



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

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2025 DEC 24 A 1:48

December 24, 2025

Michael McSweeney
City Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Transmitted herewith is the bill disapproved by the Mayor. The bill is as follows:

Int. No. 1297-A - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the gender-motivated violence protection law.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Raspberry
Deputy Mayor for Intergovernmental Affairs

cc: Honorable Adrienne E. Adams



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December 24, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
141 Worth Street
New York, NY 10013

Re: Disapproval of Introductory No. 1297

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory Number 1297-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York “in relation to the gender-motivated violence protection law.”

Int. 1297-A is effectively a debit card for a single law firm to make a \$300 million withdrawal from city coffers. The bill enables anyone who filed a lawsuit under the GMVA between March 2023 and March 2025 to now revive their claim. The benefits of this bill will substantially inure to a single law firm that filed 550 of the 580 GMVA cases brought against the City between March 2023 and March 2025. A court recently dismissed most of those cases, and the express intent of Int. 1297-A is to revive them and give lawyers another chance to profit despite final court action. Assuming a standard one-third contingency fee for cases that are estimated by OMB and the City Council to cost the City as much as \$1 billion,¹ the law firm handling 95% of the cases could pocket over \$300 million.²

It's no surprise that this law firm has spent the past six months lobbying City Council to achieve this incredible windfall. The law firm began its lobbying campaign in March 2025 when it hired a .

¹ “As written and intended, the bill has substantial financial implications for the City. While recognizing that each case must be assessed on its merits, the City’s experience with similar laws, including the Child Victims Act and Adult Survivors Act, suggests that *the fiscal impact of the bill could potentially reach near \$1,000,000,000.*” Int. No. 1297-A Fiscal Impact Statement Prepared By New York City Mayor’s Office of Management and Budget, Nov. 22, 2025 (emphasis added). *See also* The Council of the City of New York Finance Division, Fiscal Impact Statement Int. No. 1297-A, Nov. 22, 2025 (“The Council estimates that there could be a significant impact on the City’s expenditures due to the enactment of this legislation. *OMB’s estimate of this legislation’s impact on the City’s expenditures is consistent with the Council’s estimate.*”) (emphasis added).

² These new remedies are in addition to earlier remedies afforded by the State’s Child Victims Act and Adult Survivors Act (ASA), which created extended statutes of limitations and “lookback windows” for survivors of sexual assaults against entities that allegedly failed to prevent such assaults. The same law firm also filed numerous claims under both lookback windows.

lobbying firm at \$10,000 per month.³ When the court correctly dismissed 467 of the firm's 550 cases against the City,⁴ the law firm engaged a second lobbyist at \$10,000 per month to directly lobby Speaker Adrienne Adams on the bill.⁵ Their lobbying efforts led the Council to abandon its responsibility as a legislative body to protect the City's diverse and pressing needs, ignore the difficult budgetary sacrifices that this bill will undoubtedly impose, and reject alternative remedies that would have been focused upon fair compensation for survivors rather than litigation and attorney's fees.

My administration stands firmly in support of survivors of gender-motivated violence. Through the Mayor's Office to End Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, we have increased services for survivors at Family Justice Centers; expanded options for survivors to gain and maintain safe and stable housing; and furthered prevention, education, training, and public awareness. My administration attempted to work with the City Council to secure compensation for survivors in a fiscally responsible manner, but the City Council did not engage on any alternative proposals. The City Council would not consider an alternative relief structure for claims brought against the City, such as a compensation fund, nor would they consider more predictable payment schedules, reasonable limitations on taxpayer liability, or caps on attorney's fees. These alternatives would provide survivors with substantial compensation while mitigating the potential budgetary impact on essential City services and taxpayers, with fewer costs going to litigation and attorney's fees. But without explanation, the Council rejected a more reasonable route to justice for survivors, opting instead for a bill that neither limits costs and payments resulting from litigation nor acknowledges impacts upon other City residents. As a result, this bill will impose an extraordinary financial burden on the City.

Because the City must balance its budget, the City will have to either raise taxes and fees to make up for a potential \$ 1 billion shortfall or cut social services. Notwithstanding the responsible fiscal stewardship of my administration, slowing economic growth and significant cuts to federal funding have created a particularly precarious budgetary landscape. This challenging fiscal predicament threatens to impede critical City services, including funds for housing assistance, childcare, public safety, transportation and many other vital City programs for New Yorkers.

