



Contact:  
Aaliyah Hardy  
(313)588-3489  
info@weactradio.com

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## *Is Playing Music Outdoors Now Illegal in DC?*

Council's July 10th Vote Decides Bill 22-0839 Amplified Noise Amendment Act of 2018

(WASHINGTON, D.C.)- Following recent pressure from new residents and business owners, the emergency legislation of Bill 22-0839 Amplified Noise Amendment Act of 2018 was pushed up six days earlier from its original date of July 16, 2018 to Tuesday July 10, 2018.

*The stated purpose of Bill 22-0839 is to amend the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations to limit noise in the public space generated from electronic amplification. Bill 22-0839 also would update the definition of a noise disturbance to reflect recently renamed residential zones.*

*Any person who violates 20 DCMR 2800 and continues or resumes the violation after receiving a verbal warning from a Metropolitan police officer or from a law enforcement official designated by the chief of police shall be punished by fine not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300) or imprisonment to not to exceed 10 days or both. <https://bit.ly/2tXIAKc> (Retrieved July 2, 2018)*

Proposed by Councilman Jack Evans and Councilwomen, Mary M. Cheh and Anita Bonds, the Bill was drafted in response to a recent influx of noise complaints as a result of increasing density in new downtown residents. The bill calls for the removal and criminalization of street performers and musicians in public spaces in response to the abundance of complaints from new residents who have moved next door to the 20k seat Verizon Center. The bill not only affects street performers and their fans, but also affects residential areas throughout the city in which anyone playing music deemed too loud can face penalties.

On July 5, We Act Radio contacted several Council Members in regards to their stance on the bill. The following Council Members responded, are not in favor of the proposed amendment of bill B22- 0839: Councilwoman Brianne K. Nadeau, Councilman Charles Allen, Councilman Vincent C. Gray, Councilman Trayvon White Sr. and Councilman Robert White.

Citizens have until July 10, 2018 to submit written testimony on Bill 22-0839. Call your council member and send your written testimony today to [cow@dccouncil.us](mailto:cow@dccouncil.us) and CC: [info@weactradio.com](mailto:info@weactradio.com). We urge you to support the heritage of DC culture by taking steps to require developers to include sound proofing in new high density areas rather than criminalize working musicians by for voting against Bill 22-0839 Amplified Noise Amendment Act of 2018.