April 24, 2013

Ms. Angela Calvillo, Clerk of the Board
Board of Supervisors
City Hall room 244
1 Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4694

File No. 130182 [Police, Administrative Codes - Entertainment-Related Permits]

Small Business Commission Recommendation: Approval

Dear Ms. Calvillo:

On March 25, 2013 the Small Business Commission (SBC) voted 6-0 to recommend approval of BOS File No. 130182.

This ordinance makes a broad number of changes to entertainment permitting in the City and County of San Francisco. These changes both increase the authority of the Entertainment Commission and broaden the scope of certain permits, namely the Limited Live Performance Permit.

The Commission supports the expansion of the Limited Live Performance permit to include DJ performances and certain outdoor locations, such as outdoor places, courtyards or similar spaces. The SBC notes that DJ performances will be limited to 10:00pm and that appropriate restrictions may be placed on the permitted outdoor spaces at the discretion of the Commission and its staff.

The Entertainment Commission will be granted authority to impose longer permit suspensions and will, for the first time, allow the Commission authority over persons who do not have entertainment permits. The Ordinance also grants the Executive Director the authority to require sound tests to ensure compliance with allowable sound limits. The SBC finds that the Entertainment Commission needs the ability to fully exercise its authority and determines that these amendments will help accomplish this goal.

Additional aspects of the ordinance, including removing security guard requirements when no entertainment events are taking place, expanding the definition of security guard, granting the Executive Director the authority to issue temporary permits under specified circumstances, and revisions to requirements for providing water and ear plugs are all supported by the SBC.

This ordinance is the result of a thorough review of our Entertainment Commission laws and represents feedback of the Entertainment Commission, the Police Department, industry stakeholders and the Supervisors office. The SBC recognizes these individuals for their involvement and urges adoption of the ordinance by the Board of Supervisors.
Sincerely,

Regina Dick-Endrizzi
Director, Office of Small Business

Cc:  Jason Elliot, Mayor’s Office
      Supervisor Scott Wiener
      Jocelyn Kane, Executive Director Entertainment Commission