

Dear fellow New Yorkers,

I've come today to offer my support in favor of the City Council removing the term limit restriction for the office of Mayor. While there are many reasons both for and against term limit restriction, I firmly believe that the economic challenges our City is facing and will face over the next three or more years require that we first, be able to recognize that these are very unique times.

I am not saying the expression "desperate times require desperate measures," is applicable in this case. I do not believe this is a knee jerk reaction to the recent events taking place on the domestic or international economic front. This situation did not come up over night nor will its remedy take effect over night. However, these times do dictate sober thought and sound judgment.

Second, I am asking that we as New Yorkers be proactive in our collective ability to problem-solve. The fact that this issue is being brought before the City Council for debate, discussion and public input from citizens such as myself, shows that this process is a live and well in New York.

However the third and last point I would raise is that we do not have the luxury of time for this initiative to run the normal course of review, debate and put to a vote.

During Mayor Bloomberg's years in office I have not necessarily agreed with all his ideas but I am of the opinion that he has represented all New Yorkers in carrying out his official duties. I am also of the opinion that he brings a greater than average sense and understanding regarding business and economics to City Hall. This is not to say that there are other Mayoral hopefuls that do not have these capabilities, I'm sure there are.

As Mayor, to govern a city as diverse and demanding as New York requires building relationships across communities and boroughs. It will be these types of relationships that will be fundamental to steering our city past the economic challenges ahead.

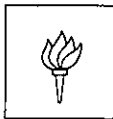
If it were not for our economic situation I would not be here today.

Mayor Bloomberg is here now and ready to serve if elected to a third term. I am urging the City Council to vote to remove the term limits for the office of Mayor for the City of New York.

I thank you for your time today.

Sincerely

Amoti Nyabongo



New York University
A private university in the public service

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testimony of

Patrick J. Egan
Assistant Professor of Politics

before the New York City Council
Committee on Governmental Operations
October 17, 2008

Good afternoon. My name is Patrick Egan, and I am Assistant Professor of Politics at New York University. I come to you today as a political scientist who specializes in representation—that is, the study of the relationship between citizens and their elected officials. I am also here today as a former appointed official from another one of our nation’s big cities: before pursuing my Ph.D. in political science, I served as Assistant Deputy Mayor of Policy and Planning in the administration of former Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell. Last but not least, I am here today as a fellow New Yorker who shares the concern of everybody here today for the future of this great, one-of-a-kind city that we all call home.

Although the term limits debate has focused mainly on the proposal to extend the limit on the Mayor’s service to three terms, today I will consider another component of the proposal: extending the term limits placed on members of City Council. Research by political scientists suggests that such an extension would be beneficial because it would help to rectify a growing imbalance of power between the City’s executive and legislative branches.

I preface these remarks with the caveat that much of what political scientists know about term limits comes from studies of state government rather than local government. This is partly because term limits are actually quite unusual at the municipal level. A recent survey of municipal governments by the nonpartisan International City/County Management Association found that only nine percent of municipal governments place limits on the terms of office that may be served by their chief elected official, and only nine percent limit the terms of their council members.

Of course, term limits are more common in many of our nation's most populous cities. But the sheer size and scope of New York City suggest that the nation's most populous *states* are a more appropriate comparison group than the nation's cities. As shown in the table accompanying my testimony, if it were a state, New York City's estimated population of 8.1 million people would place it as number 12 on the list of the nation's most populous states. Furthermore, New York City's budget is larger than all but three other states: California, New York, and Texas.

But compared to these states—each which has two legislative houses—the number of legislators in New York City who are available to serve constituents and oversee the government's budget is startlingly small. There are 160,000 New Yorkers for each City Council member—a figure that is larger than in every state except California. And if each City Council member were responsible for overseeing an equal share of the City's budget, these shares would be nearly \$1.5 billion each. Again, this amount of budgetary responsibility dwarfs that faced by legislators in any state except California. Thus the typical member of New York City Council is responsible for serving more constituents—and monitoring more government programs—than the members of all but one of our nation's fifty state legislatures.

In handling these outsized responsibilities, the New York City Council is at a disadvantage relative to the executive branch of City government. Any mayor of New York City controls the vast information-gathering resources of the executive

branch. The Mayor is able to appoint numerous staff who themselves are experts on local policymaking. Furthermore, with one of the largest councils of any big city in the nation, the New York City Council faces what political scientists call a “collective action problem”: any effort to oppose an executive branch initiative or provide oversight to City programs must be coordinated among 51 council members.

Term limits have exacerbated the relative disadvantage faced by City Council in its relationship with the Mayor. Research by political scientists has shown that the adoption of term limits in the states—even when applied equally to the executive and legislative branches—has been accompanied by a decline in the legislative branch’s power, expertise, and oversight. In California, for example, term limits have not only led to high turnover of legislators. It has also been accompanied by high turnover in legislative staff. Fewer bills have been introduced and passed into law. In states throughout the country where term limits have been introduced, the legislature acts more like a “rubber stamp”: it makes fewer changes to the budgets proposed by the executive branch, and knowledgeable observers report a decline the power of these legislatures relative to the governor and the bureaucracy. These disparities between the executive and legislative branch may help explain why only six of the 20 most populous states have limits placed on legislators’ terms of office.

Research has also found that the deleterious effects of term limits are strongest where the limits are harshest—and weaker where legislators are permitted to serve longer in office. For this reason, it is likely that extending the number of terms that may be served by members of City Council from two to three will help reduce the disadvantages at which Council finds itself relative to the executive branch. It will increase the amount of time that Council members have to build relationships with one another and their constituents. It will allow them to acquire the experience needed to become experts on specific aspects of local policy.

If the relevance of all this information hasn't become very clear, allow me to make it so: the challenges faced by the City Council are bigger than those faced by legislators in almost every state in the nation. A law that mandates that this body rid itself of accumulated expertise at regular eight-year intervals inevitably makes this challenge even greater. I am sure that many of you will agree that the power of the executive branch has grown as a result—and in many cases has gone unchecked. Extending the limit placed on the number of terms that council members may serve from two to three will help restore the balance of power between the Mayor and City Council to its rightful place. Thank you.

WORKS CONSULTED and RESEARCH OF INTEREST

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New York City and the 20 Most Populous States: Term Limits, Population, and Government Expenditures

Jurisdiction	Population, 2005 (1)	Term Limit for		# of Legislators (4)	Population per Legislator	Expenditures, 2004 (\$millions) (5)	Annual expenditures per legislator (\$millions)
		Executive Branch (2)	Legislative Branch (3)				
California	36,154,147	X	X	120	301,285	203,815	1,698
Texas	22,928,508			181	126,677	77,338	427
New York	19,315,721			212	91,112	132,883	627
Florida	17,768,191	X	X	160	111,051	59,974	375
Illinois	12,765,427			177	72,121	53,429	302
Pennsylvania	12,405,348	X		253	49,033	57,354	227
Ohio	11,470,685	X	X	132	86,899	58,874	446
Michigan	10,100,833	X	X	148	68,249	52,685	356
Georgia	9,132,553	X		236	38,697	34,197	145
New Jersey	8,703,150	X		120	72,526	46,456	387
North Carolina	8,672,459	X		170	51,014	37,051	218
New York City	8,143,000	X	X	51	159,667	74,821	1,467
Virginia	7,564,327	X		140	54,031	30,370	217
Massachusetts	6,433,367			200	32,167	38,406	192
Washington	6,291,899			147	42,802	32,510	221
Indiana	6,266,019	X		150	41,773	25,373	169
Tennessee	5,955,745	X		132	45,119	22,165	168
Arizona	5,953,007	X	X	90	66,145	21,749	242
Missouri	5,797,703	X	X	197	29,430	22,039	112
Maryland	5,589,599	X		188	29,732	25,344	135
Wisconsin	5,527,644			132	41,876	28,577	216

Notes:

- (1) source: U.S. Census Bureau estimates.A5
- (2) source: Council on State Governments, 2007.
- (3) Source: National Conference of State Legislatures.
- (4) Source: National Conference of State Legislatures. (Figure is total number of legislators in state Senate and House, 2008.)
- (5) source: Statistical Abstract of the United States, 2008.

Susan Stetzer
141 E 3rd Street
New York, New York 10009

My name is Susan Stetzer and I live on the Lower East Side. Some of you know that I work for a community board, but I am testifying as a private citizen. I believe that term limits should be modified by adding a third term, and this should be implemented by City Council legislation. Very many people I know feel the same way, but we are not the people making a lot of noise. We believe that term limits is necessary—but we need to get it right. Three equally staggered terms for the council would give us an energetic, open council—and would give council members the time to learn, be effective, and see through projects before looking for another job.

When term limits first came up for a vote, I voted against term limits. I based this on the belief that an incumbent could be voted out of office. However, since then I have become very aware that there is not a level playing field. We all know that incumbents have great advantage. You have to be very rich to beat an incumbent—and then in a low turnout election. Anyone who has ever been involved in a political campaign against an incumbent in New York knows that the incumbents have tremendous advantage.

When I voted against term limits—I struggled with the decision because I did not have the experience and information to make an informed vote. Most New Yorkers did not vote for term limits; most New Yorkers elected not to vote. Based on my personal experience with this decision, I suspect this is because they did not know how to come to an informed decision. The referendum did not give a choice of two or three terms. It did not give a choice of staggering terms. It was not well thought out and did not present options in a fair manner. Options and pros and cons were not well explained. It is all in how and what you ask—and one very rich person controlled it all.

I have changed my mind since the two referendums—I have been proven wrong. Instead of having a city council that could not function because of lack of experience—we have a better, much more open and energetic council and open elections.

Regarding other offices, I believe it would cause complete confusion to have different limits for different offices. Elected officials would often not serve full terms so that they could run for other offices. We should have 3-term limits for all offices, to be implemented by legislation.

It has been suggested that there be an instant charter commission. But we remember that we criticized this when the last mayor forced this rushed process on us. Charter commissions should not be rushed. And, we will have the same very low turn out. There is no campaign financing for people to promote different views.

The idea of changing terms limits for the economy or for any one person is offensive to those who care about good government and process. The process is important and we should not be reinventing it constantly to suit the circumstances or any one individual.

I urge the council members to remember that they have many constituents who think that term limits should kept, but extended to three terms for one reason only—so that our city can be served most effectively and fairly. Many of us do not believe the referendum process has proven to be the democratic solution. Modifying term limits to three terms and equally staggering the limits is housekeeping legislation that should be enacted by the City Council so that we are better served.

DR. LENORA B. FULANI

225 Broadway, Ste. 2010, New York, NY 10007 ph: 212-962-1699

Statement by Lenora Fulani On proposed changes to the New York City Term Limits Law Submitted on October 17, 2008

I am testifying today against the proposed extension of term limits. I strongly oppose efforts by the Mayor and the City Council to abridge the will of the voters. I do not believe that trading off the democratic rights of citizens of New York puts us in a stronger position to deal with the severity of the financial crisis. If there's anything that the chaos on Wall Street teaches us, it's that we need more accountability, more opportunity for the people to impact on economic policy. That means we need more democracy, not less.

Beginning in 2001, the Independence Party of New York City – which I helped to found – created a partnership with Mike Bloomberg around our shared support for political reform. Just as Mayor Bloomberg was gearing up for his first campaign, the Independence Party was involved in a successful effort to block a term limits reversal. At that time, Mike Bloomberg was pro-term limits. And after we introduced him to the idea of a shift to nonpartisan elections, he became an avid supporter.

Once elected – with his margin of victory coming on the Independence Party line – he set up a Charter Revision Commission process which resulted in Question #3 – a proposed shift to nonpartisan elections – being placed on the ballot. It lost after a bitter fight in which the City Council – virtually to a person – and the clubhouse machines ran a vitriolic campaign to defeat it.

This was just the beginning of an extended campaign by the City Council and other partisans to pry apart the partnership between Mike Bloomberg and the Independence Party and myself. Ours was not a personal partnership, but a political partnership based on a shared vision of bringing clubhouse politics to an end, ushering in a new day of nonpartisan governance and responding to the desire held by so many people in this city for a new kind of leadership.

In Bloomberg's second run he continued to champion political reform, the importance of term limits and nonpartisan administration of the election process, and with the help of the Independence Party and with my support, he polled 47% of the black vote and 60% of the independent vote in 2005.

But, what a difference a taste of power makes. Not only does Bloomberg now choose to deny who got him elected, how he got elected, his relationship to the Independence Party and the black and independent voter alliance that propelled him to victory. He's now reversing course on the principles that formed the basis for that partnership. It's one thing to change your mind about an issue. It's another thing to betray the principles that inspired people to support you. As someone who played a key role in getting Bloomberg elected in the first place, I feel obliged to speak out.

The black community turned to Mike Bloomberg because he represented a departure from traditional clubhouse politics. And today, there continues to be a deeply held desire within the city's black and Latino communities in support of term limits. The recent Quinnipiac poll shows black New Yorkers are the staunchest supporters of term limits with 68% opposing their extension.

The poll also shows that black and Hispanic voters have the highest sensitivity to protecting the democratic process. Fifty-eight and 53% respectively say that changing the rules in the middle of the game is unfair.

I will go to the people of this city, and to the black and Latino communities in particular, to make sure that democracy and a nonpartisan approach to governance is sustained.

If the Mayor and the City Council won't stand up for those principles, the people of this city will have to do it ourselves. And we shall.

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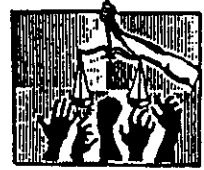


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TESTIMONY **before the** **NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL** **on** **TERM LIMITS LEGISLATION**

October 17, 2008

Center for Law and Social Justice

Esmeralda Simmons, Esq.
Executive Director

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Good Morning, Members of the City Council. My name is Esmeralda Simmons and I serve as Executive Director of the Center for Law and Social Justice of Medgar Evers College, City University of New York. The Center is a community-based legal advocacy and research institution that focuses on racial justice, civil and human rights issues facing the residents of New York City. We have litigated numerous voting rights cases toward protecting the rights of New York City voters. I also served as Vice-Chair of the 1990's NYC Districting Commission,

Once again, the issue of term limits has arisen in New York City. This time, however, the voters, the major player in this issue, are being sidestepped by the mayor and the City Council. In both 1993 and 1996, the voters resoundingly told elected officials that they wanted term limits. In 1993, an amendment was added to the city charter as a direct result of a citizens' referendum initiative, and again in 1996, a referendum was put on the ballot as a result of the City Council's initiative to change the City Charter, New York City's "constitution."

Now, as Mayor Bloomberg approaches his term limit -- the end of his second term, he desires a third term. Since the City Charter doesn't allow for him to have a third term, he wants the City Council to adopt a bill to overturn the existing law and extend his possible term and the terms of other term-limited city elected officials from two terms to three. He wants this even though term limits has been voted on by the people.

Previously, the Mayor thought that such a move was "disgusting." The Mayor now states "You're not taking away term limits, you're simply going from two terms to three terms. He also states that he "...is still a supporter of term limits."

Whatever happened to democracy? The question before us, as voters, is not whether or not you agree or disagree with term limits; that is debatable. The question is whether or not the Mayor's proposal to simply circumvent the will of the voters and use the legislative branch of government (City Council) to override two direct referenda is undemocratic in principle. Last checked, we lived in a democracy where the voters' will was respected. In this democracy, if the people change the City Charter to impose term limits, the term-limited

elected officials should respect the people's will. Disregarding the voters' clear choice in this manner sets a very bad precedent. If the Mayor wanted to change term limits, he had every opportunity to schedule another voter referendum for the November election. But he did not! Why not? Because he believes that another voter referendum would not go his way. So he waits until the deadline to get the referendum on the November ballot has passed, to suddenly declare that he wants this change and he wants the City Council to make it so because they can. Don't play us, Mayor Bloomberg!

