

Dear Council Member,

We are reaching out to you today to oppose Int 2311-2021 in its current form.

This legislation poses substantial privacy risks for all New Yorkers by giving any inquiring restaurant access to customers' personal and sensitive information without their knowledge or approval. This means delivery platforms could be required to turn over names, emails, transaction data, and yes, even home addresses.

Additionally, the just over one page bill does not detail any type of limits around who can access the data, how it should be used, or how it should be secured – there are no guidelines and no safeguards for how restaurants would protect consumers data.

This lack of detail should frighten all New Yorkers; however, it is particularly concerning for communities of color, vulnerable populations and undocumented immigrants who use these apps. Their safety could be in danger if this bill proceeds in its current form.

This is obviously not legislators' intent, but it highlights that more work should be done to strengthen this bill before it is voted on. In the last week alone, privacy groups and advocacy organizations have detailed their concerns with the bill and their voices should be heard and suggestions adopted. It would be wrong for the City Council to rush to a vote before this bill is fixed – doing so could result in unintended harmful consequences.

Legislators should also apply common sense. Delivery platforms have sophisticated technology that protects data against bad actors. When customers sign into the app, they are in control of what data they are sharing, and effectively enter into an agreement with the delivery platform. They are not signing up to have their personal details shared with hundreds of businesses without any notification or disclosure. Additionally, the bill as written would require customers to opt-out of having their information shared after *each* order they place.

What would stop other cities from following suit and requiring small businesses to give the personal information of their customers out to third parties, with little regulation or regard for their safety?

We urge the City Council to delay consideration of this bill, bring all stakeholders together, and allow for the necessary amendments to ensure it does not set us down a slippery slope that would negatively impact the privacy rights of millions of New Yorkers and put vulnerable populations at risk.

Sincerely,

