

Airbnb's Worst. Week. Ever.

Airbnb, already in the midst of a lawsuit with its hometown of San Francisco over hosts failing to follow city regulations, knew it was going to be an uphill battle in New York, with a bill on Governor Andrew Cuomo's desk that would fine hosts who advertise illegal short-term rentals on the site. That's why Airbnb dropped [\\$10 million](#) into a super PAC it created to launch ad attacks against the bill and buy influence in New York.

Wednesday

- **Airbnb Faces Fight for Survival In New York City** [[Financial Times](#)]
- **Airbnb Seeks to Curry Favor with Cuomo Ahead of N.Y. Legislation** [[Bloomberg](#)]
- **Anti-Airbnb Lawmakers Slam Company's Last-Ditch Effort to Smooth Things Over Before Cuomo Decides On Bill** [[New York Daily News](#)]

The short-term rental giant thought it could placate New York with some new restrictions on listings in NYC and a "three strikes" policy that would kick repeat offenders off the site permanently. Funny how they think self-policing is going to calm regulators' fears. Airbnb hasn't exactly been so good at that in the past...

Thursday

- **Airbnb Revises New York Rules in 11th-Hour Bid for Survival** [[MarketWatch](#)]
- **NY Poised to Crack Down On Illegal Airbnb Rentals** [[CNBC](#)]

Governor Cuomo has 10 days to either sign the bill into law or veto it, so there could still be time to sway him. Airbnb has their ever-expanding horde of high-priced lobbyists working to pressure their political connections to go to bat for them. Will they be able to overwhelm sensible regulation with their deep pockets?

Friday

- **Cuomo Signs Bill That Deals Huge Blow to Airbnb** [[New York Post](#)]
- **Illegal Airbnb Listings in NYC Will Now Incur Hefty Fines** [[Curbed New York](#)]
- **Airbnb Sues New York For Imposing Fines On Illegal Renters** [[PBS NewsHour](#)]
- **Airbnb Hires Bridgegate Law Firm to Represent Them In New York** [[Gothamist](#)]
- **It Just Got a Lot Tougher for Airbnb to Do Business In New York City** [[New York Magazine](#)]

Looks like Airbnb is sticking to their usual playbook: throw money at the problem and if at first you don't succeed, just take it to court. Clearly, Airbnb is living up to their "Community Compact" promise to work with cities.