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Dane County Coalition to Reduce Alcohol Abuse Position Statement on Agenda Item 16.

The Dane County Coalition to Reduce Alcohol Abuse expresses concern over agenda item 16, the Liquor License Guidelines. The Dane County Coalition to Reduce Alcohol Abuse strongly supports limiting access to and availability of alcohol at all of the establishments referenced in the drafted guidelines; however, we are concerned that these guidelines lack the necessary elements to be effective.

First and foremost, this issue does more than require guidelines, it demands an ordinance. In addition, the proposed guidelines are far from comprehensive, dealing only with the location of licensed establishments. A few concerns within the draft language of these guidelines are that they are silent on occupancy limitations and do not carefully establish the allowable density level of Class A establishments or at what distance an establishment is no longer within the immediate vicinity. This document also fails to note that other criteria, including the character and background of an applicant, may be grounds for rejection.

The Coalition would also like to see the following vocabulary in the guidelines defined; "bona fide liquor store" and "large combination department stores".

We hope this draft is the first of many conversations on this issue in order to come to an effective policy that will reduce risky and problem drinking in our community.

Thank you for your time.