

New York City mulls foie gras ban in move critics say is fuelled by 'anti-snob' sentiment

New York City is considering banning sales of *foie gras*, which has been dismissed by critics as an "anti-*snob*" move.

foie gras 鹅肝酱

snob 势利小人

The New York City Council is currently considering legislation that would ban sales of force-fed birds as well as all forms of the rich *delicacy* made from their *engorged* livers in the city's restaurants.

delicacy 美味; 菜肴

engorge 大吃; 充血

Foie gras is often made by duck and geese having tubes inserted into their throats, forcing them to consume far more grain than they would naturally eat and fattening their livers by up to 10 times their normal size.

One of the bill's advocates, the New York State Humane Association, said the life cycle of American foie gras ducks is "short and *agonising* in the final weeks".

agonize 痛苦; 折磨

violation 违反; 侵害

"By their last week, the birds have become so ill that their physical condition and degree of suffering arguably place them in *violation* of the state's anti-cruelty laws", the group said.

However, the proposal has come in for criticism. Mark Caro, author of *The Foie Gras Wars*, questions why the *rarefied* dish receives so much attention in comparison to supermarkets' animal produce.

rarefied 高雅的; 考究的

"If you try to get people to give up their cheap chicken, you would have a problem, because it would affect their budgets," he told the New York Times. "Foie gras is enjoyed by... people most of this country resents. There's a definite anti-snob thing going on," he said of the move.