Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	Res 1223-2020	**Version:**	*	**Name:**	Permit voter registration, party enrollment and change of party enrollment within 10 days of a primary, general or special election. (A.3557)
Type:	Resolution			**Status:**	Filed (End of Session)
				In control:	Committee on Governmental Operations
On agenda:	1/23/2020				
Enactment date:				**Enactment #:**	
Title:	Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A3557, sponsored by Assembly member Robert Carroll, which would permit voter registration, party enrollment and change of party enrollment within 10 days of a primary, general or special election.				
Sponsors:	Justin L. Brannan, Ben Kallos, Brad S. Lander				
Indexes:					
Attachments:	1. Res. No. 1223, 2. January 23, 2020 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 3. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 1-23-20, 4. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - January 23, 2020				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
1/23/2020	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
1/23/2020	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2021	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Res. No. 1223

Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A3557, sponsored by Assembly member Robert Carroll, which would permit voter registration, party enrollment and change of party enrollment within 10 days of a primary, general or special election.

By Council Members Brannan, Kallos and Lander

Whereas, All eligible New Yorkers deserve a reasonable opportunity to exercise their fundamental voting rights; and

Whereas, New York State consistently has one of the lowest voter turnout rates, ranking 42nd among states in the 2018 General Election (down from 41st in the 2016 General Election), according to the United States Elections Project; and

Whereas, Potential voters often find it challenging to register, due to confusing rules and/or lack of time, resulting in nearly 24% of eligible voters not being registered, according to the think tank Pew Research

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Center; and

Whereas, New York State has closed primary elections that require voters to register with a political party in order to participate in their party's primary; and

Whereas, Prior to a 2019 amendment, New York State had the earliest party enrollment change deadline in the United States: one calendar year and 25 days prior to the current year's General Election; and

Whereas, A 2019 amendment to the Election Law allowed voters in New York State to register to vote 25 days prior to any election event, including general, primary and special elections; and

Whereas, Election Law additionally dictates that political party enrollments must be completed 25 days prior to a primary election, in order to be considered effective; and

Whereas, Under the current process, the voter registration deadline being nearly one month before an election could cause many hopeful registrants to not be eligible to vote in the following election; and

Whereas, On January 29, 2019, New York Assembly member Robert Carroll introduced A3557, which would permit voter registration, party enrollment and change of party enrollment within 10 days of a primary, general or special election; and

Whereas, Making the voter registration deadline closer to election events can only benefit New Yorkers, by granting more time to register to vote; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the city of New York calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A3557, sponsored by Assembly member Robert Carroll, which would permit voter registration, party enrollment and change of party enrollment within 10 days of a primary, general or special election.

EK
LS11088
1/10/2020

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