

Official Tries To Block 24-Hour 7-Eleven - Store To Be Built In Historic Neighborhood

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BALTIMORE -- A Baltimore city councilman is hoping legislation will help put the brakes on a proposed 7-Eleven store that's planned for Mount Vernon Place. Councilman Bill Cole introduced a bill Thursday that would restrict the hours of any convenience store in the historic area.

Instead of operating 24 hours a day, he proposed that stores close from 11 p.m. to 5 a.m. seven days a week.

"We don't want it to become a congregating spot for when the bars and clubs let out. There's a senior building across the street. It's in the middle of an historic neighborhood and sits right at the foot of the Washington Monument. I don't want people standing out there at all hours of the night," Cole said.

Community members said they had hoped to raise enough funds to purchase the vacant building on the corner of Charles and Centre streets for a visitor's center, but it didn't work out.

It's not clear how much support Cole will have.