

The New York City Council

Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title:	A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the registration of vacant storefront property						
Sponsors:	Helen K. Rosenthal, Carlina Rivera, Corey D. Johnson, Ben Kallos, Mark Levine, Diana I. Ayala, Justin L. Brannan, Stephen T. Levin, Keith Powers, Vanessa L. Gibson						
Indexes:	Agency Rule-making Required						
	1. Summary of Int. No. 1473, 2. Int. No. 1473, 3. March 13, 2019 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 4. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - March 13, 2019, 6. Committee Report 3/18/19, 7. Hearing Testimony 3/18/19, 8. Hearing Transcript 3/18/19						
Attachments:	to Fi	les, 4. Hea	aring Trans	script -	 Stated Meeti 	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated	Meeting - March 13,
Attachments:	to Fi	les, 4. Hea	aring Trans nittee Rep	script -	- Stated Meeti 8/19, 7. Heari	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated	Meeting - March 13,
	to Fi 2019	les, 4. Hea 9, 6. Comn	aring Trans nittee Rep	script -	- Stated Meeti 8/19, 7. Heari	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated I ng Testimony 3/18/19, 8. Hearing Tra	Meeting - March 13, anscript 3/18/19
Date	to Fi 2019 Ver.	les, 4. Hea 9, 6. Comn Action By	aring Trans nittee Rep ncil	script -	- Stated Meeti 8/19, 7. Heari	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated ng Testimony 3/18/19, 8. Hearing Tra Action	Meeting - March 13, anscript 3/18/19
Date 3/13/2019	to Fi 2019 Ver .	les, 4. Hea 9, 6. Comn Action By City Cou City Cou	aring Trans nittee Rep ncil	script - ort 3/1	- Stated Meeti 8/19, 7. Heari	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated I ng Testimony 3/18/19, 8. Hearing Tra Action Introduced by Council	Meeting - March 13, anscript 3/18/19
Date 3/13/2019 3/13/2019	to Fi 2019 Ver. *	les, 4. Hea 9, 6. Comm Action By City Cou City Cou Committe	aring Trans nittee Rep ncil ncil	script - ort 3/1	- Stated Meeti 8/19, 7. Heari iness	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated I ng Testimony 3/18/19, 8. Hearing Tra Action Introduced by Council Referred to Comm by Council	Meeting - March 13, anscript 3/18/19
Date 3/13/2019 3/13/2019 3/18/2019	to Fi 2019 Ver. * *	les, 4. Hea 9, 6. Comm Action By City Cou City Cou Committe	aring Trans nittee Rep ncil ncil ee on Sma ee on Sma	script - ort 3/1	- Stated Meeti 8/19, 7. Heari iness iness	ng 3-13-19, 5. Minutes of the Stated I ng Testimony 3/18/19, 8. Hearing Tra Action Introduced by Council Referred to Comm by Council Laid Over by Committee	Meeting - March 13, anscript 3/18/19

By Council Members Rosenthal, Rivera, The Speaker (Council Member Johnson), Kallos, Levine, Ayala, Brannan, Levin, Powers and Gibson

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the registration of vacant storefront property

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 10 of title 22 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by

adding a new section 22-1003 to read as follows:

§ 22-1003 Vacant storefront property. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the term

"storefront property" means any property that may be predominantly used for the sale of goods and/or services

directly to the public that is accessible directly from the street.

b. 1. The owner of any storefront property within the city shall register with the department upon such

File #: Int 1473-2019, Version: *

property being unoccupied for 90 consecutive days, and thereafter, update the registration every 90 days until the property is leased or occupied. Such registration shall be in a manner to be determined by the commissioner but shall include, at a minimum, the location of such property, reasons for vacancy, the name of the owner of such property, the date upon which such property became vacant, the electronic mail address and phone number of an individual who shall be the contact person for such property, and any additional information as the department may require.

2. When ownership of a storefront property that has been vacant for more than 90 days is changed, the new owner of such property shall register in accordance with this section within 30 days of taking ownership of such property.

c. The department shall impose a reasonable fee necessary for administering the provisions of this section.

d. An owner who fails to register as required by this section shall be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 for every week or portion thereof that there is a failure to register. Notice shall be mailed to the owner or owners, at the address to which commercial rent property tax notices are sent or to the vacant property address, at least 30 days prior to the assessment of the civil penalty. Both the department and the New York city department of buildings shall have the power to enforce this provision.

e. The department shall maintain a searchable electronic database of all storefront properties registered pursuant to this section. The department shall update such database not less than 30 days following any new registration, any renewal, or any changes to such registrations. Such database shall be posted on the department's website, shall have the ability to produce reports by query, and shall be published to the city's open data portal in a non-proprietary format that permits automated processing and shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:

i. the location of such property including the borough, community board district, and block and lot number;

ii. the date upon which such property became vacant; and

iii. any other information deemed relevant by department.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 90 days after it becomes law, except that the commissioner of small business services may take such actions as are necessary for its implementation, including the promulgation of rules, before such effective date.

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