At this point, members of the City Council stand to directly benefit from this charter change. Having them act, because they can, to circumvent the will of the people smacks of self-serving. It's blatantly self-serving and obviously disrespectful to New York's electorate.

Historically, term limits gained traction when a 1993 referendum was orchestrated in part by billionaire, Ron Lauder. Mr. Lauder, a staunch believer in term limits, put forth millions of his own dollars to support this effort. Using his money to promote this issue, he was able to create a groundswell, which resulted eventually in a referendum in 1993 and an amendment to the City Charter. A second referendum, placed on the ballot by the City Council in 1996, passed again. Since then there has been a "corrective" amendment to the City Charter by City Council legislation which survived a legal action.

This is not the first time extending term limits has been broached by a New York City mayor's citing a crisis. After 9/11, former Mayor Rudolph Giuliani also attempted this action, but was met with opposition. Undoubtedly, New York City is currently in the center of a historic national and global economic crisis. New Yorkers must not lose sight of what is at risk here -- that is, basic respect by elected officials for the voice of the electorate. The value of your vote. Voting is power and we must not allow that right to be diminished. This is not a time to sleep through the turning of a tide of this magnitude without voicing your feelings and concerns around this issue. When crises arise, some ordinary practices may be circumvented. The basic tenets of democracy, however, must not be among them.

While many oppose term limits, in principle, the question again is not whether you support or oppose, but, if you believe in democratic

government and respect the vote of the electorate. If so, the voters of New York have made clear made law on term limits not once, but twice. If elected officials want to change term limits, these officials should be principled, rather than politically expedient. They should schedule another referendum. While this will be costly and time-constrained at this point, the responsibility for that cost and time crunch now lies with upon the mayor and the City Council, who could have scheduled a vote in a timely and more cost-saving fashion.

The proposal by Mayor Bloomberg for the City Council to amend term limits goes against that principle. Let the people have their say. Then, respect our voice.

I, Frederick Wilson am in favor of extending "Term Limits" for elected Officials for Two main reasons.

- **Mayor Michael Bloomberg** needs more time to complete his promise to our children as it relates to providing them with a proper education that will enable them to compete in the global market. He has done a wonderful job since he gain control over our children education system, under his leadership students graduation rates have increase and students drop-out rates have decrease. Look at test scores for our children; they have increased because of his education strategy. However, he needs to take another look at the way local school administration (Principals) exercise their control over the hiring of local school support consultants. This is important because we do not want to go back to the old ways the past administrations conducted the business of educating our children. Therefore, he needs another four-year to complete his mission
- **Councilman Robert Jackson** always believed that good education is very important and a great investment in our children future. This was evident when he championed our Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit. "He got the money for our children". He has been advocate for the restructure of my grandchildren school system and he is a firm believed in education first for our children and parents involvement in their education. We need him to continue his fight for our children and extend his term by allowing him to be elected for another four-years.

This is why I am in favor of extending "Term Limits for my Two Heroes of the People. I would like to testify at the hearing on Oct 17, 2008 City Council Hearing.

Thank You

Frederick Wilson

TESTIMONY OF
HERBERT PARDES M.D.
PRESIDENT & CEO
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL

EXTENSION OF TERM LIMITS FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS
October 17, 2008

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, my name is Dr. Herbert Pardes, and I am President and CEO of NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital.

I appear before you today to express my support for the proposed extension of term limits for elected city officials to three terms from the current limitation of two terms.

I take this position as the leader of the largest hospital in New York City, and one of the largest in the nation. NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital is also one of the largest employers in New York, serving a vital role in providing health care to thousands of New Yorkers while contributing to the well-being of the City's economy.

Today we are facing extraordinary financial problems as the stock market erodes, credit disappears, and leading financial institutions are weakened. The combined impact of this catastrophe is enormous for New York. In the health care sector alone, which is heavily dependent on government revenues from Medicaid and Medicare, the downward economic spiral could force layoffs of critical personnel, delays in needed capital programs, and a general decline in the quantity and quality of health care. Other industries which are vital to New York's economy face challenges of their own. Taken together, the City is at enormous risk of losing jobs, income, and companies, both large and small. Hospitals, which are already squeezed financially, some of them to near-bankruptcy, could suffer major constrictions in their ability to deliver health care to everyone who needs it.

These are truly extraordinary times. Extraordinary times demand extraordinary measures. This is not a time to force some of our most experienced and knowledgeable elected officials to leave office due to the current limit of two terms. At times like these, we need those officials who have spent years in office, who have deep experience in government, who have been in office long enough to develop a deep understanding of the City and its needs, and who can apply their knowledge and wisdom to leading the City through this dangerous time. This is not the time to lose some of our most able leaders simply because of an artificial restriction on the number of terms they can serve.

Ultimately, it will be up to the voters to determine who will guide our City during this troubled period. Voters should have the option of retaining in office those leaders they believe will have the steadiest hand and the clearest vision. We need strong, experienced leadership, and all of our efforts should be directed at causing that to happen.

It is with this need in mind that I strongly support the changing of the term limits law to allow elected officials a third term in office.

Thank you.

Testimony on Proposed Extension of Term Limits - Intro 845A

October 17, 2009

JO ANNE SIMON

N.Y.S. Committeewoman, 52nd A.D.

Candidate for City Council in 2009, 33rd District

I thank you for the opportunity to address this critical issue today. In September, I issued a statement regarding this matter and attach a copy herewith.

Since that time, many justifications for the proposed action have been asserted. The financial crisis has loomed for many months and as a purely practical matter it is difficult to see how Mayor Bloomberg (or anyone else) can affect the immediate concerns attendant the current crisis by running for re-election in 2009. Nor does the promise of a referendum in 2010 give one solace.

There is much that could be said about the merits of term limits, pro and con. Unfortunately, such a conversation doesn't address the issue at hand. Under the guise of a purported lack of time within which to hold a referendum and the Mayor's personal expertise in the financial markets acting as a shield, protecting New York City from fiscal harms, a one-time third term is proposed to be enacted legislatively.

If the current term limits law is too restrictive, there is time to change it and do it the right way. There is nothing magical about term limits of two four-year terms for all NYC elective offices. The rush to push Intro 845A through the Council for a vote next week isn't sitting well with the people 75% of whom object to the way this bill has come before the council.

One of the main reasons the voters approved term limits was a sense that it would keep government on its toes, it would restore confidence in our elected officials, and as a fail-safe, elected officials who were not doing their jobs, would be out in 8 years anyway. Since that time, everyone has played by these rules - the rules that had been twice approved by the voters.

The current effort to change these rules so late in the game only further erodes confidence in government. Personally, I found the original marketing of term limits did not adequately educate the public, but neither does this one. Moreover, Mr. Lauder's change of position, further calls into question the democratic principles underlying his earlier term limits initiative.

Proponents argue that few people voted in the 1993 referendum, so few will vote this time. But

this referendum is engaging the average person more than the 1993 referendum. The low voting rates in the 1990s may have far less to do with voter apathy and much more to do with where the referendum appeared on the ballot and how few voters could navigate the fine print and tortured language of the referendum itself. In addition since the choice was up or down, without alternative choices, many must have just decided not to vote on it.

As a candidate, I am concerned about the Campaign Finance ramifications of this last minute departure from the playbook. The playing field is never truly level, but to the extent that Campaign Finance rules equalized things a bit, allowing incumbents who have raised and spent far more than would be permitted in a City Council race, gives them a sort of super-incumbency election protection - again, achieving a goal opposite to that intended by the system. I will be submitting further comments to the CFB soon.

Last week, I sent out an e-blast sharing my view of the situation and asking people to share their thoughts with me. Well, there's been a whole lot of sharing going on!

Comments varied, but few were supportive of the proposed mechanism for changing term limits.

One person wrote, "I think maybe Putin got it right!"

Another, "I think Bloomberg has been a good mayor, but I don't think that the rules should be changed to benefit the incumbent. If one wanted to get rid of term limits--and I'm not sure where I stand on it--their removal should affect the NEXT officials, not the ones who would benefit now. Fair's fair."

From another, "I love Bloomberg. What he's trying to do is just plain wrong and he knows better. Power corrupts."

Some were partisan "The last thing NYC needs is four more years of GWB's largest campaign contributor in the mayor's office." and "I would like to know that even if my country's politics are in shambles my vote in NYC will count."

Another, "While I oppose term limits, I think the mayor is being very disingenuous. . . and the deal with Lauder raised questions of ethics - if not legality. . . "

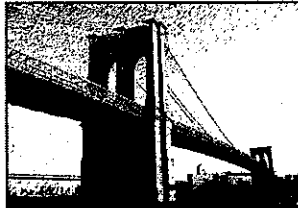
“I know it is absolutely ridiculous and unfair for you to work on a campaign when there is a question mark as to whether or not the law is going to change. If the law does change, it should be for future elections, not this one.”

Finally from an old friend, “I read the NY Times article on the 10th - I guess its time to take up philosophy, yoga, or maybe rum.”

The rum has some appeal. However, I will opt to make my voice and those of my constituents, heard. Thank you.

**Jo Anne
Simon**
FOR CITY COUNCIL

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News from
Jo Anne Simon

P.O. Box 21044, Brooklyn, NY 11202-1044

For Immediate Release
September 7, 2008

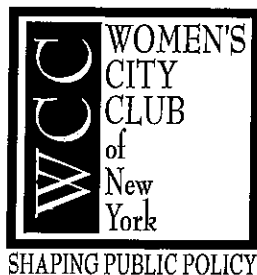
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917 825-0485

All of us who seek New York City office in 2009 are vulnerable to a charge of being self-serving; so, too are those who would seek to overturn term limits. Nevertheless, the issue of term limits is a serious one with significant consequences to the people of New York City.

New York City's voters have twice endorsed term limits of two four-year terms for all City officials. The will of the people should prevail.

That being said, I did not vote for term limits. Among my concerns as that time – long before I ever thought of seeking public office – was the likelihood that while it sounded like a great idea, the law of unintended consequences would rear its ugly head. All too soon, those recently elected would have to set their eyes on the next office to be sought, leading to misplaced focus and an over-reliance on un-elected staff. I believed that the two-term limit was too short for the legislative branch, but about right for the executive. I was concerned that too much turn over would occur at the same time, denying the citizens the value of experienced legislators with institutional memory. I was also concerned that the forced departure of council members would bring new faces, but not necessarily those who better qualified for the positions.

Now we have some experience with term limits. The issues I was initially concerned with are shared by many. I call on the Mayor and the City Council to lead a public debate about the goals and realities of term limits as currently enacted, and investigate whether amending term limits might better achieve the stated goals. Until such time, I believe we must honor the expressed will of the citizens.



Testimony Before the New York City Council Hearing
Committee on Government Operations

Hon. Simcha Felder, Chair
October 17, 2008

Presented by Barbara Zucker,
Vice President for Public Policy

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Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this very important issue. My name is Barbara Zucker and I am Vice President for Public Policy of the Women's City Club of New York. We are a 93 year old nonprofit, nonpartisan multi-issue organization that promotes public policies to improve the lives of all New Yorkers.

The focus of our testimony is to re-affirm our long-standing opposition to term limits. We have taken this position for the following reasons:

- Term limits deprive citizens of experienced elected officials and force good people out of office. Limiting elected officials to a stated number of consecutive terms disenfranchises voters who are deprived of the opportunity to re-elect incumbents.
- Elected officials spend their first terms learning the complexity of their positions. Since their second terms are their last terms, they inevitably focus on their next positions. At best, this is inefficient.
- Under term limits, most of the institutional memory resides with appointed staff. This is a distortion of the electoral process and may shift power from the legislature to the executive branch.
- Term limits focus government officials on achieving short-term results at the expense of deliberative long-term planning.

We believe that legislation can overturn the results of a referendum. We do not question the right of the City Council to amend term limits through legislation.

Nevertheless, as a good government organization, we cannot support any of the choices put before us at this time. Intro 845-A is self-serving and violates principles of good government. A Charter Revision Commission and referendum are costly in these times of budget constraints, the time factor could be problematic, and the turnout in special elections traditionally is very low. We oppose Resolution 1640 as it further restricts home rule.

While we look forward to the eventual overturn of term limits, we are disappointed in the choices available at the present time. The process should have allowed greater time, deliberation and options.

Thank you.

Testimony Before the Governmental Operations Committee
of the New York City Council on Term Limits -October 17, 2008
Barbara Hohlt

I have been a volunteer working to prevent gun violence since 1993. I helped found and have worked with a state group, New Yorkers Against Gun Violence. Now I also help manage an association of 25 state gun violence prevention organizations across the country called States United to Prevent Gun Violence of which New Yorkers Against Gun Violence is a member. The purpose of States United is to allow our members to share best practices, programs and legislative ideas in order to work effectively to prevent gun deaths and injuries. In both organizations I have worked with the Bloomberg administration on the issue of reducing gun violence.

I am here today to testify about what Mayor Michael Bloomberg has meant to those of us who have been trying to reduce the devastation from gun violence in this city and across the country. First and foremost, Mayor Bloomberg has taken a courageous stand against the problem of illegal guns and has proposed sensible solutions to keep guns out of the hands of criminals, young people and others who should not have them. Unlike many other national politicians who are afraid of this issue, he has stood up for sensible gun policies which will protect our community and other cities from the scourge of illegal guns while not interfering with the use of guns purchased legally. He understands the difference between legal and illegal guns and talks about the problem of illegal guns forcefully.

Mayor Bloomberg has not only talked the talk but he also has proposed sound policies on the state and local level as well as leading the fight on the national level against illegal guns. On the local level he has backed innovative local laws, tough enforcement and new strong state laws. And this work has shown results. The murder rate in New York City dropped by 25% between 2001 and 2007. In 2007, there were 496 murders in the City. That is the lowest level since accurate records started to be kept in early 1960's. In terms of innovative local laws, with the support of this Council, Mayor Bloomberg has:

- Helped institute a first-of-its-kind Gun Offender Registration Act (GORA). GORA requires defendants convicted of specified gun crimes to register their addresses with the police; verify them in person every 6 months; and promptly notify the police if they change addresses. GORA requires reporting by gun offenders for four years from release (or from sentencing if no jail/prison time is served) to allow NYPD to track gun felons.
- Worked with the Council to pass laws requiring New York City gun dealers to report their inventory to the police every six months and to ban gun coloration kits that can make a real gun look like a toy.

The Bloomberg administration has also pushed for effective enforcement of existing laws by:

- Creating a dedicated NYPD Firearms Suppression Division that brings together enforcement units previously scattered throughout the Department.
- Improving the enforcement of state gun laws through the creation of specialized "Gun Courts" that assign the best judges to focus exclusively on gun prosecutions.
- Building an NYPD "Weapons Track" system to help connect illegal guns to gun criminals.

The Mayor and his staff along with other allies and advocates like New Yorkers Against Gun

Violence have pushed for tougher laws in New York State as well. Mayor Bloomberg fought successfully for:

- The passage of the toughest illegal gun possession law in the country – 3 ½ years minimum for carrying a loaded illegal handgun.
- In the wake of the Virginia Tech tragedy, for the passage of a law to ensure that all New York State mental health records that ought to be accessible through the gun background check system are in the database.

