STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF DORCHESTER)

ORDINANCE NUMBER 10-01

AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH ALLOW FOR THE ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

WHEREAS, Dorchester County is empowered to adopt ordinances as may appear to be necessary and proper for the security, general welfare and convenience of the county and for preserving health, peace, order and good government; and

WHEREAS, the operation of commercial establishments which allow for the on-premises consumption of beer, ale, porter, wine or alcoholic liquors into the late hours of the night and early morning results in increased numbers of intoxicated individuals being out and about during those hours; and

WHEREAS, it has been found that the operation of these establishments after 2 a.m. results in an increase in the incidence of noise, vandalism, crime, litter, lewd acts, and public urination; and

WHEREAS, this increase in the number of intoxicated individuals engaging in these behaviors creates an intolerable burden on the citizens of Dorchester County; and

WHEREAS, restricting the operation of these establishments between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. will alleviate a great deal of the burden placed on citizens and the police.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Dorchester County Council, duly assembled, that all commercial establishments allowing for the on-premises consumption of beer, ale, porter, wine, and/or alcoholic liquor shall be prohibited from operating between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on Mondays through Saturdays. Any conviction for a violation of this Ordinance is punishable by a fine not to exceed $500.00 and/or imprisonment for not more than 30 days.

This Ordinance shall be effective upon third and final reading.

Approved and adopted on this **4th** day of **January, 2010.**

Jamie Feltner, Chairman
Dorchester County Council

ATTEST:

Sandy Lawley, Clerk of Council

First Reading: 1/22/08
Second Reading: 2/19/08
Public Hearing: 2/19/08
Third Reading: 1/04/10