

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS GABRIELA COLETTA, RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, KENZIE BOK, BREADON, FLAHERTY, LARA, MEJIA, MURPHY, WORRELL AND FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO ADDRESS CONTAMINATED BEVERAGES IN CLUBS AND BARS

WHEREAS, Over the past year, countless Boston residents, particularly women, have reported experiencing emergency-related issues connected with contaminated drinks served at Boston establishments; *and*

WHEREAS, In May of 2022, the Boston Police Department issued a community alert urging victims of drink spiking to come forward and report their suspicions to police. Boston police received nearly a dozen reports with allegations of drugged drinks at clubs and bars between April 10th, 2022 and June 4th 2022 ; *and*

WHEREAS, In late April, the Boston Licensing Board reviewed four incidents in which women reported getting sick from spiked drinks at local bars but determined that the bars' staffs did not commit any violations ; *and*

WHEREAS, Medical professionals and experts state that it is difficult for date rape drugs, like GHB, Rohypnol, and ketamine, are hard to detect, so allegations of drink spiking are almost impossible to prove ; *and*

WHEREAS, However, establishments can and have been able to implement safety measures such as safety awareness signage, and lidded cups to help create awareness and prevent contamination ; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss prevention awareness and action on contaminated drinks and that the Boston Public Health and Human Services departments, and other relevant departments be invited to testify.

Filed on: January 11, 2023