Mayor Bloomberg has also been a national leader on this issue. He understands that each state cannot solve this problem alone as illegal guns easily flow across state borders. Eighty-five percent of crime guns recovered in New York City were originally sold in another state and then moved into the illegal market and into New York City. The Mayor has worked on this problem in two new and creative ways.

First, Mayor Bloomberg has worked to hold gun dealers that supply guns to New York City criminals accountable. Second, he has built a remarkable national coalition of mayors to work to fix gaps in federal gun laws.

To hold gun dealers accountable, the City has successfully sued 27 dealers in five states who were among the top sources of NYC crime guns. Almost all the dealers have settled and accepted court monitoring of their business practices for three years and assistance to improve their sales practices. So far there has been a 75% drop in crime gun traces from the dealers who have settled.

In terms of building a nationwide, bipartisan coalition, in April of 2006, Mayor Bloomberg along with Mayor Menino of Boston started the Mayors Against Illegal Guns Coalition. The coalition has grown from 15 mayors to over 320 mayors today – representing over 55 million Americans. With Mayor Bloomberg's leadership, the coalition:

- Has fought successfully to get increased access to trace data about the sources of guns recovered at crime scenes, to get rid of some Tiahrt Amendment restrictions on access to that data and to get the ATF to release data they had not released since 2002.
- Announced this Spring a landmark agreement with Wal-Mart, the world's largest private employer and the nation's biggest gun-seller, to create a 10-point code of conduct to help ensure that guns do not fall into the wrong hands. The code of conduct includes such good measures as background checks and training of employees, better inventory control, securing firearms properly and no sales without the final results from a background check.
- Is fighting in Washington now for a plan to fix gaps in gun background checks, including the so-called "gun show loophole" and to make sure that information about people suspected of being terrorists is included on the NICS database for background checks as well.

In summary, I feel that it is important that Mayor Bloomberg have additional time to continue on this work on reducing gun violence. The Mayor's work has been some of the most encouraging and innovative in trying to reduce death and injury from illegal guns that I and other advocates have seen. The Mayor has taken this issue on as a top priority and has shown great political courage – and in doing so I think he's made New York City much safer and has helped cities across this country.

Olga Batyreva, Math teacher, Murry Bergtraum High School
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Testimony

Mr. Bloomberg's main argument in support for renewing his control over NYC public schools and for his third term as a mayor is the fact of improving public schools as evidenced by gains in test scores and graduation rates. This is a myth. Test scores and graduation rates really improved, but not the quality of education. For 6 years of mayoral control it became even worse than it was before.

Mr. M. Bloomberg is really an "Education Mayor" because he and his appointee the Schools Chancellor Mr. J. Klein (a lawyer, not an educator) spoiled something that seemed impossible to spoil - Public Education. All reported "gains" of state scores (which failed to show up on National tests and SAT) were achieved due to lowering standards and tolerance for cheating. "Historic jumps" in test scores occurred when they were especially needed. The first took place in 2005, before the mayoral reelection. The last occurs this year when renewal of mayoral control and his third term is questioned.

In 2004 the passing score for Math A Regents decreased by 18 points and in 2006 required only 27% of correct answers (23 points) instead of former 55%. New York Post (01.30.06) wrote: "When does 23 equal to 55? When it comes to grading Math A Regents exam". No wonder that test scores and graduation rates improved. But the quality of graduates essentially worsened. When 55 was equal to 55, students took Regents 5-6 times in school until they were ready for colleges. Now they are not. College professors call the situation in Math a "complete disaster". Dropout in colleges is about 50%, mostly because of Math. Only 20% students of New York Community colleges graduate on time. This year the DOE celebrates the current "triumph", but 83% of new admitted students in CUNY need remedial courses to repeat high school curriculum. They are forced to pay money while their principals receive bonuses for good test results. They are deprived of their right for free quality education.

After principal's bonuses and the distribution of federal funds became dependent on test scores, Special Commissioner R. Condon stated that the number of cheating cases under his investigation increased. Cheating became widespread through over the whole school system beginning with students and ending the top DOE and SED officials.

My documents represent the direct proof of incredibility of reported state tests results. The facts evidenced that the top city and state officials (Ms. Mei and Mr. Katz who are still in their offices) whose job duty was "maintaining integrity of State assessment" really tolerated and encouraged fraud. They saw "no wrongdoings" in using erasable pencil #2 for scoring the Math A Regents Exam in January 2004 in Murry Bergtraum High School. They made knowingly false statements in order to hide and justify the violations of the State Directions and thus encouraged cheating. Therefore, it is evident that the results presented by the corresponding agencies (the DOE and SED) were incredible.

I notified Mayor M. Bloomberg and Chancellor J. Klein, but no actions against violators were taken (except actions against me). On 12.10.06 I wrote a letter to Mr. Klein and proposed that Regents Exams be scored by teachers of the other schools. In several days I was sent to a so called "rubber room" and charged of incompetence and inefficiency.

But the worse thing is that the DOE did nothing for true improving instruction. For 6 years of mayoral control all the changes were only changes in bureaucracy, not in instruction. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) defined Math Curriculum as "mile wide, inch deep". But the recommendations of the NCTM were completely ignored. Only in 2007 the new textbook for 9-th grade "Integrated Algebra" was at last issued. But it also had more than 700 pages and 16 topics.

We know several cheating scandals in particular schools involving individual administrators. There are many indirect proofs of incredibility of test results such as discrepancy between the state test scores and the results of the national tests and SAT. Many well-known educators (such as D. Koretz, D. Ravitch, S. Stern, R. Weingarten, A. Wolf and others) in their publications and interviews questioned credibility of test scores. My documents represent the direct proofs of incredibility of reported results.

The absurd results of NYC school letter grading (some high-achieving schools received F while several dangerous schools - A) also most likely can be explained by inflating the test scores. If Mr. Klein personally believes that violent schools could essentially increase students' test scores for one year, it will mean that there is no connection between students' discipline and academic achievement. If he himself does not believe in this, it will mean that all his recent organizational and financial decisions (such as closing the schools) are based on dubious test scores and should be immediately stopped.

Mr. Bloomberg confessed that his goal was to save \$10 million by replacing experienced teachers with more "cheap" beginners. But how does it influence on test results? Is he sure that the results would improve? Hardly the DOE would continue the same policy if there were no chances for inflating test scores and all students' works were removed from schools immediately after the Exams.

The mayor Bloomberg said that he would like to manage the public school system as if it was a private company and to apply financial incentives. But he does not invest in it his own money. Public education is not a private business. There is no competition in the school system and it is out of the control of customers. Financial incentives in such systems contribute to reporting false results and inefficiency. Mr. Bloomberg, a successful businessman, created the system very similar to the economy of the Soviet Union that reported the "great achievements" when really people suffered from lack of basic food and goods. The mayor himself called the school system "failing and inefficient". How can this system charge of "inefficiency" any individual teacher?

The DOE created the most inefficient school system in the world. In the USA the expenses for public Education for one student are the highest in the world (about \$11,000 per year and in New York City even \$15,000), but the quality is one of the worst. The USA was 25-th (of 30 countries) in international Math tests for 10-th graders, but the first in the world in percentage of people in prison (1 of 100 American adults is in prison) and newspapers blame educational system.

Our country cannot survive, win the war with terror, and keep its leadership in technology until we improve the quality of our education really and truly (not according to inflated test scores and graduation rates reported by the states). Now we cannot hope to receive many highly qualified specialists from abroad because the other countries also create favorable conditions for scientists and engineers. We should be independent not only in energy sources, but also in highly qualified specialists.

The quality of public education cannot be improved unless integrity of State exams is maintained and test results are 100% credible. We cannot achieve this goal until tests are scored in the same schools where the students study and the chances for inflation test scores exist. First of all, the conditions totally excluding all chance for falsifications of results should be created. For example, the teachers of the other schools (independent on the principals) could be proctors and raters of standardized tests. The test results should not depend on personal characteristics of individuals, on whether they are honest or not. The states should create conditions completely excluding all chances for falsification. Until this is done, all reports about improving test scores are incredible and all money invested in Education is wasted. But hardly will we be able to hear any critics from Mass Media when the mayoral billions begin to work for his reelection. I anticipate that the "recovering" of our financial system under M. Bloomberg will be the same as his "improvement" of Education: all reports will be perfect while the real situation - terrible.

10. 17. 08

Olga Batyreva.

ORIGINAL

TESTIMONY OF PATRICE SENIOR ON HEARING ON TERM LIMITS

My name is Patrice Senior. I am a Black, female, primary resident, sovereign citizen, tax payer of Kings County, Brooklyn, NY.

I am against Mayor Michael Bloomberg and his cronies from City Council railroading the democratic process to change the will of the people of the City of New York as voted on, not once but twice.

“They Have No Shame”, as written by Errol Louis of the New York Daily News, Sunday, October 05, 2008. Instead of Mayor Bloomberg using his proposed 82 million dollars to run for a third term, he could wisely spend that monies on building and renovating the multiple vacant and deplorable apartment buildings so that majority of the homeless resident of New York City could find a place to call home instead of the sidewalk and the subways of the City of New York. This is living less than a human being. Have you no shame Mayor Michael Bloomberg? Have you no shame Speaker Quinn? Have you no shame Michael Cardoza? Have you no shame Mayor Edward Koch? Have you no shame City Council members who have voted to destroy the democratic process?

At Mayor Bloomberg’s 2005 acceptance speech, as a second term as Mayor of the City of New York, he promised that would bring reform and changes to the corrupt New York State Uniformed System. Instead that promise fell through the door and the courts have remained a cesspool of corruption, where the landlords and their powerful and well connected lawyers have terrorized and have unlawfully evict many tenants from their homes leading to a mushroom of homeless individuals and families through New York City. Many of these employees and judges who took an Oath to uphold the laws and the Constitution of the State of New York believe that they are above the Law. This also involves employees of the Eastern Federal District Court, Brooklyn, NY.

In my opinion, Mayor Michael Bloomberg CEO of the City of New York in collaboration with City Council Speaker Quinn and the other millioners would surely like to continue in his abuse of power and his Plantation Politics for another four more years.

Under the Bloomberg’s/ Spitzer Administration, his cronies on Wall Street flourished until they ran the City to the ground with the poor whites, Black and Brown people who must now pay for their fraudulent sheniggans, yet no one has been held accountable or subjected to any prosecution by any of the City’s District Attorney or Attorney General of the State of New York. Instead, these Wall Street big wigs have enjoyed and have been rewarded with huge bonuses and million dollar payoff.

Shame on you Mayor Michael Bloomberg! Your status as one of the richest man in the United States was upgraded from number 35 to number 10. How did that come about? Why the status and condition of working class whites, Black and Brown people worsened?

Shame, Shame, Shame, on you Speaker Quinn and other Council members especially those who are descendant of Slaves who voted for Changing of Term Limits to favoring of Plantation Politics.

ORIGINAL

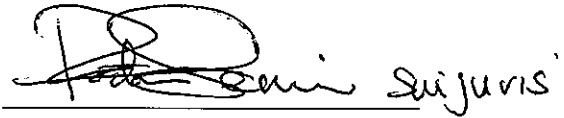
TESTIMONY OF PATRICE SENIOR CONTINUED.PAGE 2/2

Dated: October 17, 2008

Encl: A copy of New York Daily News Article dated, Sunday October 05, 2008, "Have They No Shame", by Errol Louis

TO: Speaker Christine Quinn
City Council
New York, NY 10007

FR: PATRICE SENIOR,

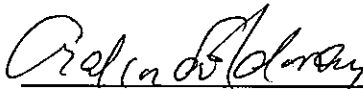


Patrice Senior, sui juris, Sovereign Citizen
Mailing Address: PO Box 20252
Brooklyn, NY 11202

State of New York:

Subscribe and sworn to before me this

17 day of October 2008



NOTARY PUBLIC

GALINA FELDMAN
Notary Public, State of New York
Registration #01FE6051186
Qualified In Kings County
Commission Expires Nov. 20, 2010

SEAL

Have they no shame?

Hours after Lt. Michael Pigott committed suicide on his final birthday, Mayor Bloomberg stood at a City Hall podium to unveil a breathtaking act of fraud in the public, his plans to overturn two referenda limiting the arms of local elected officials.

Pigott, leader of the NYPD's Elite Emergency Service Unit, was the on-scene commander who eight days earlier gave a magically mistaken order, in violation of NYPD rules, to administer Taser shocks to a naked, agitated and mentally ill man named Iman Morales who was standing in a building ledge. Morales, paralyzed by the shocks, fell to his death.

Guilt, sorrow and perhaps a soldierly sense of honor consumed Pigott, whose suicide note spoke of not wanting to have his children see him arrested and in handcuffs. "Deeply distraught and extremely remorseful" is how Bloomberg described Pigott.

Not a shred of honor or remorse could be found down town, where Bloomberg announced he would gladly converse with the City Council to give himself, and every other city elected official, the chance to run again.

With his announcement, Bloomberg commenced a power-trab that he had once accurately described as "disgusting." In a press conference later with Gov. Paterson, Bloomberg said he

only wanted to change the law to get a currently-illegal third term — but would absolutely not seek a fourth term in office after that.

To quote Hizzoner: disgusting. The average person would not brazenly break his word, offer an identical promise in the same breath, and expect to be believed. That *chutzpah* is what makes politicians and thieves different from the rest of us.

If Bloomberg and his City Council henchmen succeed at hijacking the City Charter, they will encounter

a public far less pliable than the chorus of lobbyists and businessmen now cheering for an end to term limits. Municipal scandals — from the phantom funding thievery at the Council to the Buildings Department failures that led to deadly falling cranes — will seem less forgivable when people begin to wonder what we might have gotten with fresh energy and leaders who keep their word.

This is not just a New York problem. All across the nation, we keep focusing on the health of financial institutions and ignoring the far more serious problem of the cancerous rot destroying our political institutions.

In Washington, where there are 77 registered lobbyists for every member of Congress, the House and Senate just signed off on the costliest economic rescue plan in American history, negotiated in secret and stuffed with

After weeks of dire warnings from politicians about the need to rescue financial institutions and revive the credit markets, the polls just couldn't resist blowing an extra \$110 billion on items like a subsidy to toy arrow-makers and tax breaks for Puerto Rican rum distillers.

No wonder surveys show approval ratings for Congress and the President nearing all-time lows. Some polls show the per-

centage of Americans who think the country's on the right track falling into single digits, lower than in the wake of Watergate a generation ago.

I realized just how dire the situation had become when, as luck would have it, I was sitting in a nearly empty car dealership in Westchester County, signing for an auto loan while Congress took its first vote on the bailout bill.

The dealer's credit manager

elouis@nydailynews.com

CARTOON COMMENT

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GARY MARKSTEIN



Statement of Representative Nydia M. Velázquez
On the Extension of Term Limits
Before the New York City Council
October 17, 2008

Madame Speaker and distinguished members of the Council--Thank you for this opportunity to speak about this important matter.

As we all know, this city has gone through some major changes in the last few months. But that should not translate into *carte blanche* to alter the fundamental relationship between voters and elected officials. Even in times of crisis--*especially* in times of crisis-- there are some concerns in which the peoples' voice must be heard. The move to extend this city's term limits is one of those concerns.

