

Offered by Councilor Garrison



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING UNREASONABLE AND EXCESSIVE NOISE LEVELS IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

- WHEREAS,* Unreasonable and excessive noise is a substantial danger to the health, welfare, safety, and the quality of life of the public; and,
- WHEREAS,* Unreasonable and excessive noise over an extended period of time may lead to hearing loss and can interfere with personal communication, cause sleep disturbances and create anxiety and aggressive behaviors; and
- WHEREAS,* Article 97 to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts maintains that people have a right to be free from unreasonable and excessive noise; and
- WHEREAS,* The current Boston Municipal Code which states that anything louder than 50 decibels from 11:00pm to 7:00am is considered unreasonable and anything louder than 70 decibels is considered too much at any time (except for permitted construction) may not be enough to actually curb unreasonable and excessive noise; and
- WHEREAS,* As elected officials of the Boston City Council we have an obligation to preserve, protect and promote the public health, safety, welfare and peace and quiet of residents in our communities and to foster their well-being and comfort; and *NOW*

*THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED:*

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss amending the Boston Municipal Code standards for noise so as to reduce unreasonable and excessive noise levels and to partner with the Air Pollution Control Commission to work for more safe and reasonable noise levels in Boston. Representatives from the City of Boston and other interested parties shall be invited to attend.

Filed in Council: March 27, 2019