

Tuccille GOVERNOR

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GYPSY CABS SUGGEST SOLUTION TO TRANSPORTATION CRISIS, SAYS TUCCILLE

"Gypsy cabs are taking millions of passengers away from city buses," said Jerry Tuccille (pronounced "two-chilly") today. "In other words, New Yorkers are making a free-market choice for an alternate method of transportation. There's an important lesson to be learned here."

Tuccille, Free Libertarian Party candidate for governor and a former cab driver, referred to a recent news story which reported that hundreds of nonmedallion cabs have been operating illegally as buses in New York City. So successfully has the operation competed with city transit that the revenue lost by the Manhattan and Bronx bus lines is held responsible for their present deficit.

"If 25 million commuters desert government transportation for private transportation, they clearly prefer the latter," said Tuccille. "If so, why should what everyone wants be illegal? And why should taxpayers be forced to subsidize a money-losing government service when the free-enterprise system can obviously provide the same service more efficiently?"

Tuccille claimed that public transportation is in its present deplorable state solely because of government, and that the only solution is to break the monopoly and turn mass transit over to private entrepreneurs who will compete with each other to satisfy consumer demand.

"An excellent first step would be to repeal the laws specifying the type of vehicles which may legally function as passenger conveyances. So-called 'gypsy' cabdrivers are now regarded as criminals--simply for trying to earn an honest living.

"At one time, an ambitious and enterprising individual could go into business for himself, thus becoming both productive and self-supporting. Today, the would-be small businessman is hemmed in by controls, regulations, ordinances, permits, inspectors and an endless array of Federal, State and local agencies telling him in minutest detail how he may or may not serve his customers."

Tuccille announced his intention to "break a law to protest this bureaucratic mess." Next week, he plans to operate a jitney (a private vehicle carrying passengers for a small fare) in Manhattan. (Details on this event to follow.)

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PRESS RELEASE

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