

Whereas, According to the American Council on Education's most recent report on minorities in higher education, barely a quarter of the 1.9 million black men between the ages of 18 and 24 nationwide were enrolled in college in the year 2000; and

Whereas, According to the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA"), only 35% of the black men who entered NCAA Division I colleges in 1996 graduated within six years, as compared to 59% of their white male counterparts and 46% of Hispanic males; and

Whereas, Historically, individual educational advancement has been one of the key steps towards upward economic mobility; and

Whereas, The Census Bureau reports that an estimated 27% of the total black population in the United States lived below the poverty level in 2002; and

Whereas, Recent statistics reveal that only half of the City's black male population were gainfully employed in 2003; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the appropriate committee of the Council of the City of New York conduct an oversight hearing regarding the lack of black male enrollment in higher education.

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