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Testimony before the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection in support of Local Law 115 of 2021 to study the pay working conditions of food delivery workers

Gale A Brewer, City Council 6th District – December 16, 2022

My name is Gale A Brewer, and I am the Council Member for the 6th District which includes the Upper West Side, parts of Clinton/Hell's Kitchen and all of Central Park. I am testifying in support of this proposal to study the pay and working conditions of food delivery workers and, based on the results, establish methods for determining minimum pay and other protections and benefits.

Delivery workers have a hard job. They work in hazardous conditions and have few employment protections. Many support families both in New York City and abroad. The big tech food delivery industry make billions while the delivery workers make poverty wages.

I stand with New York City's more than 60,000 app delivery workers and the push for a minimum pay rate that reflects the true cost of living in New York City and the difficulty of their work. No worker should have to work 6 to 7 days a week just to scrape by. We are a city that supports workers, and we need to prove it to Deliveristas by giving them the rights they deserve.

In addition to low pay and hazardous work, I can tell you DCWP's proposed study will find that workers need employer funding for bike repairs and safety equipment, a compensation fund for workers injured or killed on the job, and much more.