



**THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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**STATEMENT BY THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
RE: PEDICAB VETO**

Speaker Christine C. Quinn, said, “Anyone who has been to Columbus Circle or Times Square in recent years has seen the hundreds of pedicabs that circle around the streets. While most drivers are responsible, we need to establish clear rider guidelines and passenger rights, and make sure pedicabs don’t clog our streets or endanger pedestrians. We are disappointed that the Mayor did not sign Introductory Number 331-A, which would regulate the number of pedicabs allowed on our streets and establish safety regulations. We expect the full Council will consider a veto override vote in April.”

The Council bill will require pedicabs to be equipped with safety features and undergo inspections. It will also require operators to abide by laws concerning bicycles and obtain liability insurance policies. Additionally, the bill sets a necessary limit to the numbers of operators on City streets to allow the industry to flourish without causing undue traffic congestion, itself a safety hazard.

Council Member Leroy Comrie, Chair of the Council’s Consumer Affairs Committee, said, “This was a bill that was negotiated by both sides of City Hall, however I am confident that the Council will work diligently to ultimately address the issue of pedicab operations in this city.”

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