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Last-Mile Workers Rally, Respond to Council Member Who "Shrugs Off" Their Concerns About Job Loss

Delivery workers and small business owners urge City Council to hear directly from the New Yorkers at risk, arguing they must understand the significant negative impacts

Civil rights group National Urban League recently warned bill threatens Black-owned businesses and thousands of local jobs

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New York, NY – New York City delivery workers and small business owners rallied outside City Hall this morning to fight to protect their livelihoods.

The workers and business owners, represented by the New York Delivers Coalition, are formally calling on Council Member Tiffany Cabán and bill supporters to meet with them before advancing Intro 518, also known as the Delivery Protection Act, which could force local delivery companies to shut down and put more than 10,000 workers out of a job.

They also responded to Council Member Cabán, the bill sponsor, who dismissed concerns that her legislation could cost significant numbers of New Yorkers their jobs.

"Council Member Cabán says she calls 'bull' on our concerns about losing our jobs and businesses. You can't dismiss the people whose livelihoods are on the line without even sitting down with us," said **Rudy Cazares, owner of Cazar Logistics and a Marine Corps veteran**. "How many New Yorkers are you comfortable putting out of work to pass this bill? Come visit our businesses. Talk to our workers — the people who must be heard before you make a decision that could destroy everything we've all built"

"Protecting workers should start with listening to workers," said **Heaven Sanchez, a delivery worker at Logistics Xpress**. "My company invests in us, trains us, and gives us opportunities to grow. I don't want to work for Amazon, and I don't understand how taking away our jobs and making Amazon even bigger is supposed to protect workers like me."

Even the Mamdani administration has acknowledged the prospect of workers needing new employment. In an August interview with Bloomberg, Department of Consumer and Worker Protection Commissioner Sam Levine pointed to the bill's one-year implementation period as an opportunity to make sure affected workers "find jobs."

"Commissioner Levine is already talking about helping our workers find new jobs. But they already have jobs," said **Christine Chan, owner of Highgate Logistics**. "They have employers who know them, invest in their training and care about their futures. If the City wants stronger safety standards, we're ready to work on that. But why would you pass a law that could put thousands of people out of work and then tell them they have a year to find another job – how is that good for NYC?"

An independent analysis conducted by economic consulting firm AKRF found that the bill could put more than 10,000 New York City jobs at risk in a high-impact scenario. Approximately 80% of the affected workforce is made up of New Yorkers of color, and 83% live in the outer boroughs.

This week, the civil rights group National Urban League joined the coalition in opposing the legislation. In a letter to the City Council, President and CEO Marc Morial warned that the proposal could destroy Black-owned businesses, deepen the racial wealth gap and eliminate thousands of jobs. Morial urged Council members to stand with the entrepreneurs and workers who would bear the consequences.

"We believe we can both enact stronger protections for workers, and protect jobs and small businesses – why are the bill's supporters creating an ultimatum by forcing this flawed bill?" said **Kris Basmagy, owner of DashWave Delivery**.

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About NY Delivers

New York Delivers is a coalition of delivery service partners, businesses, and workers committed to protecting last-mile delivery—the system that keeps essential goods moving, neighborhoods connected, and everyday life affordable across all five boroughs.