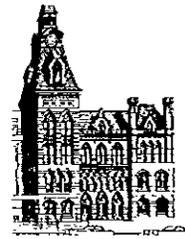




Toni N. Harp
Mayor

CITY OF NEW HAVEN
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
165 Church Street, New Haven, CT 06510
Phone (203)-946-8200, Fax (203)-946-7683



Testimony Regarding

HB 5538 AN ACT CONCERNING JUICE BARS

Submitted by
Rebecca Bombero, Legislative Director
March 24, 2014

Sen. Coleman, Rep. Fox, members of the Judiciary Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 5538 An Act Concerning Juice Bars.

This bill recognizes the additional risk associated with bars that host juice bars. It updates the noticing provision allowing email to replace faxes, and requires earlier notice allowing time for a department to prepare and ensure the proper staff are available. It also updates the fine structure recognizing that the previous fine structure was not enough of a deterrent to compel compliance.

In New Haven, we know first hand the difficulties that juice bars and other promoted events create for our public safety personnel. They produce bigger, more rowdy and unruly crowds. We welcome this legislation but would ask that the committee consider expanding the scope of the legislation to all promoted events. This would cover events that have special entertainment, specific themes – the events that you most often see on cards stuck below your car windshield wipers. These events cause some of the same problems, and it would benefit both patrons and public safety professionals if the scope of this bill was expanded.

We thank you for your consideration and urge passage of this bill.