

THE CITY OF NEW YORK OFFICE OF THE MAYOR NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

December 8, 2009

Hon. Michael McSweeney City Clerk and Clerk of the Council 141 Worth Street New York, NY 10013

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory Number 662-A, which would expand the scope of parking privileges provided to members of the clergy and increase the number of individuals and motor vehicles eligible for clergy parking permits.

Clergy members serve in crucial capacities in communities throughout the City. Existing law and Department of Transportation rules were established to accommodate clergy members as they fulfill their official duties through the issuance of special parking permits.

Curbside parking space is a limited resource, and it is the City's responsibility to ensure a reasonable turnover of parked cars, without which, traffic congestion increases. The expansion of parking permits proposed by this bill runs counter to the City's efforts to reduce the use of parking placards throughout the City. These efforts recognize that there must be a balance between the need for placards in certain circumstances and the mandate for a more sustainable City with less traffic congestion. Our Administration's comprehensive program has reduced the number of placards by more than 50% across City, State, and Federal agencies.

By expanding the scope of privileges offered to clergy permit holders and increasing the number of individuals and motor vehicles eligible for such permits, this bill would make fewer spaces available within the City, to the detriment of residents, local businesses, and the general public.

I have great appreciation for the many contributions members of the clergy make to our City and the need to facilitate the valuable work they do. Given the competing needs for parking space, I do not believe that the permit privileges already provided by law should be further extended.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory Number 662-A.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bloomberg

Mayor

Cc: Hon, Christine C. Quinn

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Proposed Int. No. 662-A

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By Council Members Jackson, Comrie, Dickens, Gennaro, Gentile, Gerson, Gonzalez, Stewart, Arroyo, Seabrook, Mealy, Yassky, James, and Reyna, white Jr., Liv, Eugene, Kappell, Recchia Jr. and Westin

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A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to clergy parking permits.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Paragraph 1 of subdivision a of section 19-162.1 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

- 1. The term "member of the clergy" as used in this section means a clergy[man]member or minister as defined in the religious corporations law including, but not limited to a pastor, rector, priest, rabbi or iman who officiates at or presides over services on behalf of a religious corporation or association of any denomination and works an average of at least twenty hours per week on behalf of such religious corporation or association. [Such term shall not include clergy who derive their principal income from any other occupation or profession or who do not officiate at or preside over services on behalf of a religious corporation or association of any denomination.]
- §2. Paragraph 2 of subdivision a of section 19-162.1 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:
- 2. The term "passenger car" as used in this section means a motor vehicle, <u>lawfully</u> registered in any state, designed and used for carrying not more than fifteen people, including the driver. Such term shall not include a vehicle licensed to operate pursuant to chapter five of this title or a commercial vehicle as defined in section 19-170 of this code.

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ON THE 8th DAY OF Deeph 2009
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§3. Subdivision a of section 19-162.1 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new paragraph 5 to read as follows:

5. The term "funeral establishment" as used in this section means a place devoted to or used for the care and preparation of a body of a deceased person for disposition and for mourning or funeral ceremonial purposes.

§4. Subdivision b of section 19-162.1 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended to read as follows:

b. Notwithstanding any local law or rule to the contrary, it shall be permissible for a member of the clergy to park a passenger car which is owned, registered or leased by such member of the clergy or by a religious corporation or association employing such member of the clergy and displays an appropriate department permit, in an available space where parking is prohibited by a posted sign (i) for a period of up to [four] <u>five</u> hours upon the roadway adjacent to the house of worship at whose services such member of the clergy officiates or presides as noted on such permit [or], (ii) for a period of up to three hours on the roadway adjacent to a hospital when such member of the clergy is performing official duties at such hospital, or (iii) for a period of up to four hours on the roadway adjacent to a funeral establishment when such member of the clergy is performing official duties at such funeral establishment. It shall not be permissible for a member of the clergy to park where parking is prohibited by rule or where stopping or standing are prohibited by a posted sign or rule.

§ 5. This local law shall take effect sixty days after it is enacted into law.

I hereby certify that the above bill was passed by the Council of the City of New York on November. 16. 2002 receiving the following votes:

PH LS # 4216 11.6,09 -- 4:45pm
> Michael M. McSweeney, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

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