



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Int 2133-2020 **Version:** * **Name:** Resources for survivors of sexual offenses.
Type: Introduction **Status:** Filed (End of Session)
In control: Committee on Women and Gender Equity
On agenda: 10/15/2020
Enactment date: **Enactment #:**
Title: A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to resources for survivors of sexual offenses
Sponsors: Helen K. Rosenthal, Ben Kallos, Margaret S. Chin
Indexes: Other Appointment Required
Attachments: 1. Summary of Int. No. 2133, 2. Int. No. 2133, 3. October 15, 2020 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 4. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 10-15-20, 5. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - October 15, 2020

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/15/2020	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
10/15/2020	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2021	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Int. No. 2133

By Council Members Rosenthal, Kallos and Chin

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to resources for survivors of sexual offenses

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 14 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 14-180.1 to read as follows:

§ 14-180.1 Special victims case guidelines. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this section, the term “sexual offense” means conduct defined under article 130 of the penal law.

b. Working group. 1. There shall be a sexual offense case working group. Such working group shall meet within 60 days of the effective date of this section, and at least once a quarter thereafter. The working group shall include:

(i) At least eight members of the police department to be designated by the police commissioner; and

(ii) At least five members from community based organizations to be appointed by the mayor, including individuals with expertise in sexual offense survivor advocacy, women’s rights advocacy, domestic violence survivor advocacy, sexual offense health treatment advocacy, at-risk youth programs, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, non-gender conforming, non-binary and intersex anti-violence advocacy, and survivors of sexual offenses.

2. On or before December 1, 2020, the working group shall develop a sexual offense survivor’s bill of rights, which shall include rights under chapter 238 of title 18 of the United States code, subdivision 13 of section 631 of the executive law, and sections 2805-i and 2805-p of the public health law, or any successor to such provisions, and any regulations promulgated pursuant thereto.

3. On or before December 1, 2020, the working group shall develop a list of best practices for investigating sexual offenses. Such list shall be distributed to police officers working in the special victims division of the police department. Such list shall include recommendations for communicating with survivors of sexual offenses on the status of their case and information about mental health resources available to survivors of sexual offenses. Such list shall also include a recommendation to distribute the survivor’s bill of rights to survivors of sexual offenses. The working group may amend the list from time to time as necessary to keep it current.

4. The working group shall continue to meet to discuss complaints to the police department about how sexual offense cases are handled and make recommendations for improving departmental practices in response to such complaints.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after it becomes law. The mayor and the police commissioner may take any steps necessary for the implementation of this local law before such effective date.

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