LOCAL BILL MC 15-17:
LIQUOR CONTROL AUTHORITY

LOCAL BILL HEARING

DECEMBER 5, 2016

OPPOSE

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce ("MCCC") opposes MC 15-17**,** which proposes to abolish the Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control and establish in its place the Montgomery County Liquor Control Authority.

When businesses succeed, our community prospers. At the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), our goal is to accelerate the success of our members. We work closely with our colleagues in other business organizations to identify and promote areas of opportunity for business to succeed in and contribute to a vibrant economy, which is the foundation of a strong community.

MCCC supports efforts that seek to update Prohibition-era laws and regulations related to the wholesale distribution and retail sale of alcoholic beverages in Montgomery County.

We rely on our local and state government to focus on those essential services the public sector is uniquely qualified to provide to its residents. We believe the wholesale distribution and retail sale of alcohol is a service that is best provided by the private sector.

The time has come to allow the private sector to fulfil a market-based need of wholesale distribution and retail sale of alcoholic beverages in Montgomery County. MC 15-17 does little more than add more layers of bureaucracy to a system that is out of step with a vibrant economy.

For these reasons, we request an **unfavorable report on MC 15-17.**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) accelerates the success of our members by advocating for increased business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and is proud to be a Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

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