



Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, TN

Legislation Text

File #: RS2023-2099, **Version:** 1

A resolution urging bars and restaurants in Nashville and Davidson County to participate in the Safe Bar Program.

WHEREAS, the Sexual Assault Center, the Tennessee Department of Health, and the Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic & Sexual Violence came together in 2018 to create the Safe Bar program; and

WHEREAS, the Safe Bar program works to train staff on how to identify and intervene safely when they see sexual harassment or assault at their establishment; and

WHEREAS, the learning objectives of the Safe Bar Program include identifying strategies to cultivate a safe and inclusive environment, demonstrating the ability to intervene in situations where there is a risk of sexual assault, identifying types of bystander intervention strategies, identifying common responses to trauma, and identifying appropriate responses to a disclosure of sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the free training is conducted in one 1.5 hour training, given directly to bar staff; and

WHEREAS, in order to be considered a Safe Bar, at least 50% of staff must participate and be trained with the program and maintain certification status on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, Safe Bars are given materials including coasters that can detect ketamine and GHB, fentanyl training and testing strips, a binder of information and resources for staff members to utilize when someone is in need of help, as well as posters with the Sexual Assault Center's crisis hotline number as well as an additional training option to cover Narcan; and

WHEREAS, Safe Bars are listed on the Safe Bar Program website and given window clings to signal to the public that the bar has been trained in accordance with this program and also given marketing opportunities through Sexual Assault Center; and

WHEREAS the Sexual Assault Center also offers training for community leaders to facilitate Safe Bar Trainings by taking two 2-hour training sessions across two days; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council urge bars, hotels, entertainment venues and restaurants across Nashville and Davidson County to train staff on how to prevent and properly respond to sexual harassment and assaults that may occur in their establishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That the Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as urging all alcohol serving establishments in Nashville and Davidson County to participate in the Safe Bar Program.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.