Yes, the City and the Nation are in an Economic crisis... But the city and the nation are not in an "Electoral Crisis". This nation will, in a short while, Change Leadership no matter who is elected. Some time after that New Yorkers will also decide who leads this city. And That's How It Should Be; the citizens of this city will choose who they want to

lead them. They will choose from a number of known and soon to be known Eligible, Qualified Candidates. That “Eligibility” has been set by The Voters Twice! and expressed as term limits. On two different occasions, New Yorkers have been asked to vote on term limits-- both times with resounding support. I think it is safe to say that the will of the people is clear. And yet we are now being asked to reevaluate it. If there is genuine reason to believe that voters’ minds have changed, then allow that new opinion to be reflected in a public referendum.

If this Council moves to stretch term limits, it will do more than simply extend a few political careers-- it will fundamentally alter New York City’s election system. Our economy is now grappling with the fallout from moral hazards on Wall Street-- let’s not allow those same kinds of conflicts of interest to upend our political system.

As a Federal elected official, I will remind you that the Voting Rights Act was created to protect the integrity of the electoral process.

Throwing out term limits and allowing incumbents to continue to seek

and hold office would fly in the face of why term limits were established. This would be a major change, one that the Justice Department is legally obligated to review. In fact, it is required to evaluate *all* “changes in candidacy requirements and qualifications.” This means that any alterations the Council makes to New York election law must be ultimately cleared by the Federal government.

The pre-clearance mandate was designed to protect the rights of minority voters. In addition to these consequences, there are concerns over the impact of term extensions on this Council. If term-limits are to be extended, there would be less turnover and, consequently, even fewer opportunities to reflect our changing demographics. That would be unfortunate, because our city works best when it draws from the diversity of our communities. As a former member of this Council, I know that the intention is not to shut out minority voters.

Now let's look at the reality of the calendar. In addition to the time for the Department of Justice to approve, we know there will be lawsuits with appeals to follow. Who knows when and where this will end!!

Maybe the day before petitions are to be circulated! Is this fair – to the voters, to the candidates?? The only ones who benefit from this are self-financing office holders.

We here in NYC have an admirable history of equity and democratic fairness. We should ensure that this reputation continues by not overturning the expressed will of the citizens of this city.

Thank you for your time.

HELEN M. MARSHALL
PRESIDENT



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CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT OF THE BOROUGH OF QUEENS
120-55 QUEENS BOULEVARD
KEW GARDENS, NEW YORK 11424-1015

BOROUGH PRESIDENT'S TESTIMONY
TO CITY COUNCIL ON TERM LIMITS
October 17, 2008

GOOD MORNING. CHAIRMAN FELDER, MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL: I WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO COME BEFORE YOU THIS MORNING. I ALSO WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALL FOR YOUR HARD WORK IN PROMOTING THE NECESSARY DISCUSSION OF THE DEBATE OVER THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE AT HAND.

AS THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREAT BOROUGH OF QUEENS COUNTY FOR THE PAST SEVEN YEARS, AN INDIVIDUAL WHO SERVED IN THIS COUNCIL FOR TEN YEARS, A MEMBER OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY FOR NINE YEARS – A TOTAL OF TWENTY SEVEN YEARS IN ELECTED OFFICE -- I KNOW FIRST

HAND JUST HOW MUCH EXPERIENCE MATTERS IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS. VOTERS SHOULD BE ABLE TO BENEFIT FROM THE VALUABLE EXPERIENCE THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE'S GAIN DURING THEIR TERM IN OFFICE. AND WHEN ELECTION DAY COMES, VOTERS SHOULD ALWAYS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CHOOSE THE PERSON THEY BELIEVE TO BE THE MOST QUALIFIED CANDIDATE. LET'S BE CLEAR: TERM LIMITS DO NOT SIMPLY LIMIT THE NUMBER OF YEARS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL MAY SERVE; THEY LIMIT THE NUMBER OF CHOICES A VOTER HAS. I HAVE HEARD MANY EXPERTS ON CITY GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY EXPRESS THEIR OPPOSITION TO TERM LIMITS BUT I DO THINK THE IDEA OF TERM LIMITS HAS MADE ITS WAY INTO THE POLITICAL PROCESS. MEMBERS SITTING IN THE CITY COUNCIL TODAY REPRESENT THE FIRST CLASS ELECTED UNDER TERM LIMITS. IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT TWO TERMS DOES NOT ALLOW FOR ADEQUATE TIME. WHAT'S PLACED ON THE AGENDA NOW IS THREE TERMS WHICH I FEEL IS A GREAT IMPROVEMENT OVER

TWO TERMS. AND WITH THE IMPACT OF THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC CRISIS AFFECTING NEW YORK IN A VERY REAL WAY, WE NEED EXPERIENCE. THE PEOPLE OF OUR CITY DESERVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE MOST EXPERIENCED LEADERS FOR THE TOUGH TIMES AHEAD.

THE CHALLENGES WE FACE – THE CRISIS RIGHT HERE ON WALL STREET, DIFFICULT DECISIONS ON BUDGETS AND TAXES, LONG TERM PROJECTS THREATENED BY THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN – REQUIRE INDEPENDENT, EXPERIENCED LEADERSHIP. MAYOR BLOOMBERG, THE CITY COUNCIL, AND THE CITY’S OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS—INCLUDING MY FELLOW PANELISTS—HAVE ACCOMPLISHED MANY GREAT THINGS FOR NEW YORK OVER THE LAST SEVEN YEARS. AND I DO NOT THINK I SPEAK ONLY FOR MYSELF WHEN I SAY WE – MAYOR, COUNCILMEMBER, BOROUGH PRESIDENT OR OTHERWISE—HAVE LEARNED A LOT IN THOSE YEARS: HOW TO BETTER SERVE OUR CONSTITUENTS, HOW TO BETTER MAKE DECISIONS FOR OUR COMMUNITIES, AND HOW

TO LEAD OUR CITY. WHETHER VOTERS PREFER TO KEEP THEIR CURRENT REPRESENTATIVES OR CHOOSE NEW ONES, WE MUST MAKE SURE THEY HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THAT SELECTION. IT IS WITHIN THE POWER OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO GIVE NEW YORKERS A CHOICE NEXT ELECTION DAY. I WOULD URGE THIS BODY TO GRANT THEM THAT RIGHT AND VOTE TO EXTEND TERM LIMITS.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR HAVING ME THIS MORNING. I WILL BE HAPPY TO TAKE ANY OF YOUR QUESTIONS.

NEWS

OF THE
NEW YORK CITY COMPTROLLER



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 17, 2008

Contact: Jeff Simmons, (212) 669-2636,
jsimmon@comptroller.nyc.gov

**THOMPSON TO COUNCIL: DON'T TARNISH OUR
LEGACY BY UNDERMINING WILL OF THE
PEOPLE**

In testimony today before the New York City Council's Government Operations Committee New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr. adamantly insisted that the public deserves to decide the future of term limits, and not sitting elected officials who stand to benefit from their actions.

"At stake is not whether you support or oppose term limits or an extension of a third term," Thompson said. "It is not about whether you support Mayor Mike Bloomberg, Speaker Christine Quinn, Comptroller Bill Thompson, or any one individual.

"It's a matter of whether a few dozen individuals should decide to overturn the will of New Yorkers who approved term limits twice. At this critical moment in our city's history, let us raise our sights beyond the petty politics of City Hall and focus on the communities we represent."

You can view Thompson's full testimony at www.comptroller.nyc.gov.

Since news broke of the Mayor's plan to dodge a public vote on term limits, Thompson has fervently championed the right of New Yorkers to decide whether the current two terms for City elected officials should be retained or extended by another four-year term.

"At a time when our sole focus as a city should be on our economy, protecting working people, and maintaining quality city services for our citizens, the Mayor has us debating an issue that shouldn't even be on the table. Even worse, he has proposed a measure that circumvents the voters and shatters the bonds of trust that are the essence of good government."

The Comptroller – who first took office in 2002 along with Bloomberg in January 2002 - dismissed arguments that Mayor Bloomberg is uniquely qualified to navigate New York City through the current economic turmoil, stressing that the country is poised to usher in a new president amid a war and fiscal crisis.

Some, he said, “view this economic crisis as an opportunity to further their personal agenda rather than as a challenge to overcome. And they do it under the guise of ‘public interest,’ by claiming that only the Mayor can deal with the crisis. This argument shows a stunning lack of faith in New Yorkers. Although it is true that the challenges are great, the strength of our people is greater.”

“When the nation lost Franklin Roosevelt during World War II, the largely unknown Harry Truman took office and helped to bring the conflict to a close,” Thompson said. “Today, our country is at war and dealing with the same financial crisis as New York City. Yet, early next year, another man will take the oath of office through a peaceful transfer of authority and America will be better off for it.”

Additionally, he noted, New Yorkers registered their opinions when twice casting their votes in the 1990s and deciding the fate of term limits. This process, he said, represented democracy at work.

“The foundation of our democracy is trust and citizens must have faith in this trust,” he said, “faith that their elected officials will put the common interest before their self-interests, faith that government will always put people before politics and the powerful, faith that the voting process will always be equal and open to *all* who want to be a part of the process, and faith that when the people speak, their government will listen.”

“We are trusted to be guardians of democracy,” he said. “So just think about the negative repercussions that passing Mayor Bloomberg’s bill would have. It would be telling all those who voted for term limits that the choices they made in the booth are not respected, and that, at any time, our government could use its power and influence to ignore the levers they pulled. They would think that *their* government would rather decide important issues in the shadows of City Hall instead of the voting booth. They would think that *their* government did not hear or respect their voice.

“We must renew our faith in the process,” he said. “Let’s not tarnish our legacy by undermining the will of the people.”

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TESTIMONY BY
NYC COMPTROLLER WILLIAM C. THOMPSON, JR.

BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS REGARDING CHANGE IN TERM LIMITS
FOR NEW YORK CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2008
11:00AM

Chairman Felder and honorable members of the Governmental Operations Committee, good morning.

I speak before you today not only as New York City Comptroller, but as a lifelong New Yorker who is deeply troubled by the effort to extend term limits legislatively.

At a time when our sole focus as a city should be on our economy, protecting working people and maintaining quality city services for our citizens, the Mayor has us debating an issue that shouldn't even be on the table.

Even worse, he has proposed a measure that *circumvents* the voters and shatters the bonds of trust that are the essence of good government. That is why I strongly urge you to oppose the Mayor's proposal and put this issue back before the voters.

After all, it was *the people* who voted to enact term limits in 1993. It was *the people* who reaffirmed their support of this measure three years later. Therefore, only *the people* should make the final decision.

Others disagree because they view this economic crisis as an *opportunity* to further their personal agenda rather than as a challenge to overcome. And they do it under the guise of "public interest" by claiming that only the Mayor can deal with the crisis.

This argument shows a *stunning* lack of faith in New Yorkers. Although it is true that the challenges are great, the strength of our people is greater.

At stake is not whether you support or oppose term limits or an extension of a third term. It is not about whether you support Mayor Mike Bloomberg, Speaker Christine Quinn, Comptroller Bill Thompson or any one individual. It's a matter of whether a few dozen individuals should decide to overturn the will of New Yorkers who approved term limits twice.

At this critical moment in our city's history, let us raise our sights beyond the petty politics of City Hall and focus on the communities we represent. The voting booth is the one place where it doesn't matter who you are ... where you come from ... how many billions you're worth ... or what connections you have ... Because every vote counts the same.

Elected officials have an obligation to respect these votes. We are trusted to be guardians of democracy.

Think about the negative repercussions that passing Mayor Bloomberg's bill would have:

It would be telling all those who voted for term limits that the choices they made in the booth are not respected and that, at anytime, our government could use its power and influence to ignore the levers they pulled.

They would think that *their* government would rather decide important issues in the shadows of City Hall instead of the voting booth.

They would think that *their* government did not hear or respect their voice.

So, rather than abandon our ideals because there is crisis, we must renew our faith in the process just as we have ever since George Washington voluntarily left office after two terms.

As historian Joseph Ellis wrote, "Washington became the supreme example of the leader who could be trusted with power because he was so ready to give it up."

By doing so, he demonstrated his belief that others could lead the country, even during times of change and crisis. Washington's faith has been proven right time and again.

When the nation lost Franklin Roosevelt during World War II, the largely relatively unknown Harry Truman took office and helped to bring the conflict to a close.

Today, our country is at war and dealing with the same financial crisis as New York City. Yet, early next year, another man will take the oath of office through a peaceful transfer of authority and America will be better off for it.

And, at the local level, I remember January 1st, 2002, when I stood alongside Mayor Bloomberg, Public Advocate Gotbaum and so many of you on the steps of City Hall, just a few months after the tragic events of September 11th.

Most of us were new and untried in elective office. Enormous challenges lay ahead. Well, I think that we did a good job and helped to bring New York City

back, bigger and stronger than ever. The next wave of elected officials will do the same because New Yorkers are resilient.

Let's not tarnish our legacy by undermining the will of the people.

I urge you to oppose Mayor Bloomberg's effort to legislatively extend term limits because the foundation of our democracy is trust and citizens must have faith in this trust ...

... faith that their elected officials will put the common interest before their self-interests ...

... faith that government will always put people before politics and the powerful ...

... faith that the voting process will always be equal and open to *all* who want to be a part of the process ...

... and faith that when the people speak, their government will listen.

Thank you

Testimony of Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum
New York City Council Public Hearing on Term Limits - October 17, 2008

Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum said, "I was here yesterday, and I watched from home late into the night. It's clear that there is some confusion. This is **NOT** about term limits, it's not about the job Mayor Bloomberg has done, and it's also not about continuity during a financial crisis.

It's about a fundamental change in how New York City is governed.

It's also clear that there is a disagreement about process. While I can only support extending or changing term limits through a referendum, at the very least, the City Council must prolong any vote until public hearings can be held in all five boroughs.

There is no reason to rush a vote on October 23rd when we could easily wait until more New Yorkers have had the chance to make their voices heard. We heard the Corporation Counsel admit yesterday that this can be done in a referendum via special election in early 2009, which will probably occur anyway because of council vacancies.

I want you to listen very carefully to what Michael Bloomberg said when he vetoed the last Council bill seeking to change term limits.

Mayor Bloomberg said, "This bill would send an unfortunate message about the impact and importance of their votes and set a perilous precedent for future leaders of this city...I believe it is simply inappropriate for those members elected in 1997, who were aware of the rules under which they were elected, to seek to change those rules in a manner that may work to their own advantage."

And he was exactly right.

I am against term limits, and I would work hard to overturn them, but only by a referendum. What matters here is that New Yorkers have twice voted for them. Over two million people in all went to their polling sites and performed their civic duty. To change term limits by anything other than a referendum would amount to telling 2 million people that their votes don't matter, that they don't count, kind of like the 2000 presidential election. And we all see where that got us.

This remains a decision for the people - not for self-serving incumbents, not for newspaper editorial boards and not for a few wealthy and powerful individuals.

I have been proud to serve with all of you who came in at a time of real crisis. We not only survived, but as a result of our leadership the city has thrived. Let's all be proud of ourselves by doing the right thing and voting down the Mayor's bill, Intro 845-A."



HAKEEM JEFFRIES
Assemblyman 57th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

Testimony of Assembly Member Hakeem Jeffries

To Chairman Felder and the distinguished members of the committee, I would like to thank Council Members Bill DeBlasio, Letitia James, David Weprin, John Liu and others for their leadership and courage on this issue.

In 1993 and 1996, the public twice voted by referendum to limit the tenure of municipal officeholders to two terms and a total of eight years. Not only has the public expressed its support for term limits twice, but it has done so in overwhelming fashion. Consequently, any effort to deviate from the expressed will of the public by changing the term limits law should be submitted to the voters in the form of another referendum. To do otherwise would be nothing less than a subversion of democracy.

