



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 1731

Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to enact, and the Governor to sign, a law that would create an exemption from water and sewer charges for student dormitories owned by primary and secondary parochial schools

By Council Member Greenfield

Whereas, Since enacting Chapter 696 of the Laws of the State of New York in the year 1887, the New York State Legislature has granted certain types of non-profit organizations exemptions from local water and sewer charges; and

Whereas, To date, 17 categories of organizations have been recognized by the Legislature as exempt, including non-public schools from pre-kindergarten to grade 12 and places of public worship; and

Whereas, Parochial schools owned by religious institutions that are used exclusively for primary and secondary education qualify for exemptions from water and sewer charges as non-public schools; and

Whereas, Some New York City parochial schools own affiliated student dormitories that are not entitled to exemptions from water and sewer charges under any category of state law exemption; and

Whereas, It is commonly accepted that many non-profits such as educational and religious organizations render important, benevolent services to their communities; and

Whereas, These attributes provide a compelling policy rationale for exempting these types of organizations from certain levies such as water and sewer charges; and

Whereas, An exemption from water and sewer charges for student dormitories owned by parochial schools would help these institutions dedicate a greater share of their resources to their religious and educational purposes; and

Whereas, The furtherance of these purposes could help to enhance the communities in which these institutions are located and promote benevolent causes in New York City; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York State Legislature to enact, and the Governor to sign, a law that would create an exemption from water and sewer charges for student dormitories owned by primary and secondary parochial schools.

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