OFFERED BY COUNCILORS BRIAN WORRELL, JULIA M. MEJIA, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, BREADON, CULPEPPER, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, PEPÉN, SANTANA, AND WEBER

CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX

HOME RULE PETITION TO EXTEND CLOSING TIME IN THE CITY OF BOSTON TO 3 AM

WHEREAS, The Commonwealth of Massachusetts extended hours that a restaurant or bar can serve alcohol till 3 am through July 31, 2026**;** *and*

WHEREAS, The first week-plus of that new policy has led to a spotlight on Boston as a "fun" city, while also leading to an increase in alcohol consumption that caused some bars to reportedly run out of beer**;** *and*

WHEREAS, The extended hours for alcohol consumption will lead to more alcohol sales, higher economic activity, and ultimately more revenue for the City of Boston through the meal tax**;** *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston Finance Commission's June 10 report highlights alcohol sales as one area that the city should seek even more flexibility from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts**;** *and*

WHEREAS, In recent years, the state legislature has approved 225 restricted liquor licenses as part of landmark legislation as well as the ability for beer-and-wine licenses to be upgraded to all-alcohol licenses at hundreds of restaurants**;** *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston should seek approval to permanently extend alcohol sales to 3 am in order to better accommodate patrons and increase economic activity***; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

ORDERED: That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this Order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause One (1) of Section Eight (8) of Article Two (2), as amended, of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, provided that the Legislature may reasonably vary the form and substance of the requested legislation within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TILL 3 AM

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding Sections 12, 33 and 33A of chapter 138 of the General Laws or any other law, rule, regulation, or provision to the contrary, the licensing board for the city of Boston may allow alcoholic beverages to be sold till three o'clock ante meridian on any day of the week.

SECTION 2. Severance Clause. The determination or declaration that any provision of this act is beyond the authority of the general court or is preempted by law or regulation shall not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provisions.

SECTION 3. Effective Date. This act shall take effect immediately upon signing by the Governor.

Filed on: June 18, 2026