For the record, I do not support term limits for any elected official other than the President of the United States, and perhaps some executive branch officeholders. However, the referendum issue is about the integrity of our democratic process. In a city of eight million people, a handful of wealthy or powerful individuals should not be allowed to summarily overturn the will of the public.

It is my hope that the City Council will stand up for democracy and require a public referendum on term limits. But if the City Council fails to do the right thing, the State Legislature should step in on behalf of the public to protect democracy. I am therefore drafting legislation that I will shortly introduce in the New York State Assembly that will require the City of New York, and any other city, town, village or county in New York State to conduct a public referendum before any change to a term limits law becomes effective.

The State Legislature is the last line of defense against this undemocratic power grab. Before we are compelled to act, I urge you to resolve this matter in a manner that is fair to the public who voted overwhelmingly in favor of term limits twice before.

Some argue that our current Mayor should be allowed to seek a third term to address the financial crisis that unfolded on his watch. The Mayor certainly has a defensible record in office. But no one man. No one woman. No one politician is bigger than democracy.

Abraham Lincoln was assassinated before the conclusion of the civil war. We survived. Franklin Delano Roosevelt died while World War II raged on in Europe and in Asia. We survived. Rudy Giuliani left office a few months after the worst terrorist attack in the history of America. We survived. If after a public referendum, the voters uphold the current term limits restrictions and force a change in political leadership, I am confident that New York City will survive.

When Hugo Chavez, the so-called Venezuelan dictator, wanted to change term limits in his country to extend his time in office, he held a public referendum. Shame on us if we cannot do the same thing for the people of New York City.

Our Mayor recently traveled to California to support a public referendum that would limit the ability of state legislators to re-draw their district boundaries. The position taken in support of a referendum in California is inconsistent at best, and hypocritical at worst. If a referendum is good for the people of California, then a referendum is good for the people of New York City.

The will of the public should not be undermined because a few powerbrokers have determined that they know what is in our best interests. Many of the Wall Street tycoons who want to lecture us about who should lead the City in this time of crisis are the same individuals who are responsible for creating this financial mess. Many of them should be in jail. Yet they have the nerve to tell us what to do.

Lady Liberty is crying, Boss Tweed is smiling and the Big Apple is rotting because our democracy is being snatched away. Not in Venezuela, not in North Korea, not in Bosnia, but right here in the City of New York.

I am convinced that the battle for a public referendum is a noble struggle. It is one that will be waged at City Hall, the State Capital, on the street corner, in the barbershops, at the bodega, in the synagogues, from the pulpit, and at the courthouse. We will not rest until democracy prevails.



RUBEN DIAZ, JR.
85th Assembly District
Bronx County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
State and Federal Relations Committee
COMMITTEES
Children and Families
Education
Environmental Conservation
Steering
Transportation
Ways and Means
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and Asian
Legislative Caucus
TASK FORCES
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force

**Testimony of Assemblyman Ruben Diaz, Jr. before the New York City Council's
Committee on Governmental Operations, Friday, October 17th, 2008**

Good morning.

First I would like to thank my colleagues in government for the opportunity to attend this public hearing regarding the Term Limits Legislation currently before the Council. As has been witnessed over the past several weeks and reaffirmed at yesterday's public hearing in the Council Chambers this is a matter of the most urgent concern for the citizens of New York City.

Obviously a great amount of testimony has already been given and seriously debated regarding the Mayor's proposal to extend term limits for elected officials therefore I will not use my time here today to revisit what has been previously argued or acknowledged.

Instead I come before you simply to add my voice to these proceedings as a concerned elected representative for the hard working families of the 85th Assembly District of The Bronx. In this regard I have every reason to believe that it is my obligation to advise this deliberative legislative body of the people's duly elected representatives to reject Mayor Bloomberg's request and deny the passage of Introduction 845.

Although I remain personally opposed to term limits, it is my opinion that, it would be wrong to circumvent the results of the 1993 and 1996 referendums in which the voters of our great city both affirmed term limits and rejected any attempt to alter them. Therefore I am in support of the measures presently before the Council which would return the question of term limits to the voting public.

I do not agree with the notion put forth by some that the public should now be removed from the decision making process regarding term limits. To my understanding, "process" is just as important as "results" and when a policy making process is flawed so to is the resulting policy flawed. To ignore the previous two referendums on the matter of term limits would be to say that "process" is unimportant, and therefore anything, including ignoring the lawful and reasonable will of the electorate may be permitted as long as the people's elected representatives think so.

Therefore I strongly urge the Members of this Committee and the full Council to consider voting in favor of Introduction 850 thereby submitting the question of any change to term limits for the approval of the voters.

Thank you.

Testimony of Richard D. Parsons in Favor of Extending Term Limits

Good morning. My name is Richard Parsons.

I would like to thank Chairman Felder and the City Council for giving me an opportunity to testify today in favor of extending term limits.

Yesterday you heard and today you'll hear more arguments pro and con about the constitutionality and democratic implications of extending term limits. As a former lawyer and former counsel to the Governor of New York, those arguments interest me a great deal. But I want to speak here today in my capacity as a resident of this great City and as Chairman of one of its major employers, Time Warner.

It is obvious to all of us that we have entered an extraordinary period. I say extraordinary but I could have easily – and accurately – said frightening, perilous, or dangerous. While none of us in the business community believe that this is 1929, we all believe that we are facing the most serious economic crisis since then. Any one who claims to know when and how the current global economic crisis will be resolved is either deluding him or herself, or whistling past the graveyard.

It would be hard to overstate the potential impact of the current economic crisis on New York City but it is my belief that it could make the 1976-77 fiscal crisis look like a day at the beach. How we handle this crisis will be a defining moment in the life and

future of this City. Experienced, proven leadership is no longer just desirable. Now it's a necessity.

Under Mayor Bloomberg and this City Council, New York City is currently stronger than ever. He and you have led the City back from 9/11, rebuilt our economy, revitalized our communities, and reimagined how government could work: increasing transparency and efficiency, and delivering more and better services to the New Yorkers who need them most.

In times such as these there is simply no substitute for leadership that has been tested, that has the respect of opponents and supporters alike, and that does not need months to get up to speed. Given where we find ourselves at this pivotal, uncertain and volatile moment it strikes me as unwise and unfair to deprive the people of this City of the option to stick with a Mayor and Council members who have earned their trust. I

know there are many New Yorkers that share this belief. Accordingly, I urge you to approve the extension of term limits, effective immediately.

Thank you.



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

SCOTT M. STRINGER
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

Testimony of Manhattan Borough President

Scott M. Stringer

Before

New York City Council Committee on Governmental Operations

Friday, October 17, 2008

Over the past two days, New Yorkers have seen the City Council at its best. Anyone watching these hearings would be impressed by the intensity and thoughtfulness this Committee has brought to its work.

Now, after hours of passionate and at times extremely complex questioning, I ask that you return to the fundamental issue at hand:

Would this Council, this Mayoralty, this City government, and the people of New York City be better off with their elected officials serving a maximum of 12 years instead of the current 8?

On this, I believe there is wide agreement: By any measure, 12 is better.

You know from first-hand experience the cost of the current system.

With a 2-term limit this is what happens: You arrive in office and spend time learning the ropes. You build relationships. You figure out how to navigate the complexities of government to get things done on behalf of the people you represent. There's the challenge of a first re-election. And then, around year 6 in office, you find that people are not so quick to return your calls, or listen to your concerns. The permanent government and lobbyists that are here before we arrive in office and after we leave knows the score. They know that it's time to focus on the next person to fill those chairs you're sitting in today.

Your time to do big things for the people who elected you is so short it's almost over before it begins. And that's the truth.

Back in the 1990s we let a billionaire hijack the electoral process, and we've been paying for it ever since.

This single individual – a private citizen never elected to anything – made it his calling in life to impose his personal vision of City government on 8 million New Yorkers: A term-limit-dominated system that has been widely discredited, and is strongly opposed by virtually every good government group and newspaper editorial board in this City. Thank you, Mr. Lauder.

Now we all seem begging to be twice burned. We're stampeding to create a platform to hear from not just the old billionaire who imposed his will on our democracy in the 1990s, but a new billionaire who wants to have his say this time around. I say, no thanks.

Remember, the fundamental defect allowing for this billionaire face-off is that the campaign finance system which governs our elections – celebrated far and wide as a model for the nation – does not limit spending on TV ads favoring or opposing ballot initiatives.

And just in case any of us had illusions about the high-minded debate we would see, one billionaire has already given us a taste with TV ads he previewed this summer comparing us all to dirty diapers.

Even with these concerns, I would still consider a referendum on the question of whether to do away with term limits. But on the narrower issue of two versus three terms, that's the job of this Council to decide.

Hundreds of New Yorkers who have packed this Chamber, and thousands watching the live television broadcast, are seeing what representative democracy really looks like in New York City.

It's not perfect or pretty. It plays out here in this Chamber, in the newspapers, and on the steps of City Hall. It's rough and tumble, but "we the people" find our way.

The people of New York and their elected representatives are going to have to be at our very best to meet today's challenges – to preserve essential government services, to maintain the City's quality of life, and to protect the most vulnerable New Yorkers.

We're going to have to do better than we've ever done to help rebuild the City's financial sector and make sure that Wall Street remains its home.

It's time for more governing, and less politicking.

I urge you to change the law so that New York City's elected officials can serve a maximum of 12 years in office instead of the current 8.

Thank you.

TESTIMONY BY BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT ADOLFO CARRION

REGARDING TERM LIMITS LEGISLATION

New York City Council

Committee on Government Operations

October 17, 2008

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today.

I am glad to address the essence of the issue before the council... First let me be very clear that I am not here to engage in the very specific Mayor Bloomberg for a Third Term debate rather I believe the real task at hand is to answer the all important question of should New York City elected officials serve more than two terms? And does this ultimately lead to a better government?

The argument that was hoisted on us in a million dollar campaign was that New York City "needed" term limits because the voters were not capable of purging the system of bad elected officials and the debatably naïve and perhaps overly ambitious outcome that limiting terms would create a citizen-led legislature that would be driven by the public interest and would strengthen the voice of the people. I believe the result of the implementation of term limits has been just the opposite. Term limits has resulted in a weaker legislative arm, an imbalance in executive power, lobbyist driven budgets and legislation, and governing that's constricted by unnecessary and ineffective time lines and political career considerations.

All of the good intentions of term limits were predicated on the notion that government should perform honestly, effectively and efficiently for the public good. As we have seen by the turnout today and yesterday and by the vigorous public debate since this measure was proposed, New Yorkers feel strongly about this issue. In fact, one of my long time colleagues demonstrated this by suggesting to me that this issue would be used as a litmus test by many interested parties involved in this discussion. For a moment he sounded like a character in a gangster movie, offering a veiled threat. This troubled me so that I decided that I must say something to urge everyone involved to step back from the heat of the argument, to forgo the temptation of headline grabbing rhetoric and consider the following:

This legislation, while introduced in the context of a politically charged period, it is not about the incumbents. It was clumsily introduced on behalf of the Mayor, and intentionally or unintentionally has been perceived by some as a singularly motivated measure to extend one person's term in office. I believe, however, that the intentions of this measure are in fact good in the long run - better governance and a step closer to the eradication of term

limits; the process on the other hand has been messy at best. The foolish notion by some, that this Mayor is indispensable at this time of economic crisis is naïve and a distraction from the real debate. New Yorkers must never buy the idea of indispensability. Our strength as a city is our irrepressible ability to continue to discover talent and creativity and emerge stronger. As a matter of fact, Michael Bloomberg demonstrated this when he took the leadership of a broken city in 2002. I along with many believe, Michael Bloomberg has been a strong and effective leader for New York and should he be reelected to a third term, he faces the challenge of continuing to serve our city well. But again this is not the issue.

The push back as I see it is more rooted in our being deeply offended by the suggestion of indispensability and inevitability. New Yorkers are smarter than this. For sure we know that this is the greatest city in the world, with an enviable pool of the best and the brightest. No one in this room actually believes that this great city has a talent pool of one. So again I encourage everyone to suspend the rhetoric, and address the real matter. Do you support or oppose extending term limits? I do not believe in legislation by proposition or referendum. It has demonstrated its flaws in states like California. I believe that the right way of doing this is by restoring the integrity, responsibility and primacy of representative democracy.

I support extending term limits, not because Michael Bloomberg wants to run for Mayor again, but because it begins to move us back toward responsible governance and representative democracy, which should continue to be the foundation of American democracy. As a matter of fact, the short term implication for me and others is that it throws new variables in our path. But I believe the elimination of term limits is more important than anyone's short term interest, mine included.

What's at stake here is the primacy of the voter in communities here and around the country where electing who they'd like to support and for how long has been forcibly removed, and replaced with an artificial sense of power.

We must not let the perfect be the enemy of the good.

My name is Judith Goldiner. I live at 199 Sterling Place, Brooklyn, New York 11238 in the Prospect Heights Section of Brooklyn. I have lived in New York City since 1985.

I am here today to testify against the proposal to modify term limits without a vote of the people. I have voted in favor of term limits each time it came up for a vote. Term limits have succeeded in bringing new blood into the City Council and to the Mayor's office and have been very successful.

It is profoundly undemocratic to change term limits without a referendum. There is plenty of time to hold a referendum.

Do not vote for this measure because two billionaires got in a room and decided to change things. Let the voters decide. Do not change the rules of the game midstream. There's a word for that: cheating. Don't do it.

Respectfully Submitted,



Judith Goldiner

**TESTIMONY OF KEVIN S. PARKER,
NEW YORK STATE SENATOR – 21ST SENATORIAL DISTRICT**

Term Limits Debate

Public Hearing Date: October 17, 2008

I am here today not just to raise my voice in opposition to Mayor Michael Bloomberg's plan to extend term limits but, as an elected servant of the people willing to restore democracy on their behalf. The Mayor's blatant attempt to divert democracy by extending term limits without a referendum is simply a bad idea at a bad time. In back-to-back referendums, the voters of New York City sent a clear message that they were in favor of term limits. To brazenly push them aside and attempt to silence their voices is not what we should be doing as elected officials.

Furthermore, the Mayor's argument that he is the right person to take the city through the current economic crisis is flawed to its core. The fact is that Mayor Bloomberg had seven years to spin his self-taught financial wheel of fortune to strengthen the capital market in order to prepare this city for a downturn in the economy. But he failed to do so and the collapse of Wall Street happened on his watch. So the fact is that Michael Bloomberg is neither irreplaceable nor all powerful, as proven by current events he was either powerless to prevent or negligent to permit. But we should not confuse inoffensiveness with effectiveness. In fact Mayor Bloomberg has not been a great Mayor for this city. Under his administration this city has experienced a series of consistent failures. A prime example of the Mayor's failure is evidence in our education system which he promised to overhaul while trumpeting himself as the education Mayor. Yet 40 percent of kids entering high schools are dropping out. Seventy percent of those numbers are kids of color who are daily being sucked into the cradle-to-prison pipeline. And the Mayor remains a

victim of what Marian Wright Edelman, the nation's leading child advocate calls: "The influenza virus." We must be willing and courageous as leaders to stand up and call this crass and undemocratic move by the Mayor for what it is: a plain, simply power grab.

