

The New York City Council

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #:	Res 2022	0242- 2	Version:	В	Name:	Proposing an amendment to the relation to equal protection, and o Legislature to approve this amen session so that it may be submitt NYS for approval (S.15002/A.41	calling on the dment again next ed to the voters of
Туре:	Reso	olution			Status:	Adopted	
					In control:	Committee on Civil and Human F	Rights
On agenda:	6/16	/2022					
Enactment date:					Enactment #	t:	
Title:	prop callir	osing an a ng on the l	amendmen Legislature	t to the to ap	e New York St	re for approving S.15002/A.41002, a r ate Constitution in relation to equal pr andment again next session so that it r	otection, and
Sponsors:	Julie Menin, Erik D. Bottcher, Shahana K. Hanif, Nantasha M. Williams, Kristin Richardson Jordan, Amanda Farías, Chi A. Ossé, Farah N. Louis, Mercedes Narcisse, Rafael Salamanca, Jr., Tiffany Cabán, Alexa Avilés, Linda Lee, Selvena N. Brooks-Powers, Adrienne E. Adams						
Indexes:							
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Resolution congratulating the State Legislature for approving S.15002/A.41002, a resolution proposing an amendment to the New York State Constitution in relation to equal protection, and calling on the Legislature to approve this amendment again next session so that it may be submitted to the voters of New York State for approval.

By Council Members Menin, Bottcher, Hanif, Williams, Richardson Jordan, Farías, Ossé, Louis, Narcisse, Salamanca, Cabán, Avilés, Lee, Brooks-Powers and The Speaker (Council Member Adams)

Whereas, The New York State Constitution ("the Constitution") does not currently include a comprehensive equal rights provision; and

Whereas, An amendment to the Constitution is necessary to ensure legal equality for all New Yorkers;

Whereas, S.51002/A.41002, sponsored by Senate Majority Leader and President Pro Tempore Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Member Rebecca Seawright, respectively, proposes an amendment ("the amendment") to Article 1 of the Constitution; and

Whereas, In its current state, Article 1, Section 11 of the Constitution states that, "No person shall, because of race, color, creed or religion be subjected to any discrimination in his or her civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state", and

Whereas, This list of protected classes is limited and does not offer comprehensive protection to all New Yorkers; and

Whereas, S.15002/A.41002 would amend the Constitution by adding an equal rights provision that would expand the list of protected classes to include ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy; and

Whereas, The Constitution was last amended to address the topic of equal rights in 1938, which predates the Civil Rights Movement, as well as major advancements toward equality, including steps towards gender and LGBTQ equality, and therefore does not address the protection of equal rights with respect to these essential rights; and

Whereas, On July 1, 2022, the amendment passed both the Senate and Assembly during a special

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session of the Legislature; and

Whereas, The amendment must now pass the newly elected Legislature next year before it can go before voters; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York congratulates the State Legislature for approving S.15002/A.41002, a resolution proposing an amendment to the New York State Constitution in relation to equal protection, and calling on the Legislature to approve this amendment again next session so that it may be submitted to the voters of New York State for approval.

WD LS #6957/9097 7/7/2022