

Councilmember Hedge-Morrell  
Leads Council to Establish Moratorium  
To Preserve Quality of District "D" Neighborhoods  
At Today's Regular Council Meeting

News Release

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New Orleans  
City Council

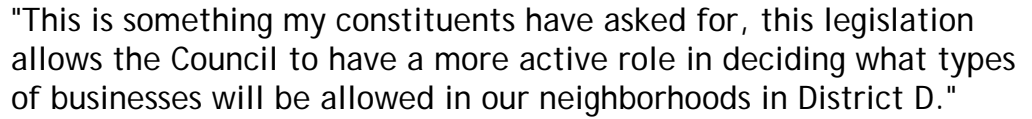
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New Orleans, LA - August 6, 2009 - Today, the New Orleans City Council approved Ordinance Calendar No. 27,594, authored by Councilmember Hedge-Morrell, which established a temporary moratorium in Council District "D" on the opening of new tattoo parlors, as well as bars, cocktail lounges, package liquor stores, grocery stores, and restaurants. The Ordinance also extends the moratorium on the issuance or renewal of alcoholic beverage permits to anyone who doesn't already have an active alcoholic beverage outlet.

District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell said, "There are two reasons for this ordinance. One is an incident in my district where the Department of Safety and Permits issued an alcoholic beverage permit in error, the other is to prevent businesses like tattoo parlors from opening in inappropriate locations. This ordinance protects the residents from these types of businesses opening in their neighborhood without a public hearing."

The Ordinance includes a provision that allows anyone interested in opening one of the prohibited establishments to appeal to the City Council for a waiver of the moratorium.



"This is something my constituents have asked for, this legislation allows the Council to have a more active role in deciding what types of businesses will be allowed in our neighborhoods in District D."

## **New Orleans City Council**

The New Orleans City Council is the legislative branch of New Orleans city government. The Council considers and enacts all local laws that govern the City of New Orleans. The Council also approves the operating and capital budgets for the City, as recommended by the mayor, and continually monitors revenues and expenditures for local government operations. The City Council is also the regulatory body for public utilities. It also reviews and has final say on many land use and zoning matters, as well as considers major economic development projects for the City. As a Board of Review for Orleans Parish, the Council examines appeals of property tax assessments for real estate taxes, and certifies tax rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission. Other responsibilities of the Council include overseeing the operation of the public access television in Orleans Parish.

The City Council is comprised of five districts and two councilmembers-at-large. Council President and Councilmember-at-Large Arnie Fielkow; Council Vice President and Councilmember-at-Large Jacquelyn Brechtel Clarkson; District "A" Councilmember Shelley Midura; District "B" Councilmember Stacy S. Head; District "C" Councilmember James Carter; District "D" Councilmember Cynthia Hedge-Morrell; and District "E" Councilmember Cynthia Willard-Lewis.