In closing, let me make it clear that I come to this fight as one who is opposed to term limits. In my opinion, term limits is lazy democracy. Yet I stand firmly behind the democratic process and so cannot support changing the rules in favor of any individual. That's why earlier this week I announced my intentions to sponsor a Senate Bill that will call for the Mayor and the City Council to seek a referendum before taking a vote on term limits. The Mayor and his supporters in the City cannot be allowed to set such a dangerous precedent for this city. I believe that what is strong and important about this city are its people. New York City has experienced far greater challenges in the past and we have overcome those challenges by bringing all New Yorkers together to solve our problems and share the sacrifice. And when it comes to term limits, the people of this city have spoken. And to borrow an expression from the good people of the South, their voices have been as loud as a mule in a tin barn. Therefore, I am joining that chorus of dissenting voices on record by saying no to Mayor Bloomberg and his supporters. No to putting politics before people. No to self-interest before sacrifice. No to changing the rules to win the game. No to four more years!

KEVIN S. PARKER
SENATOR, 21ST DISTRICT
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER
ENERGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEES
COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
& SMALL BUSINESS
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
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HIGHER EDUCATION
INSURANCE
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY
& MILITARY AFFAIRS
MINORITY CHAIRMAN
NEW AMERICANS TASK FORCE



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For Immediate Release: October 14, 2008

Senator Parker Sponsors Statewide Term Limits Legislation

Brooklyn lawmaker Strongly Opposes the Undemocratic Effort to Extend Term Limits

Brooklyn, NY- State Senator Kevin Parker (D-Brooklyn) today announce a new proposed legislation on term limits on the steps of City Hall. Senator Parker resist all efforts to extend term limits that would allow both the Mayor and elected officials within city council to be re-elected. Senator Parker issues this categorical statement to allay fears by government officials that efforts to alter democracy and the rights of voters

“Term Limits is and always has been a bad idea, said Senator Parker. The reason it’s a bad idea because it limits not only democracy but it limits voter rights. To brazenly push them aside and attempt to silence their voices is not what we should do as elected officials. For this, I am sponsoring a bill on the state level that will change term limits for the entire state.”

Senator Parker is the senate sponsor to the bill introduced in the Assembly by Assembly member Hakeem Jeffries. The bill will also require any municipality with term limits to hold a public referendum before making any changes that would affect how long elected officials can serve. Lastly, the bill will be used to block the Mayor’s attempt to seek another term in office.

“The Mayor’s argument that he is the right person to take the City through the current economic crisis is flawed to its core, said Senator Parker in a statement made after the Mayor’s announcement on October 2, 2008. The fact is that Mayor Bloomberg had seven years to spin his self-taught financial wheel of fortune to strengthen the capital market in order to prepare this city for a downturn in the economy, he added.”

About Senator Kevin Parker

Senator Kevin S. Parker is committed to restoring the overall quality of life for the constituents of the 21st Senatorial District in Brooklyn. A lifelong Brooklyn resident, Senator Parker has been a Flatbush resident for more than 27 years. Having been nurtured, schooled and employed in the district, Senator Parker is intimately familiar with the needs of this ethnically diverse community that consists of 311,000 constituents in several communities which include: Flatbush, East Flatbush, Midwood, Ditmas Park, Kensington and Borough Park.

###



PAKISTANI CIVIC ASSOCIATION OF STATEN ISLAND, INC.

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**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY
COUNCIL ON TERM LIMITS.**

Dear Madam Chair, Christine Quinn and Members of the City Council,

My name is Dr. Mohammad Khalid and I represent two large civic associations of Staten Island, our membership is in thousands. Currently the debate of changing the term limit is very vital to our membership. We believe that the term limits should be completely abolished as this will give the constituents the freedom and the choice to choose whoever they feel is good to represent them, for longer period of time. If they think the elected official they chose are not doing the right thing, then they have the choice not to re elect them in the next election cycle. If an elected official is doing an excellent job for their constituents and want to continue why should we not let them continue. It is not fair to let them go because their term is over. It is very hard to find honest and hard working public servant. After 9/11 the City of new York went through a difficult period, but we survived because of Mayor Bloomberg's leadership. Today this city is in great shape economically, educationally, security and health wise. We are very lucky that we have a Mayor who has no personal agenda, he loves this city and wants to do good for all of us. How many Mayors have taken 1\$ salary and have used their personal home to live instead of using taxpayer house. Madam chair, Look at the accomplishments of this Mayor for the last seven years, I don't think anybody can match his record. We Believe that this council should abolish the term limit for good and let good and honest leaders continue their job. The critics say that Mayor Bloomberg wants to grab the power. The Mayor is not asking to swear him in January. He is going to go through an election process and if he is elected by the people he will become the Mayor. I do not understand why some of the people who wants to be Mayor are so panicky. Let the election process take its course and I am sure people will make the right choice by re electing Bloomberg as next Mayor of this great city. At the end we urge the council to abolish the term limit for good.

Thank you for the opportunity for submitting this testimony.

Dr. Mohammad Khalid
President

October 17, 2008



Iron Hills Civic Association, Inc.

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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL ON TERM LIMITS.

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Thank you for the opportunity for submitting this testimony.

Dr. Mohammad Khalid
President

October 17, 2008

UNIFORMED
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**TESTIMONY OF JOHN J. McDONNELL, PRESIDENT UNIFORMED
FIRE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL HEARING ON TERM LIMITS
OCTOBER 17, 2008**

My name is Lieutenant Edward Boles, Treasurer of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, and I am delivering this testimony on behalf of Battalion Chief John J. McDonnell, President of the UFOA. Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you today.

The UFOA represents more than 2,500 Lieutenants, Captains, Battalion Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, Supervising Fire Marshals and Medical Officers of the New York City Fire Department.

When the discussions began about the possibility of an extension of the term limits law to allow for a third term in office, the Executive Board of the UFOA last month adopted a position of support for any such proposal that might surface.

It is important to state for the record that our union was firmly opposed to the imposition of term limits in the first place. We have never believed it was a good idea to replace a majority of the elected officials in City Hall at the same time.

As for the issue before us now, our Executive Board felt strongly that the current economic indicators all point in the downward direction, and 2009 could be precisely the wrong time to lose all or most of the fiscal expertise in both wings of City Hall.

The UFOA also believes that extending term limits for another four years does not deprive the people of a choice for all these official positions. There will still be Primaries in 2009, and there will still be a vote in the General Election in November.

Our position is not an endorsement of the status quo. It is support for making sure the people of this city receive the best possible City Hall representation beginning January 1, 2010.

###



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The Uniformed EMTs, Paramedics and Inspectors – F.D.N.Y.



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Testimony of the Uniformed EMT's, Paramedics and Fire Inspectors, FDNY in SUPPORT of Intro # 845-A.

Good afternoon Chairman Felder and members of the City Council. My name is Israel Miranda and I am the Vice President of the Uniformed EMT's, Paramedics and Fire Inspectors of the New York City Fire Department.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of President Bahnken who is unable to be here today.

We fully support the proposed legislation that is before you today. It has always been the opinion of our Union that term limits have always existed through the will of the voters.

If the public feels that an incumbent candidate is not representing their will, they have the right to limit that candidate's term of office during the next general election. However, if the public interest is being served by a candidate, the right to continue that elected officials service is currently limited to eight years.

We truly believe that no person is indispensable and we are not here today to endorse any candidate for a specific office. What we are here to address is the fact that term limits in and of themselves do not allow voters the ability to consider all applicants for the job.

Furthermore, the public is denied the right to avail itself of the knowledge and experience of those officials who perform outstanding jobs simply due to an arbitrary limit of two terms.

Imagine if such arbitrary limitations were to be placed on Paramedics. For example, rather than the public being able to benefit from the experience of a seasoned Paramedic, the Paramedic was forced to become a Police Officer or Fire Fighter. The public loses on the investment they have made simply because it is time to shuffle the deck.

While I realize that this example is very simplistic, the point is no less valid.

In closing, we fully support Intro 845-A and urge its' passage. Let the people decide if it is time for an official to leave based on real conditions that exist today, not on conditions or emotions that existed more than a decade ago.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify today and will answer any questions you may have.



Correction Officers' Benevolent Association, Inc.

"Patrolling the Toughest Precincts in New York"

City of New York

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**CORRECTION OFFICERS' BENEVOLENT
ASSOCIATION**

October 17, 2008



Good Afternoon Ladies and Gentlemen, Chairman Felder,
and members of the Government Operations Committee.

First I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for
giving me the opportunity to testify before you in what I
expect you to be spirited conversation. My name is

Norman Seabrook, and I am the President of the New York
City Correction Officers' Benevolent Association,

representing the second largest uniformed force in the City

of New York. New York City Correction Officers are the

highest trained and best prepared Correction Officers in

the world. We maintain the care, custody and control of

the some of the most violent and dangerous individuals in

the City of New York. We also play a significant role in

maintaining public safety. As President of Correction Officers Benevolent Association, I have a fiduciary responsibility to provide the best benefits for the men and women of this organization as well as for their family members. With full disclosure, in 2001, I was the only labor leader in the City of New York to support Mayor Bloomberg for Mayor. In 2005, I was one of dozens of labor leaders to re-endorse Mayor Bloomberg for a second term as Mayor the City of New York. However, I am here today as a representative of my membership not anything else. I have had strong differences with this Administration especially when 600 of my members were laid off. There were ultimately rehired with wages and benefits fully

restored. But that was due to serious negotiations and a need for public safety to be maintained at its highest degree.

Ladies and Gentlemen, my position on the issue term limits are as follows:

There are 51 members of the City Council, more than half are term limited, just as is the Mayor, Borough President, Public Advocate, City Comptroller. As a resident of the Bronx County, I must say and set for the record – President Adolfo Carrion has made a difference in the borough of the Bronx. I must say that William Thompson has made a difference in the investments that affect our Pension system – although some of you may not agree,

the "Charles Barons" of the world have made a difference.

I can remember one early fall morning when an off-duty

Correction Officer was shot in a park in Brooklyn, Charles

Baron was there. The Peter Vallone's of the world have

seen first hand and worked diligently with Correction

Officers. When the blackout occurred, our officers were

distributing ice, water, and necessities to the Community

which encompasses Riker's Island. The Larry Seabrooks'

of the world have fought for the rights of his constituents in

Co-Op City in the Bronx, to receive adequate

transportation to and from the subway.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Council, term limits are not

something that the City of New York and it's residents cann

continue to adopt. I support eliminating “term limits”
legislatively as proposed by INTRO # 485 A and here’s
why: There are some Council Members that will be forced
out because of term limits that have done and continue to
do a great job “championing” for the people. The “Robert
Jacksons of the world who put children first, the John Liu’s
of the world. These individuals, not only in these economic
times are forced to go back out in to the Private Sector and
provide for their families for doing a good job, but are now
being told “have a nice day.” That is not acceptable. That’s
like throwing the baby out with the bath water.

Our City is a better now, then it was 8 years ago. I

personally think the reasons term limits originated was

because Mr. Lauder was dissatisfied with the prior Administrations. Maybe he didn't like Rudy Guillian. I don't know. But what I do know is New York City is the land of opportunity for everyone including its elected Officials, even you, the Mayor and everyone else. Some have made the argument that the Mayor will probably spend in excess of \$50,000,000, for his re-election campaign. To quote a friend of mine "change starts from the bottom up, not from the top down" and when people step into the voting booth, it is they who have the power to vote for change. If Mike Bloomberg has not done a satisfactory job, then he will not be re- elected. The same goes for any Council member who has not carried out their

duties that they are elected to do. It is the “people’s” choice when they go into the Voting Booths and every four years they have that choice. I would also like to make another critical point that I personally feel has not been addressed.

I am not pleased that the city has asked for Municipal Unions to continue to give more and receive less. Union Members built this City, maintained this City and deserve more. I don’t remember any piece of legislation under this Council’s leadership that has significantly benefited the labor community. People are struggling to do more with “less”. You don’t have to be an economist to know that the Dollar is not worth what it once was. All you have to be is an American living in the land of opportunity, struggling to

get by, struggling to raise your family, struggling to put your kids through school. Yet we struggle with the question, "What do we do next?? Well, Council Members, let me suggest what you should do next. Do Your JOB. Do what you were elected to do. Make the decisions that will ultimately shape the City for ages to come.

In closing, in plain and simple words let's end term limits and let's end it now. And let those who have been already elected by the people, from the Office of Borough President, to the Office of Mayor, to the Office of Public Advocate, Comptroller, and City Council continue to have the opportunity to serve and fight for the people of this

great city. Thank you and now, I will be happy to answer

and questions you may have.

Dan Jacoby
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Testimony before the
New York City Council
Gov't Ops. Committee, Simcha Felder, Chair
October 16, 2008

Mayor Bloomberg talks about choice. But he wants to override the 1993 and 1996 choices of the people. He wants to limit choice by having more incumbents run for reelection and fewer open seats where the choice is greater. Mayor Bloomberg is lying.

Speaker Quinn says we face “unprecedented challenges.” This city has faced riots, panics, depression, near-bankruptcy, terrorist attacks, and scandals galore. Nothing we face today is “unprecedented.” Speaker Quinn is lying.

We all entered politics for different reasons, but the one common reason should be a burning desire to make things better. Once in politics, bureaucracy, ambition, wealthy special interests and ... well ... the politics of politics – all conspire to snuff out that flame.

I choose to believe that that flame still burns in each of you. So this is your chance to stand up, to make a difference, to defeat the forces that obstruct your flame, to make things better, to show that the politics of big money and phony talking points are over.

You don't need me to tell you how to vote. You don't need any hearings, or constituent calls, or anything to tell you which is the right way, the (small “d”) democratic way, the (capital “A”) American way.

You do need to be able to wake up tomorrow, and the next day, and the day after that, for (we hope) thousands of days to come – you need to be able to wake up, look in the mirror, first thing in the morning – and like what you see.

So just do it.

Thank you.

De-Limited by Dan Jacoby

In light of the current economic difficulties, Mayor Bloomberg has proposed extending term limits so that he can keep his job past the end date set by voters. He should be ashamed of himself. Christine Quinn, the Speaker of the City Council, appears to be supporting this effort; she should be ashamed too.

Mayor Bloomberg is known for not making definite statements until he's ready to do so. It is difficult, therefore, to pin him down on opposing an extension of term limits. For example, he has been reported as saying that he doesn't remember how he voted on the two term limits referenda in the 90s.¹ In that same article, he was directly quoted as saying that he "always thought term limits were a good idea," but also that, "You can debate how many terms that should be."

Speaker Quinn has a serious problem, however, since she did pin herself down last December. She released a statement saying, "I will neither support legislation nor will I seek or support a new referendum eliminating or altering term limits."² Then she made an even more definite statement, saying, "I am today making a firm and final decision. I will not support the repeal or change of term limits through any mechanism, and I will oppose aggressively any attempts by anyone to make any changes in the term-limit law."³ It is impossible to walk back those statements without being called a liar.

It is also extremely difficult, if not outright impossible, to explain the moral justification for overturning, by legislative fiat, the twice-expressed will of the people.

Decisions made in haste, during a time of stress, are almost always wrong. As I write this, the House of Representatives is once again debating a so-called "bailout" bill. That bill is almost universally derided as sloppy, poorly thought out, mostly ineffective, and now loaded down with a bunch of garbage. If there weren't a general sense of urgency, bordering on panic, this bill would never pass.

A bill to extend term limits, introduced as it will be in the middle of a severe financial downturn, should not pass either.

The concept that there is one, and only one, person who can lead us out of this mess is not only foolish, it is un-American. Seven years ago, many people claimed that only Rudy Giuliani could lead us past the smoldering embers that had been the World Trade Center. They were wrong. All new citywide officeholders, and 38 out of 51 Council members, took on the challenges and turned this city around. A new mayor and mostly-new City Council will deal with whatever challenges this city faces a year from now.

