



DEBORAH J. GLICK
Assemblymember 66TH District
New York County

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**Testimony of Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick
Before the Committee on Consumer Affairs
New York City Council
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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony to the Consumer Affairs Committee regarding Street Vendors. One of the things that makes New York a wonderful place is that we foster growth and allow for the pursuit of the true American Dream. Many of the great shops today started as nothing more than a push cart on the street. New York's history and future is interwoven in the individual street vendor's ability to sell everything from homemade art, to tourist souvenirs. Yet, the rules and regulations as they exist now are confusing. As such, there is little or unequal enforcement of the rules. Changes to the regulations are pieced together when a new problem arises. This approach makes legal vending challenging and enforcement difficult.

Rather than continuing to make minor, reactionary adjustments to various codes and regulations that exist regarding vending, fines, and enforcement, I think a simple, streamlined set of regulations should be established. It should be easily understood exactly where vending is allowed and where it is not. This could entail establishing a maximum number of vendors per block. Once the rules are clear, enforcement becomes easier and vendors will be able to continue pursuing their jobs without infringing on the rights of residents and business owners in the area.

A simple system would benefit vendors, and the quality of life for residents, especially in areas where vending is most popular. Thank you for taking time to address this issue, and I urge you find a way to appropriately balance the multiple needs and desires of all of those involved in this issue. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.