



DONALD R. GREBIEN  
MAYOR



April 5, 2021

The Honorable Members of  
the House Committee on Municipal Government and Housing  
State House  
Providence, RI 02903

**Re: Support for 2021-H 6175 from Mayor Donald R. Grebien**

Dear Chairman Hull and Honorable Committee Members:

I am writing to ask your support and to express the support of the Pawtucket administration and city council for 2021-H 6175, AN ACT RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES -RETAIL LICENSES. This bill allows the Pawtucket city council to issue a Class B, C, or N liquor license for use on property located on tax assessor's plat 54B, 65B, and 23A, despite their close proximity to a school or church

Fortuitous Partners is making a tremendous investment in the city of Pawtucket with the Tidewater Landing project, which will bring professional soccer to Rhode Island. This project, which is being partially financed through the TIF legislation passed by the general assembly in 2019, promises to be an important economic development stimulus for the riverfront and downtown areas of the city, as well as a wonderful sports and entertainment center for the city and the entire state of Rhode Island; one which will continue a long-standing tradition of professional sports in Pawtucket.

As with any successful sports related center, good restaurants, some of which include the sale of alcohol, are a vital piece to the success of the development. However, RI General Law 3-7-19 prohibits cities and towns from issuing liquor licenses that are located within 200 feet of a school, which is the case with Tidewater Landing.

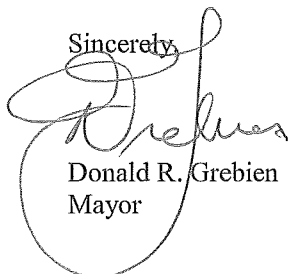
Like the 46 other exemptions already approved, this bill will exempt the property being used for the Tidewater Landing project from the so-called 200-foot rule.

I am including with this letter a copy of a city council resolution in support of this bill, which was approved by the city council at their meeting on March 10, 2021 and signed by me on March 11, 2021.

If you have any questions, please contact City Clerk Richard Goldstein at 401-728-0500 ext. 348 or [rgoldstein@pawtucketri.com](mailto:rgoldstein@pawtucketri.com) or Commerce Director Jeanne Boyle at 401-728-0500 ext. 432 or [jboyle@pawtucketri.com](mailto:jboyle@pawtucketri.com).

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,



Donald R. Grebien  
Mayor

Cc: Pawtucket State Delegation

# City of Pawtucket

## RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

APPROVED 3/11/2021

*Resolved,*

WHEREAS, Fortuitous Partners is making a tremendous investment in the city of Pawtucket with the Tidewater Landing project, a major mixed-use project that includes a stadium for a professional soccer team, which will continue a long-standing tradition of professional sports in the city; and

WHEREAS, the Tidewater Landing project promises to be an important economic development stimulus for the riverfront and downtown areas of the city, as well as a wonderful sports and entertainment center for the entire State of Rhode Island and beyond; and

WHEREAS, with any successful sports center, good restaurants, some of which include the sale of alcohol, are a vital piece to the success of the development; and

WHEREAS, unless specifically allowed by the state, RIGL 3-7-19 prevents cities and towns from issuing liquor licenses to establishments within 200 feet of a school or place of public worship; and

WHEREAS, the location of the Tidewater Landing project is located within 200 feet of a school; and

WHEREAS, the city is preparing legislation to be introduced in the general assembly that would allow the city to issue Class B, C or N liquor licenses to establishments located within the confines of the City's Tidewater Landing project; and

WHEREAS, the Pawtucket City Council believes that this legislation is in the best interest of the City of Pawtucket.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE PAWTUCKET CITY COUNCIL, AT THE REQUEST OF MAYOR DONALD R. GREBIEN, DOES HEREBY SUPPORT LEGISLATION TO ALLOW THE CITY OF PAWTUCKET TO ISSUE CLASS B, C OR N LIQUOR LICENSES TO ESTABLISHMENTS LOCATED WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE CITY'S TIDEWATER LANDING PROJECT, WHICH IS WITHIN 200 FEET OF A SCHOOL, AND URGES THE PAWTUCKET DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO WORK DILIGENTLY FOR ITS PASSAGE.**

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF PAWTUCKET

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION  
AUTHORIZING THE PAWTUCKET BOARD OF  
LICENSE COMMISSIONS TO ISSUE LIQUOR  
LICENSES WITHIN 200 FEET OF A  
SCHOOL OR PLACE OF WORSHIP.  
(TIDEWATER LANDING)

*Planning  
Department*

\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk

READ AND REFERRED TO THE  
\_\_\_\_\_ COMMITTEE

\_\_\_\_\_ Clerk

RECOMMENDS \_\_\_\_\_ COMMITTEE

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair

READ AND PASSED ON A ROLL CALL

VOTE: AYES 9 NOES 0  
3/10/2021  
*Richard Corbett* Clerk

City Clerk's Office  
Pawtucket, RI APR - 6 2021

Date  
TRUE COPY  
*Ruth J. Gallo*  
City Clerk

APPROVED  
3/11/2021  
*[Signature]*  
MAYOR