Finally, we still have a year before the current officeholders are out. By that time, either Mayor Bloomberg and the Council will have dealt with the problems, in which case even their most ardent supporters will have to admit we don't need them, or they won't, in which case we will desperately need to replace them. Either way, it will be time for Mayor Bloomberg and two-thirds of the City Council to go.

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¹ http://www.nypost.com/seven/08272008/news/regionalnews/mike_fuzzy_on_his_early_limits_votes_126302.htm

² <http://cityroom.blogs.nytimes.com/2007/12/03/council-speaker-supports-keeping-term-limits>

³ http://www.nypost.com/seven/12042007/news/regionalnews/quinn_now_wont_fight_term_limits_525380.htm

Ave, Hizzoner by Dan Jacoby

During the several centuries of the Roman Republic, their constitution allowed for the occasional appointment of a Dictator, or *Magister Populi* ("Master of the People"). Dictators were appointed by one of two Consuls, who served together for a single one-year term. In times of emergency, when it was believed that a single person should be in charge, a Consul could appoint someone as Dictator for a single six-month term.

The first Dictator was Titus Larcus Flavus, appointed in 501 BCE. Over the next three centuries, dozens of Dictators were appointed, served their six-month terms, and then stepped down. After the Dictatorship of Gaius Servilius Geminus in 202 BCE, the practice fell out of favor for 120 years.

Then, in 82 BCE, Lucius Cornelius Sulla Felix, known as Sulla, got himself appointed Dictator. This time, however, he didn't step down after six months, but extended his term. This marked the beginning of the end of the Roman Republic.

Today, we have a constitution that (theoretically) doesn't allow for dictators. Locally, we also have a City Charter that contains term limits. Those term limits were the result of a referendum – the voters of New York City overwhelmingly approved them in 1993, and then fought back an attempt to extend them in 1996. All three citywide officeholders, four borough presidents, and the overwhelming majority of the City Council owe their positions to term limits; their predecessors were term-limited out.

Now we are facing yet another in a long series of financial difficulties. Since the current major, who faces being term-limited out at the end of next year, is a successful businessman, many people (including Mayor Bloomberg himself) seem to believe that he should be allowed to stay in office past his term limit. Even some people who would prefer to see him replaced believe that term limits should be extended or abolished.

The problem is that instead of proposing to offer the voters an opportunity to decide whether to repeal the law we put in place, Mayor Bloomberg is trying to shove a bill through the City Council. He's trying to shove the bill through so quickly that people won't have time (he clearly hopes) to organize an opposition. What's worse, he's shoving this bill at us during the height of the election season, when the most politically active people and groups are at their busiest.

The American system was created, like the Roman Republic, based on the concept that no one person is indispensable. Mayor Bloomberg's belief, and the contention of his supporters, that he is the only one who can "rescue" the city from its current fiscal problems, goes against the grain of the American way. What would people say if President Bush, claiming that he rescued us from the post-9/11 economic and national security "crisis," announced that only he could save us from the combination of national economic meltdown and continuing troubles in Iraq?

Congress would sooner impeach Bush than grant him another term. The City Council should adopt a similar attitude toward Mayor Bloomberg.

The problem is that legislators rarely have the guts to stand up to a currently popular executive. Indeed, legislators often have trouble standing up to a weak, foolish executive, which is why George W. Bush is still in charge of policy on Iraq, any why his proposal for the "bailout" is essentially what became law.

Some City Council members have already spoken out against Mayor Bloomberg's Caesarian power grab. It's a good start, and refreshing to know that some of our elected legislators can show a spine when necessary.

Seven years ago, some people (then-Mayor Giuliani included, along with the eventual Democratic mayoral nominee) suggested that it might be a good idea for the mayor to remain in office past the end of his term, because he was the only one who could deal with the post-9/11 fallout. Fortunately, reason, and the American way, prevailed then.

Reason, and the American way, should prevail again. The City Council should repudiate this power grab, and show proper respect for the twice-expressed will of the people. Otherwise, it might not be long before we elect a "Mayor for Life."

You've served your time, Mayor Bloomberg; step aside.

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The Un-American Way by Dan Jacoby

March 4, 1801 was one of the greatest days in American history.

After serving four years, President John Adams had been defeated in his attempt at reelection – defeated by Thomas Jefferson, Adams' political enemy. The campaign was probably the most vicious, brutal and disgusting this country has ever seen. By contrast, Karl Rove's worst tactics still render him a pantywaist. Certainly, Adams had no desire to turn the keys to the Executive Mansion over to someone as venomous and hateful (to Adams) as Jefferson.

But on March 4, 1801, as Adams' term of office ended, he left town. Adams gave way to the still fairly new "American way" of doing things.

Today, Michael Bloomberg faces the end of his two-term limit, just over a year away. But instead of following the shining example of John Adams, Mayor Bloomberg has decided to change the law so that he can run again.

The term limits law was enacted because the people of New York City voted to enact it fifteen years ago in a referendum. Three years later, the City Council tried to overturn part of the law through another referendum, but the voters chose to keep the system they had enacted in place.

Now, Mayor Bloomberg not only wants to change the law to satisfy his own personal desires for power, but also wants to circumvent the will of the people and push the new law through the City Council. This reprehensible action has no moral justification; if the voters enacted the law, only the voters should be allowed to change the law.

More reprehensibly, the City Council may just accede to Mayor Bloomberg's sordid power grab.

In the 220 years since the founding of our country, there have been many examples where people in power failed to live up to the ideals on which America was created. President Adams himself provided one glaring example, when he signed the Alien and Sedition Acts. His behavior alone demonstrates that even leaders have both greatness and vileness in them.

Mayor Bloomberg's great moments are well documented. He steered the city through some of its darkest hours. He took office when the embers from the World Trade Center were still smoldering, the budget was facing a potential \$6 billion deficit, and people were scared. In taking over, he steadied the government, and gave New Yorkers hope that we could get through the hard parts – and the city thrived again.

But this episode is vile and un-American. Mayor Bloomberg's legacy should be of a mayor who saw New York City through the tough times and brought the good times back; it should not be of a man who became so enamored of himself that he believed nobody else could do the job. Those are the legacies of dictators and tyrants.

And any City Council member who votes to support this un-American act should be equally held in permanent contempt.

Time Limits by Dan Jacoby

In show business a standard phrase is, "Timing is everything." The same goes for many other fields, including politics. The timing on Mayor Bloomberg's quest for a third term must be questioned, because it is so easily questionable.

It may be considered merely convenient that the financial meltdown that led to all the speculation of a third Bloomberg term occurred when it did. But the meltdown didn't happen overnight, and speculation has built for months – even years. The convenience of the timing is clearly not coincidental, but the result of careful planning.

How is the timing convenient? It is too late to put a referendum on the ballot for this year's general election, when most New Yorkers will go to the polls. Waiting until next November would be too late for this mayor. Setting up a special election is possible under New York law, but it would be expensive, and the activists who are far more likely to vote, and far more likely to vote against the mayor's proposal, might just have enough to defeat the proposal.

Obviously, the most certain method of overturning the term limits law is by City Council action. The only way such action is possible is if it is extremely difficult to set up a referendum. And right now is when a creating a referendum is least likely. Timing, as they say, is everything.

But there is another element of timing involved here. The general election is less than a month away. Many of those same political activists are heavily consumed by the tight races in various parts of the city, not to mention traveling to other states for the presidential race. They are far less likely to be able to take the time for this issue than they would be at any other time.

There is no way to know for certain, but it would appear that Mayor Bloomberg planned this a long time ago.

Meanwhile, the apparent timing of the bill is also suspect. Newspaper articles appear on a Tuesday. A bill is introduced one week later. A hearing may be held on the bill only three days after it is introduced. In other words, the people and groups who are opposed to the Bloomberg plan have only 10 days to organize before it is too late to take action.

We just got word that the bailout plan passed by Congress in large measure because the members of the House and Senate were scared into acting quickly won't actually have any effect for weeks, if not months, and the full effect won't be felt for a couple of years. Undoubtedly, the bill did not need to be passed so quickly; an extra week or two would not have made a significant difference. Yet that extra week would have given people the chance to make real improvements, instead of the cosmetic changes that change little.

The same is true of this bill. There is no need or reason to push it through so quickly. The only reason for this haste is to get it passed before people have a real chance to think about it.

Timing is everything.

Money Laundering by Dan Jacoby

Is there a rift between über-wealthy Michael Bloomberg and Ron Lauder? Reports are all over the place, and rumors are flying. Let's try to make some sense out of it, bearing in mind that I have no access to either of the principals.

First, we have term limits in place, and in their current two-term limit, because Ron Lauder spent millions of dollars to create a referendum and shepherd it through, and then turn back an attempt to extend them. If it weren't for Lauder's money, we probably wouldn't have term limits in place, and Michael Bloomberg might not have run, much less been elected mayor.

In both cases, it was Lauder's money that funded the effort, but the voters decided.

Now that billionaire Bloomberg, who has spent a lot of his own money on several campaigns and political fights aside from his own, doesn't want to leave at the end of his two-term limit. He also, apparently, doesn't want to put the question before the voters, fearing, perhaps, that even by spending millions of dollars he wouldn't be able to win.

So he recruited Ron Lauder. Lauder and Bloomberg are old friends (or at least acquaintances), so it's pretty easy for them to pick up a telephone and call each other. Bloomberg got Lauder on board, or so it seemed.

Then it turned out that there was a back room deal. Lauder would come on board, but only if he got to be on a Charter Revision Commission. Now it appears that Lauder doesn't favor a permanent extension of term limits, just an exception for his good friend Michael Bloomberg. Despite the lack of connection by the media, these two bits of news may be very tightly connected.

Michael Bloomberg wants to extend term limits, not because he has any aversion to term limits, or because he feels the limit should be three terms, but because he wants to run again. Ron Lauder wants to extend term limits, but only so that Michael Bloomberg can run again, not for anyone after that. And Lauder will be on a Charter Revision Commission that can put changes to term limits to a referendum.

So ... Bloomberg gets his "permanent" extension and runs again. Then, after the election, the "Lauder Commission" recommends reducing the term limits back to two terms. Then Lauder (and presumably Bloomberg) spend millions of dollars to convince the voters that their way is best.

Disgusting! Or, as some people might put it, Politics!

Copyright 2008, Dan Jacoby

Show Me the Money **by Dan Jacoby**

City Council members who have been looking to run for higher office have a money squeeze. It has nothing to do with the economic meltdown (well, sort of). The money squeeze would be a consequence of extending term limits.

How does this work?

Under the city's campaign finance rules, if a candidate wants to get matching funds, the candidate must agree to limit spending. The limits are different for different positions; running for mayor is far more expensive than running for a council seat. The problem is that some supposedly term-limited people (Speaker Christine Quinn, for instance) have been planning to run for higher office, and have already exceeded what their spending limits would be if they decide to run for their old office again next year.

There's really no problem. These people can simply refuse matching funds, and all is well. Of course, any opponent would get extra matching funds, and would have their spending limits lifted, so the incumbents would lose a lot of advantages that their huge campaign war chests would normally give them.

Apparently, however, as soon as the Council approves extending their own term limits, they'll move to change campaign finance laws so that they can pretend that all the money they've already spent doesn't count. That way, they'll be able to lock in their advantages.

If this sounds like an ultimately self-serving, dictatorial method of ruling, it isn't ... quite. It is reminiscent, however, of the days of Boss Tweed.

Clearly, there are serious problems with the current campaign finance system. In 2005, at least four City Council members running for reelection raised over half a million dollars each, in just two years. They didn't spend most of that money; it was intended to fund their 2009 race. Too many of our elected "representatives" are spending most of their time raising money instead of representing their constituents. And because they are raising money, they are making – and keeping – promises to large donors and fundraisers, promises that are not in the best interest of the city.

Now, it appears that even the current campaign finance laws aren't lax enough for the big spenders. If term limits are extended by the City Council, the next step will be for the people behind the extension to gut the campaign finance laws we have, not in order to replace them with something good, but merely to give themselves even more power.

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**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN
VOTERS** OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

150 BROADWAY, 14TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10038
PHONE: 212.725.3541 • FAX: 212.725.3443
WWW.LWVNYC.ORG • OFFICE@LWVNYC.ORG

**Testimony on Intro 845 to Extend Term Limits to a Third Term
Before the
City Council Committee on Governmental Operations
Friday, October 17, 2008**

Good morning. My name is Laura Altschuler and I am Co-Chair of the League of Women Voters of the City of New York. We appreciate this opportunity to address our concerns with efforts to have the Council vote to extend term limits.

While the League has long opposed term limits we believe it would be undemocratic and self-serving for the City Council to abrogate a law decided by a majority of voters in two separate referenda in 1993 and again in 1996. The second vote was much less decisive than the first and there is now ample reason to reconsider the viability of the current law. However, this reconsideration should evolve from a comprehensive review and analysis of our election procedures which are best carried out by a Charter Revision Commission, and not through a hurried vote by the very elected representatives who most benefit by changing the law.

In his January 2008 address on the state of the city the Mayor spoke of appointing a Charter Revision Commission to do a comprehensive review of the Charter. If either the Mayor or the Council had followed through on appointing a commission, all of the issues regarding term limits could have been addressed. The commission would have had an opportunity to deliberate, hear expert and public testimony and make recommendations which could have been voted on in the 2008 election, and put in effect for the 2009 city election. But the Mayor did not appoint the Commission and the Council did not do anything to initiate reconsideration of term limits in time for the 2008 election.

Now we are being told that the current financial crisis justifies overriding the voters' decision to limit office holders to two terms. Your proposed action violates our basic principle of being "a nation ruled by laws and not by men." We have a law which the voters enacted. It should not be bypassed by the very men and women who want to remain in office.

The very nature of the rationale behind this proposal to override public referenda speaks directly to why term limits are counterproductive. Voters should be able to extend the terms of those elected officials they believe are doing a good job and end the terms of

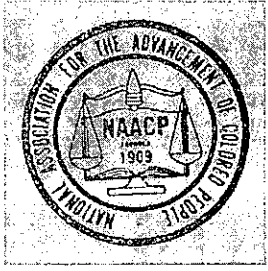
those who are not. Term limits decrease these opportunities to choose our elected officials.

But legislative tinkering with term limits to get around a public mandate is even more dangerous. What band-aid will be applied if another crisis arrives in four years? Will the Council request another extension? Or are we going to be faced with a campaign to make this change temporary just for this select group of officials? Where will it all end?

Since we have lost the opportunity to have a Charter Revision Commission consider and the public vote on term limits this November, we ask the Mayor and the Council to convene such a commission now to review term limits among other city governance issues. Following are some of the term limit issues the commission should address:

- Are three terms better than two?
- Should there be different term limits for the Council, Mayor, Comptroller, Public Advocate and Borough Presidents?
- Should the terms of Council members be staggered?
- Have term limits improved or impeded the city's governance?
- Have term limits resulted in increased legislators' reliance on government staff and lobbyists?
- Should term limits be ended?

The Charter Revision Commission's recommendations may not result in extending the terms ending in 2009. However, they can be made in a calm, deliberative, timely manner and affirmed or opposed by the public after a full and fair airing of all of the issues. We are not questioning the Council's right to enact laws but we do believe there is a conflict of interest in changing this law. Therefore, the League of Women Voters opposes Intro 845 and supports the appointment of a Charter Revision Commission. We now have the history and experience with term limits which merit review and analysis to determine if this law has improved or impeded governance of New York City.



