



# STABILIZE COMMERCIAL RENTS!

Join **United for Small Business NYC** as we stand with **commercial tenants in support of Commercial Rent Stabilization legislation!**

## WHO

Small business owners and workers, merchant associations, neighborhood non-profits, street vendors, commercial tenants, and community allies

## WHERE

City Hall Steps, Manhattan

## WHAT

Thursday November 14, 2019  
at 10 AM

Questions? Contact Emily Goldstein  
[Emily.G@anhd.org](mailto:Emily.G@anhd.org)

**#FairRentNYC #NoSmallBizNoNYC**



## Commercial Rent Stabilization Legislation What Is It & Why Is It Important

### ***What is Commercial Rent Stabilization?***

Commercial rent stabilization prevents commercial tenants from being pushed out of our communities due to unfair rent hikes and unregulated fees. This legislation will ensure that a diverse, representative board uses fair, objective criteria to set future rent adjustments; and it will also provide stability for small businesses and the community residents that depend on them.

### ***Why is this important?***

Gentrification affects commercial tenants and residential tenants alike. The City's most vulnerable small businesses need tools to fight back against unscrupulous landlords. Immigrants run 48% of all of New York City's small businesses and roughly 26% of New Yorkers work at a small business. Protecting small businesses means protecting New York City's immigrant population and vice versa. When immigrant small businesses vanish, so do jobs, community spaces, and affordable goods and services in culturally rich communities of color. Commercial tenants -- especially small business owners -- have been providing culturally relevant goods and services in New York City for decades, so when they are displaced, culture is displaced.

That's why **United for Small Business NYC (USB NYC)**, a coalition of community organizations across New York City, has been fighting to protect New York's small businesses and non-residential tenants from the threat of displacement, especially owner-operated, minority-run businesses that serve low-wealth communities, communities of color, and all marginalized communities. We were instrumental in the recent passage of **Council Member Helen Rosenthal's "Storefront Tracker" legislation** of a public and searchable database that requires landlords to report the median rents, lease terms, and vacancies of all first and second floor commercial spaces; this legislation also creates meaningful penalties if a landlord fails to register, another step in holding landlords accountable. We also helped pass **Council Member Carlina Rivera's "State of the Storefronts" legislation** that requires a comprehensive analysis of neighborhood commercial corridors every five years, and are proud to have worked with **Council Member Vanessa Gibson** on important legislation that expands the definition of commercial tenant harassment to include immigration status and penalizes landlords found guilty of harassment.

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*USB NYC fights to protect small businesses, establish commercial tenant rights, and empower our communities with the tools necessary to advance an equitable economic future. Commercial rent stabilization is a step in the right direction.*

Learn more at [www.usbnyc.org](http://www.usbnyc.org)