

Speaker Christine Quinn and Council Member Crowley have introduced a bill that would give the most common offenders. Extraordinary latitude in posting flyers and ads on public property.

The bill would require the Department of Sanitation (DOS) to serve violations within five days and would bar DOS from issuing multiple violations to small businesses and non-profits within five days of service of the initial notice of violation if they had not previously violated the anti-postering law.

In our opinion, this law would encourage illegal – and ugly – postering in our neighborhoods.

Civics who value the appearance of their streets need to call on Quinn (212) 788-7210/ [email](#) (click contact Speaker link) and Crowley (718) 366-3900/ [e-mail](#) to withdraw this pernicious legislation now.

-Patricia Dolan, Executive Vice President, Queens Civic Congress

Updated 2009-11-19: See November 16, 2009 letter from Senator Frank Padavan supporting Queens Civic Congress position on page three below.

Updated 2009-11-23: See November 18, 2009 from Assemblymember/ Councilman-elect Mark Weprin to Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere (CAGE) supporting Queens Civic Congress on page four below.



Letters To The Editor

10/29/2009

This bill's a bad sign

Dear Editor:

Illegal signs and posters on utility poles, public walls and trees have long been an eyesore in New York City. Many civic organizations' volunteers have spent countless unpaid hours removing these posters so their neighborhoods can remain neat and clean-looking.

A piece of proposed legislation by Speaker Christine Quinn and several other council members would destroy those efforts by rewarding those who prefer to remain unaware of existing laws that prohibit defacing public property. Speaker Quinn's proposal would in effect give small businesses and nonprofit organizations free "get-out-of-jail" cards for their first violations. This is wrong. The various business and merchant organizations that support this legislation should instead attempt to educate their members that it is illegal to defile public property with their advertising.

It is difficult enough for the Department of Sanitation to enforce the existing law. There are enough loopholes that allow companies to skirt the rules by using cell phones and bogus addresses, making it nearly impossible for them to be tracked. Why create new loopholes for them? That's exactly what this legislation, if passed, will do. The number of illegal signs will greatly increase.

Rather than cater to a few business groups that should know better, City Council members should support the efforts of those small businesses that advertise legally, and not at the expense of our neighborhoods.

Rick Duskiwicz
President, The Creedmoor Civic Association
Member, Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere
Bellerose Manor

[Senator Padavan's letter follows on next page]

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



FRANK PADAVAN

SENATOR, 11TH DISTRICT
ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER
FOR CONFERENCE OPERATIONS

PLEASE RESPOND TO

SENATE OFFICE
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STATE CAPITOL
ALBANY, NY 12247
TEL: (518) 455-3381
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DISTRICT OFFICE:

89-39 GETTYSBURG STREET
BELLEROSE, NY 11426
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E-MAIL ADDRESS:
PADAVAN@SENATE.STATE.NY.US

WEB PAGE:
HTTP://WWW.NYSENATE11.COM

November 16, 2009

Re: Int. No. 1090

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to notices of violation issued by the department of sanitation for illegal postings.

Dear Civic Leader:

A bill introduced in the City Council by Councilwoman Elizabeth Crowley, Speaker Christine Quinn, and others would allow the organizations and businesses that place posters and signs on public property such as light poles to get a pass on their first offense.

This means a commercial establishment could have flyers on poles all over the City and be given one violation and get off the hook for all the others.

Attached is a letter written by Rick Duskiwicz, President of the Creedmoor Civic Association which explains why this bill should not be permitted to pass.

I urge you to do whatever you can to keep this bill from being passed, as I have, by already speaking to Councilwoman Crowley.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Padavan", written over a large, stylized flourish.

Frank Padavan
State Senator

FP: esg
Enc.

C: Local Civic Associations
Local Community Boards
Local Media



MARK S. WEPRIN
24th District
Queens County

CHAIR
Small Business Committee

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

COMMITTEES
Codes
Education
Judiciary
Ways and Means

MEMBER
NYS Assembly
Puerto Rican/Hispanic
Task Force

November 18, 2009

Citizens Against Graffiti Everywhere
Post Office Box 300471
John Fitzgerald Kennedy Airport
Jamaica, New York 11430

Dear CAGE:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your recent letter in support of maintaining the current anti-posting law. Thank you for taking the time to write and for providing me with the opportunity to respond.

As you may know, I have long supported measures to fight graffiti and litter. I am the author of the Lawn Litter Law, which prohibits distributors from placing commercial advertisements on the property of homeowners who post signs indicating that they do not wish to receive such material. I agree that the current anti-posting law is appropriate and should be enforced as it stands, not weakened in any way. I assure you that I will continue to work to keep our neighborhoods clean and safe.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of assistance with any matter.

Sincerely,

MARK S. WEPRIN
Member of Assembly

MSW: ag

CC: Queens Civic Congress