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Cabbies Without Rights

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Cabbies Without Rights

To the Editor:

Edward Rogoff's analysis of proposals to increase taxi driver income by raising fares (Op-Ed, Oct. 30) leaves out one determinant of the situation: Since the 1970's, taxicab companies nationally have been converting employees into mere lessees to avoid benefit costs.

Because some courts have accepted owner claims that their drivers have the same legal status as consumers renting a car from a rental agency, drivers have been deprived of the employee right to bargain collectively.

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Prof. of Law, University of Iowa Iowa City, Oct. 30, 1995

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