³ See MAD Global Strategy Group, LLC Statement of Registration Information for Levy Konigsberg, <https://lobbyistsearch.nyc.gov/> (identifying "Subject Category" as "Local Legislation (including introduction)" and "Subject Details" as "Gender based violence cases taking place in Juvenile Detention Centers"); Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government Lobbying Search, MAD Global Strategy Group, LLC Lobbyist Registration 2025-2026, <https://reports.ethics.ny.gov/publicquerv/ViewFiling/NzE4MzYz0> ("Client hereby engages the Campoamor & Sons LLC ("Consultant") will provide strategic government relations, advocacy, and communications services to support the Client's objective of securing passage of Int. 1297-2025 in the New York City Council.").

⁴ See *J.A. v. City of New York*, Sup Ct, Bronx County, Sept. 11, 2025, Danzinger, J. index 806917/2024E.

⁵ See Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government Lobbying Search, Campoamor & Sons LLC Lobbyist Registration 2025-2026, <https://reports.ethics.ny.gov/publicquerv/ViewFiling/NzU0MzUw0>. This lobbyist then provided quotes to a New York Post story entitled, "Sex-abuse vic[tim]s slam NYC Council speaker for blocking bill allowing more suits — including against Jeffrey Epstein estate"⁵ to pressure the Speaker to advance their bill.

Because this bill was hastily passed at the urging of a single law firm with a clear financial interest in its enactment, rather than after a deliberative process designed to thoughtfully ensure that survivors of gender-motivated violence receive closure, I hereby disapprove Int. No. 1297-A.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Adams", with a stylized, cursive script.

Eric Adams
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Int. No. 1297-A

By Council Members Brooks-Powers, Louis, Hanif, Banks, Restler, Brewer, Avilés, Stevens, Joseph, De La Rosa, Sanchez, Krishnan, Abreu, Fariás, Hudson, Powers, Cabán, Nurse, Schulman, Hanks, Brannan, Riley, Gutiérrez, Moya, Ayala, Marte, Won, Narcisse, Salaam, Lee, Bottcher, Ung, Ossé, Williams, Menin, Gennaro, Feliz, Salamanca, Dinowitz, Holden, and the Public Advocate (Mr. Williams)

Mealy

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the gender-motivated violence protection law

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision a of section 10-1105 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 21 for the year 2022, is amended to read as follows:

a. A civil action under [this chapter] section 10-1104 shall be commenced within seven years after the alleged crime of violence motivated by gender occurred. If, however, due to injury or disability resulting from an act or acts giving rise to a cause of action under this chapter, or due to infancy as defined in the civil procedure law and rules, a person entitled to commence an action under this chapter is unable to do so at the time such cause of action accrues, then the time within which the action must be commenced shall be extended to nine years after the inability to commence the action ceases. Notwithstanding any provision of law that imposes a period of limitation to the contrary, any civil claim or cause of action brought under this chapter that is barred because the applicable period of limitation has expired is hereby revived and may be commenced not earlier than six months after, and not later than two years and six months after, September 1, 2022.

§ 2. Chapter 11 of title 10 the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by local law number 21 for the year 2022, is amended by adding a new section 10-1104.1 to read as follows:

1 10-1104.1. Civil cause of action for crimes of violence motivated by gender that occurred
2 prior to January 9, 2022. a. Any person claiming to be injured by a party who commits, directs,
3 enables, participates in, or conspires in the commission of a crime of violence motivated by gender
4 for which the alleged crime of violence motivated by gender occurred (i) on or before December
5 19, 2000 or (ii) after December 19, 2000 and before January 9, 2022, has a cause of action against
6 such party in any court of competent jurisdiction for any or all of the following relief:

7 1. Compensatory and punitive damages;

8 2. Injunctive and declaratory relief;

9 3. Attorney's fees and costs; and

10 4. Such other relief as a court may deem appropriate.

11 b. Claims or causes of action pursuant to this section must be commenced not later than 18
12 months after the local law that added this section takes effect.

13 c. Any person who brought a claim or cause of action on or after March 1, 2023 but on or
14 before March 1, 2025 that would satisfy the requirements of this section may amend or refile such
15 claim or cause of action to add a cause of action pursuant to this section.

16 § 3. This local law takes effect immediately.

JMF/JGP
LS #18564
11/17/25 9:30p

I hereby certify that the above bill was passed by the Council of the City of
New York on Tuesday, November 25, 2025 receiving the following votes:

Affirmative.....48.....

Negative.....0.....

Abstentions.....0.....

Michael M. McSweeney, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

DISAPPROVED
ON THE 24 DAY OF DECEMBER 25
C. M. MAYOR