

Today's Headlines: Paid Sick Leave | State Budget

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PAID SICK LEAVE

The City Council held a hearing on Friday on the paid sick leave bill that Speaker Christine Quinn, a candidate for mayor, has refused to bring to a vote. Two of her rivals for the mayor's office, Bill de Blasio and William Thompson, rebuked her for holding up the bill. Quinn said at a news conference that she supported the concept behind the bill, but not the measure in its current form because of its potential negative effects on small businesses ([The New York Times](#)). [The New York Daily News](#) praised her for "putting sound economics over cheap politics." Quinn only spoke briefly at the hearing, and didn't ask any questions. Her fellow Council members are discussing the possibility of forcing the legislation to the floor, thereby circumventing Quinn ([The Wall Street Journal](#)).

STATE BUDGET

The city is losing out as state lawmakers negotiate an on-time budget. A number of sticking points that got jettisoned to make room for a \$135 billion budget agreement would affect residents of New York City, from a speed camera program designed to reduce traffic accidents and deaths to tweaking the laws regarding possession of small amounts of marijuana ([Gotham Gazette](#))
. SUNY Downstate Medical Center was left to struggle on its own ([The Daily News](#)). While the State Senate was voting on budget bills yesterday, the Assembly is putting its duties off until Thursday ([WXXI](#)).

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