



# Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Regulatory Services

**Date:** June 21, 2009

**To:** Council Member Don Samuels

**Referral to:** Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee

**Subject:** Amending Chapter 362 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to liquor licenses.

**Recommendation:** That the Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee approve the amendment to Chapter 362.30 (e) to allow live solo comedians to perform in class D through A on-sale liquor establishments.

**Previous Directives:** None.

### Department Information

Prepared by: Ricardo Cervantes, Deputy Director \_\_\_\_\_  
Licenses and Consumer Services

Approved by: Burt Osborne, Director \_\_\_\_\_  
Licenses and Consumer Services

Presenters in Committee: Ricardo Cervantes

### Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Civil Rights Approval Approval \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Financial Impact** No financial impact

### Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification: Notice of this proposed amendment was sent to all City of Minneapolis official neighborhood groups and business groups of record.

## Supporting Information

### Staff Report:

The City of Minneapolis Code of Ordinances regulates the type of entertainment permitted in on-sale liquor establishments by the use of six classes of licenses, Class A to Class E. Class A permits all legal forms of entertainment, and Class E permits no live entertainment. The chart below lists the specific level of entertainment allowed in each of the five classes of licenses.

<b>Class of License</b>	<b>Type of Entertainment Allowed</b>	<b>Annual License Fee</b>	<b>Number of Licenses</b>
<b>Class A</b>	All legal forms of entertainment including adult entertainment, stage shows, skits, contests, dancing, etc.	\$10,286.00	87
<b>Class B</b>	Live amplified music, unlimited musicians, and customer dancing	\$8652.00	91
<b>Class C-1</b>	Live amplified music by up to five musicians	\$8116.00	26
<b>Class C-2</b>	Live amplified music by up to three musicians	\$7435.00	33
<b>Class D</b>	Live non-amplified music by one musician, ethnic dance, and patron singing.	\$6614.00	7
<b>Class E</b>	No live entertainment, recorded music, karaoke, TV, juke box.	\$6203.00	140

Any licensee may provide entertainment allowed in the class of license that they hold, plus all of the entertainment allowed in any lower class of license.

Currently, the activity of solo stand up comedians is only permitted in on sale liquor establishments that hold a Class A license. Several comedian entertainers approached the City of Minneapolis to point out that they would like to work in many other establishments, but the establishment claimed that they would be required to pay significantly higher annual license fees to carry the Class A license.

By allowing stand up comedy in Classes A through D, we will increase the number of eligible establishments from 87 to 244.

A review of ordinances from other cities found no specific mention of stand up comedy per se, it was usually allowed with a general entertainment license category, similar to our proposal. The other cities included in the review were St. Paul, Cincinnati, Kansas City, Bloomington, MN., Madison, WI., Houston, St. Louis, Omaha, Pittsburg, Boston, Chicago, New Orleans, and Atlanta.

This proposed ordinance change was discussed with several liquor establishment operators at the LINC business meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009, and no concerns were raised. Notice of this hearing was sent via e-mail on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2009 to all official neighborhood groups and commercial business associations for their review and comment.