

A BILL

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IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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To establish an act to require the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection (DLCP) to establish and enforce standards through community impact assessments for the operation of 24-hour tobacco stores to address inequitable retailer density, presence and impact on neighborhood sociodemographics.

BE IT ENACTED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the “Equitable Retailer Regulation of 24-Hour Tobacco Stores Act of 2024”.

Section 2: Definitions

For the purposes of this Act:

(1) "24-Hour Tobacco Store" refers to a retail establishment primarily engaged in the sale of tobacco products and operating 24 hours a day.

(2) "Sociodemographics" refers to combination of social and demographic factors that define individuals in a particular group or population.

(3) "Bright signage" refers to illuminated signs or displays that emit high levels of light, potentially causing glare or visual disturbance.

Section 3: Regulation of 24-Hour Operations

(a) 24-Hour tobacco stores operating within the District shall be subject to regulation by the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection (DLCP).

(b) DLCP shall establish and enforce the operation of 24-hour tobacco stores,

33 considering their equitable density, presence and impact on sociodemographic distribution across  
34 wards.

35 (c) DLCP may impose restrictions or limitations on the operation and the  
36 impact of bright signage of 24-hour tobacco stores to mitigate adverse effects on surrounding the  
37 sociodemographics of communities.

#### 38 Section 4: Community Engagement and Impact Assessments

39 (a) The DCLP shall engage with residents, community organizations, and  
40 stakeholders to gather input and feedback on the regulation of 24-hour tobacco stores.

41 (b) Community impact assessments shall be conducted to evaluate the effects of  
42 24-hour tobacco stores on neighborhood aesthetics, public health, and quality of life.

43 (c) Recommendations from community stakeholders shall be presented in the  
44 community impact assessment and considered in the development and enforcement of  
45 regulations governing 24-hour tobacco stores.

#### 46 Section 5: Data Collection and Reporting

47 (a) DCLP shall collect and maintain data on the location, operation, and  
48 compliance of 24-hour tobacco stores within the District of Columbia to ensure the equitable,  
49 density, presence and retailer impact on the sociodemographics of the community.

50 (b) Annual reports shall be submitted to the Council of the District of Columbia  
51 summarizing enforcement activities, community feedback, and outcomes related to the  
52 regulation of 24-hour tobacco stores.

#### 53 Section 6. Fiscal impact statement.

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55           The Council adopts the fiscal impact statement in the committee report as the fiscal  
56 impact statement required by section 602(c)(3) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act,  
57 approved December 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(3)).

58           Section 7. Effective date.

59           This act shall take effect following approval by the Mayor (or in the event of veto by the  
60 Mayor, action by the Council to override the veto), a 30-day period of Congressional review as  
61 provided in section 602(c)(1) of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act, approved December  
62 24, 1973 (87 Stat. 813; D.C. Official Code § 1-206.02(c)(1)) and publication in the District of  
63 Columbia Register.