



THE BANKS

*It's happening on the river.*

February 27, 2015

The Honorable Tim Brown  
77 South High Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Floor Riffe Building  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Brown and Members of the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee:

On behalf of The Banks development on Cincinnati's Riverfront, we are writing to support House Bill 47 which would create entertainment districts with open container provisions for Cincinnati and other cities in Ohio.

We believe this designation will help cities like Cincinnati attract more visitors, create vibrancy within their entertainment districts and foster continued economic growth. This bill will allow cities to define and distinguish certain entertainment districts, creating more unique experiences for those seeking out entertainment.

We also agree that the decision to create such entertainment districts should be a local one. House Bill 47 outlines the process by which the designation is considered and granted through the municipal government, taking into account safety and the collective will of the businesses within the district.

Our one concern with the existing legislation is that it allows for an area of three hundred twenty contiguous acres (or one-half square mile) to be designated as an entertainment district. While we know this is a maximum number and smaller districts can be created, we think that should such an expansive district be created, it would probably not have a special district feel to it. But, we also understand those details can be worked out at the local level.



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We hope you will consider supporting the passage of House Bill 47.

Sincerely,

***Scott Stringer***

Carter  
The Banks Development Master Developer  
171 17<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1200  
Atlanta, GA 30363

***Karsten Briggs***

Nicol Investment Company, LLC  
The Banks Development Phase I Owner  
424 Church Street, Suite 2007  
Nashville, TN 37219

Copy: The Honorable Cliff Rosenberger, Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives