

Paid Sick Leave Vote Delayed, Again

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The City Council has once again delayed a vote on paid sick leave despite an [earlier goal of a vote tomorrow](#).

After working to move the controversial bill to the Council floor for three years, Manhattan City Councilwoman Gale Brewer said yesterday that she hopes the bill will come to a vote in early May after negotiating the final language.

She added that only small, auxiliary verbs like "may" or "must."

"I think we'll be fine," Brewer said. "I still feel ecstatic."

Whatever language is eventually adopted into the bill is a result of weeks of negotiation between City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, labor advocates and the city's business leaders.

Changes to the original bill were made to satisfy critics who worried about a negative impact on the city's small businesses. Leaders from the groups, including the Partnership for a Better New York and the five borough's Chambers of Commerce, thanked Quinn after the new bill included a trigger that would prevent the bill from becoming law next year if the city's economy falters.

The bill now also exempts business with less than 20 employees from the law in the first year after being enacted, whereas labor advocates asked that it apply to businesses with five or more. The bill will also make it illegal for any business to fire employees for taking unpaid sick days.

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