



TRANSPORTATION  
ALTERNATIVES

SUPPORTS

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## S.4313B (Golden, Squadron) / A.4578A (Silver)

### The Issue

This bill allows the City of New York to protect neighborhoods by issuing permits to regulate intercity bus curbside loading spaces.

### The Problem

The rise of the curbside intercity bus industry has proven to be a benefit to New York City residents, as these buses provided a rapid and inexpensive transportation option. Unfortunately, the rapid growth of the industry has led to unintended consequences for the neighborhoods that are home to bus pickup and drop-off spots. Some neighborhoods report as many as one thousand daily departures and arrivals,<sup>1</sup> each competing for street space at the curb. Not all of these buses illegally idle, illegally double park or illegally block a crosswalk – but many of these buses do. The volume of bus traffic, the attendant noise and exhaust, and the sheer number of traffic law violators makes neighborhoods less pleasant, snarls traffic, and puts New Yorkers' safety at risk.

### The Solution

The legislation authorizes New York City to establish a permitting system to regulate intercity buses' curbside loading spaces. In order to evaluate the appropriateness of loading zones, the bill would require bus companies to provide the City with their company name, bus stop locations, vehicle identification numbers and schedules prior to receiving approval from the City. The bill also calls for consultation with the local community board before issuing a permit, though it does not require community board approval.

This bill designs a reasonable procedure for regulating and bringing order to intercity bus curbside pickups and gives the City of New York the tools it needs to prevent this burgeoning industry from negatively impacting the community, which is why Transportation Alternatives **supports** enactment of this bill.

**T.A. and its 8,500+ members urge the enactment of this bill.**

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<sup>1</sup> October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Testimony to New York City Council Transportation Committee by Clinton/Hell's Kitchen Coalition for Pedestrian Safety available at <http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/View.ashx?M=F&ID=1583245&GUID=EC3951A7-A181-4CB5-B1EB-2996B88F4DA7>