The National Association For The Advancement of Colored People
Metropolitan Council of New York City
39 Broadway Suite 2220 New York, New York, 10006

Hazel N. Dukes
President

October 17, 2008

Kenneth D. Cohen
Regional Director

Good Afternoon,

Astoria

Bronx

Brooklyn

Co Op City

Corona/East
Elmhurst

Far Rockaway

Jamaica

Mid Manhattan

New York

New York City
Housing

Northeast
Queens

Parkchester

Staten Island

Williamsbridge

My name is Kenneth Cohen, Sr., I am the Regional Director of the NAACP New York State Conference Metropolitan Council of Branches (15 active and vibrant NAACP units in each of the five boroughs.)

On February 12th, 2009, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will be 100 years old. We have a grand and bloody history, as we have struggled for the elimination of racial discrimination and fought for equal rights in this Nation. But none of our struggles have been as hard fought and as bloody as in the area of voting rights.

Our slain martyrs include: Medgar Evers, who was shot down on his own front porch because he registered Black people to vote in Mississippi, Viola Luizzi, and a white Michigan housewife who thought it not robbery to go to Mississippi to register voters. She was gunned down on a Mississippi dirt road. We honor the memory of Goodwin, Cheney, and Schwerner City College students who were murdered and buried in a ditch for registering voters. The 15th Amendment to the Constitution in 1870 gave us a right to vote.

Now, 138 years later, right here in New York City, we are facing this equally, despicable and outrageous ploy to undermine the voting rights of New Yorkers. Most of whom are people of color: African American, Latino American, African-Caribbean American and Asian American.

I am appalled that billionaire Ronald Lauder would do a 360 reversal on the principle for which he has stood not once, but twice. In the past he has stood firm for the rights of the citizens of New York to vote to determine whether or not we would have term limits.

In 1993 and in 1996, the people of this great city voted for term limits for New York City elected officials. Both Mayor Bloomberg and Ronald Lauder supported the people's right to determine this. We believed then and we believe now that these votes counted. We also trusted the Mayor and the Council to respect the will of the people.

We believe that it would be highly improper at the very least, if not in violation of the Voting Rights Act and the New York City Conflict of Interest Rules, for the City Council to be so self-serving, as to extend terms limits for their own benefit and for the sitting mayor and other currently city council members whose terms will expire.

At best, City Charter could only ethically and fairly have intended that the council vote on the future extension or elimination of term limits, not their own. Even then, the citizens of this great city should have the right to ratify such a vote.

I urge the members of this committee, the council as a whole and all city officials to step away from this questionable move and to walk away from their seats with dignity after they have served two consecutive terms, as the people decided.

There are plenty of opportunities, especially for experienced and committed New Yorkers who are blessed with talent and who have the time and energy to volunteer their special expertise, for the benefit of New Yorkers.

Take a page from the books of former President Jimmy Carter, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton who are doing great things for people here and abroad as volunteers. They were term limited also.

Let the new, well qualified candidates for mayor and other city council offices present their credentials to the people of this great city. I trust the voters to choose wisely and well. I further urge you the Council members, to do the right thing. Let the voters of the New York City decide whether or not to eliminate term limits.

Do not hide behind the charter and plunge this city into an unnecessary and expensive battle, when we can least afford it.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Cohen, Sr.
Regional Director
NAACP Metropolitan Council
New York State Conference

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

11:04 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Joanne Simon (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

09:35 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/16/10

Name: Luis Gonzalez (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 63 SUTTER, BR, N.Y.

I represent: M. Bloomberg

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

9:45 AM

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Speaker Peter F. Vallone (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

11:41 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: JON FURLONG (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 32 34 47th St Astoria NY

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: He GIN LEE. R.A. AIA

Address: 34-16 149 ST FLUSHING
NY 11354.

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Conrad Stojak

Address: 97-17 Tommie Ave, Woodside Queens NY

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ANTHONY DAVE

Address: 105 DUANE ST

I represent: 247 Jay 10007

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

I AM IN FAVOR OF TERM LIMITS + SUPPORT THE MAYOR'S PROPOSITION in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ALICE F. LABRIE

Address: 101 W 147th ST #18A, NY NY 10039

I represent: MYSELF AS CITIZEN TAXPAYER

Address: 212 283 2944

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Josh Amsw

Address: 360 W 125 St

I represent: DCU

Address: 207 W 125 St NY 10027

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

2:35

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MARCY BENSTOCK

Address: _____

I represent: CLEAN AIR CAMPAIGN

Address: 307 7th Ave, NY 10001

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

2:56

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Patricia Tabone

Address: 2019 48th St Astoria NY

I represent: Voters

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

term limits extension Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Fred Wilson

Address: 210 W 146 St

I represent: NY NY 10069

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: _____ (PLEASE PRINT)
HERB PARDES

Address: _____
NY PRS BY MAIL

I represent: _____
New York, NY

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: _____ (PLEASE PRINT)
M. M. BLUMIE

Address: _____
4517 CLENWOOD RD, BAYLN.

I represent: _____
KINGS GOP. COUNCIL

Address: _____
P.O. BOX 7965, N.Y. N.Y. 10116

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: _____ (PLEASE PRINT)
KEVIN COENEN

Address: _____
16 Smith Street

I represent: _____
myself

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

WAS present 7 hours yesterday
APRM limits
THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK
not called

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: _____ (PLEASE PRINT)
Jim FOURATT

Address: _____
227 WAURLEY PL

I represent: _____
SELF

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845-A Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: BARBARA ZUCKER (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: WOMEN'S CITY CLUB of NY

Address: 307-7th AVE NYC 10001

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845-A Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Nadia Asencio (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 156-08 Riverside Drive, NYC 10032

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 10.7 Friday

Name: SUSAN MAY TELL (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 277 W. 104th ST 10014

I represent: democracy

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845-A Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: A. BRINDORE C. BRINDON (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: T.O. BOX 7965, N.Y. N.Y. 10116

I represent: KINGS G.O.P. LEADERSHIP

Address: 1583 ALBANY AVE, BRKN, N.Y. 11203

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: PAOLA deKock (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 895 Union St

I represent: myself

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: DORIS MITCHELL (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 180 South St

I represent: Self

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Michael Dean (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 200 East 32nd St #14A 10016

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: KEN COTTEN (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: NAACP NYS CONFERENCE

Address: 39 Bdwy

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:50 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845-A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: NYC Comptroller William C. Thompson, Jr.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1 Centre Street - 5th floor NYC, NY 10007

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-17-08

Name: Cathleen Swan
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:55

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: LENORA FULANI
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 225 BROADWAY

I represent: Self

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

10 am

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: STEVEN ARMSTRONG
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 209 BEDFORD AVE #10, Brooklyn 11211

I represent: PWW.org people's weekly world news

Address: 235 West 23rd 8th Floor, NY, NY 10011

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Peter Valtone Sr. (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Ruben Diaz J. (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1163 Manor Ave. Bronx, N.Y. 10472.

I represent: NYS Assembly member.

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Scott M. Strayer (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: Manhattan Borough President

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Public Advocate Dora Gotbaum (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1 Centre St 15W

I represent: The People of NYC.

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL PRO
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Pact Avane

Address: Staten Island

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL PRO
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Fred Wilson

Address: 210 West 146th Street

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL PRO
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jill Whitaker

Address: 332 East 67th Street

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL PRO
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Holden Anelle

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No.

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Amote Nyabongoi

Address:

I represent:

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No.

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Patrick Conden

Address:

I represent:

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

~~PRO~~ PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No.

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Patrick Conden

Address:

I represent:

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No.

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Victoria Bratu

Address: 60-30 Linden Street QNS

I represent:

Address:

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Trudi Dohut

Address: 392 Central Park West

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Susan Stetzer

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Archbishop Angelo Rosario

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Rev. Jacob Underwood

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Sheik Moussa Drummeh

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Shalawn Langhorne

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Richard Mazur

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Michael Rochford

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Pete Ticali (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: James Wong (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Rabbi Kermaier (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: David Louie (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PAD

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Jimmy Chu (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

TERMINAL

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-17-08

Name: ROCK HACKSHAW (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 60-01A 194 ST (2A), FLUSHING, NY. 11365

I represent: MARCUS GARVEY POLITICAL ORGANIZATION

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

10/25

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: WELLINGTON SHARPE (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1400 SCHENCK AVE

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

10/35

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: RICHARD BARR (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 203 W 86 ST NYC 10024

I represent: MYSELF

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Gwen Goodwin

Address: 152 E 100 St

I represent: Myself - And The Coalition to

Address: SAVE PS. 109

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-17-08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: RODOLFO FLORES

Address: 74-10 35th Ave J.H.S NY 11372

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: BRAD LANDER

Address: 256 13th St, Brooklyn, NY 11215

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Oscar Jonas

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Susan May Tell (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 16/17/08

Name: Frank Lo Piccolo (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

term limits

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. changing Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Paul Lang (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1375 HOBART AVE, BRONX, NY 10461

I represent: myself

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

[]

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845-A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Esméralda Simmons (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1150 Carroll St, Brooklyn NY

I represent: Center for Law + Social Justice

Address: 1150 Carroll St, Brooklyn NY

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

12:43

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: **(PLEASE PRINT)**
Philip De Paolo

Address: 217 N 7th St

I represent: The New York Community Council

Address: 217 N 7th St

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:50am

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

re Extending
Term & Limits without Voter Approval
Date: 10/17/08

Name: **(PLEASE PRINT)**
Patricia Godoy

Address: NY NY

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

12:10 PM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/2008

Name: **(PLEASE PRINT)**
Thomas J. Hillgardner

Address: 82-63 170 St Jamaica NY

I represent: Myself

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:15 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: **(PLEASE PRINT)**
Patricia W. Smith

Address: 158-36 100 St Forest Park, NY 11414

I represent: People of New York City

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:30am

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Jeanette Doal (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 30 West 71st # 4D

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Terrell Sambor (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

930

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: RICHARD PARSONS (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: CHAIRMAN, TIME WARNER

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:31

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17

Name: Assemblyman Hakeem Jeffries (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: 5TH Assembly District

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:35 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. TERM Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: ERNEST COLLINGTON (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1231 BEDFORD AVE. BKLYN, N.Y. 11216

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: OCT-12/08

Name: Andiam Velazquez (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: Congressmen

Address: 208 Williamsburg - BKLYN

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:30

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 875 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: DAN JACOBY (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 4748 43 ST WOODSIDE

I represent: DEMOCRACY FOR NYC

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:35 AM

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-16-08

Name: Julio Vargas (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 157-BELMONT AVE - BROOKLYN NY

I represent: MTS MEKE BLOOMING

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

5:21 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845-A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/2008

Name: Dom Pascual, Esq.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1590 Metropolitan Ave. Apt. 11E, Bronx, NY

I represent: myself

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

5:19 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/12/08

Name: Mark de Solla Price
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 235 West 4 Street # 2R, NYC 10014

I represent: Self

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

9:31

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Mr X
(PLEASE PRINT)

Address: _____

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: PATRICK CONDREN

Address: 8936 Colonial Road

I represent: SELF

Address: Bay Ridge

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: John Samps

Address: 163 North Main St.

I represent: _____

Address: New City

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Richard Green

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/2008

Name: PO - LING NG

Address: 168 GRAND STREET N.Y. N.Y 10013

I represent: CPC OPEN DOOR SENIOR CENTER

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: PATRICE SENIOR (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: (Legal) 191 Willoughby St 16B Brooklyn

I represent: Resident of Unlawfully Evicted

Address: 191 Willoughby St Bklyn 11201

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: OCT 17, 2008

Name: RUTH LANDE STEWART (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1120 PARK AVE

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. Per Limits Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: OCT. 17 2008

Name: LARRY PERERA (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 188 NORFOLK ST. NYC 10002

I represent: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Steve Seitz (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 91 E. 3rd St. #30 NYC 10003

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: GREG CAULFIELD

Address: 70 Battery pl NEW YORK

I represent: term limits

Address: _____

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: OCTOBER 17

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: RUTH SHUMAN

Address: 1120 PARK AVENUE, NY, NY 10128

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Virginia Kouloudes

Address: 738 72 Street Brooklyn, NY 11209

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dick Sylla

Address: 60 W. 4th St. New York, NY

I represent: _____

Address: New York University

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

4:52 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-16-08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: BURCHELL M. MARCUS

Address: 817 SARATOGA AVE BKLYN. N.Y. 11212

I represent: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OF BLACK ASSOC

Address: 281 DUMONT AVE. BKLYN. N.Y.

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

4:53

Appearance Card

4:53 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-17-08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: JOSE RICHARDS

Address: 138-75 BROADWAY BROOKLYN N.Y. 11222

I represent: A PRIVATE CITIZEN, ME!

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

4:36 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Dennis C. Smith

Address: #3 Washington Square Village

I represent: myself

Address: #3 Washington Square Village 116

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

4:36 pm

Appearance Card

PRO

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Barbara Hohit

Address: 40 East 10th St NY, NY 10003

I represent: myself

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Bob Zucker

Address: 294 Bond St Bklyn 11231

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ana Maria Archila

Address: 1919 24th Ave, Apt L218, Astoria NY 11102

I represent: Make the Road New York

Address: 301 Grove Street, Brooklyn 11237

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/18/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jaritzia Geigel

Address: 555 Bushwick Ave, 6B Brooklyn 11206

I represent: Make the Road NY

Address: 301 Ave Street, Brooklyn NY

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: Oct. 17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: MARIANNA MOUCLYN BLUME

Address: G.P.O. Box # 20784 Bklyn NY 11201

I represent: _____

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: HON ROBERT P MANGIEMI

Address: 30-01 BROADWAY ASTORIA NY 1107

I represent: CONGRESSMAN VEINER

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/16/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: FRANCISCA RIVERA

Address: 606 E 111st

I represent: MYSELF AS A CITIZEN

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 45A

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: District Leader ~~Kenny Agosto~~ KENNY AGOSTO

Address: 2418 Olivette Ave

I represent: Residents of 80th Assembly District

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. Term limits extension Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Matthew Vaz

Address: 454 42nd Street Brooklyn NY 11232

I represent: Self

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

3:32 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10.17.08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Olga Batyreva

Address: 2807 Surf Avenue #15D Bklyn NY 11224

I represent: myself, I am a public school teacher

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

3:28 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Daniel Clark Jr

Address: 133rd Street between Lincoln and 1st

I represent: Democracy Prep Charter School

Address: 207 W 133rd

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

PRO

Appearance Card

3:29 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 8457 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Daniel Clark

Address: 167 W 133 St

I represent: parent of charter school student

Address: Democracy Prep

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

3:29 pm

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Zyaire M. Taylor

Address: 175 Concourse Village East

I represent: Democracy Prep

Address: 207 W 133

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 849A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10-17-08

Name: ERNESTINE MORALES (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 54 W 211

I represent: VILLAGE ACADEMY

Address: 413 EAST 120

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Colette Orakwue (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 5 Fordham Hill Oval Bronx, NY 10468

I represent: Bronx charter school for Excellence

Address: 1960 Benedict Ave, Bronx, NY 10462

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/08

Name: Andrea Haje (PLEASE PRINT)

THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK

PRO

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 845A Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 10/17/2008

Name: May Taliaferrow (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 578 Pacific St Bklyn ny 11217

I represent: Achievement First Charter Schools

Address: 850 Kent Avenue Bklyn ny

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms