



*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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***CM CHIN STANDS UP FOR ASIAN AMERICAN
COMMUNITY WITH PASSAGE OF BILL
PROTECING FLOWER VENDORS FROM
FINES & ARREST***

CITY HALL— More than a week before Asian Lunar New Year, Council Member Margaret S. Chin (D-Lower Manhattan) celebrated the passage today of legislation that will allow individuals to sell flowers for one week leading up to Asian Lunar New Year without the fear of large fines and even arrest.

“I have gotten frantic calls from friends and family members of vendors who have been arrested and put in jail – merely for selling flowers to people celebrating Asian Lunar New Year,” said Council Member Chin. “This is not fair, and it is not right. My legislation will ensure that vendors selling flowers during the Asian Lunar New Year season will be able to do so without the fear of fines or even arrest.”

每每在農曆新年期間，我收到很多小販的家人和朋友們緊急求助電話，只僅僅因為他們售賣傳統農曆新年應節的鮮花，說他們被警察遞補，關在臨時監獄裏。市議員陳倩雯認為這種做法是不公平，不對的。為了改變這種情況，陳倩雯立法讓小販在農曆新年期間可以安心售賣應節鮮花。

Intro 1061, introduced by Council Member Chin, will protect flower sellers for a period of seven days before Asian Lunar New Year, as well as the holiday itself, every single year. It passed the Council today overwhelmingly, 44-0, with two abstentions.

Currently, even vendors with a Food Vendor License are subject to tickets and arrest by enforcement agents. After several vendors were ticketed and detained for selling flowers, Council Member Chin successfully advocated with the NYPD’s 5th Precinct to stop the unjust treatment of these vendors during one of the most important holidays of the year.

Once signed by the Mayor, this bill will protect all flower vendors in every Asian community throughout New York City during the upcoming Asian Lunar New Year season, and for every single Lunar New Year to come.

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