

Nina J. Emerson
137 S. Brittingham Place
Madison, WI 53715

July 5, 2011

The Honorable Paul Soglin, Mayor
Members of the Common Council
210 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Madison, WI 53703

Re: Agenda Item 22548

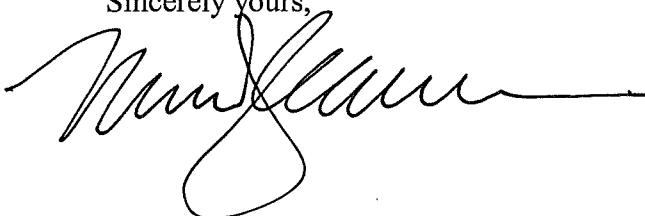
Dear Mayor Soglin and Council Members:

What a long strange trip it has been to get to this place tonight where you will decide whether to pass the amended version of the Madison Alcohol License Density Ordinance (ALDO)-- now a mere shadow of its former self. Some of the council members have been privy to the process that has taken place since ALDO survived its first sunset date of October 5, 2010, to be extended again until March 5, 2011, and ultimately set for final determination on July 5, 2011.

From October 5, 2010, until tonight, the original ALDO has been eviscerated to the point that you might as well have just sunset the entire ordinance in the first place instead of wasting countless hours of people's time under the guise of actually making it better. The amended and revised version cannot possibly fulfill its purpose "to maintain or gradually reduce the number and capacity of certain types of alcohol beverage licenses in the identified Alcohol License Density Plan area." The current version merely creates a new label; e.g., "Entertainment Venue" and establishes a 730 day time period for retaining an alcohol license, which is essentially the same amount of time the ordinance is given until its next sunset date.

I have consistently requested that ALDO, in its original format, be made permanent. I do not support the passage of what is currently before the Council in its amended and revised form.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nina Emerson", written over a horizontal line.