paul liquor laws with state statute and other cities in the region. We strongly believe that the current laws are detrimental to business in our city.

The BRC has worked with DSI on the proposed language before you and believes the adoption of this amendment is important to support Saint Paul's vibrant restaurant market.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Adam Szymanski  
St. Paul Business Review Council Member  
Chairman of the Regulatory Subcommittee