

From: [A Beyda](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:12:05 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

A Beyda
11223

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Aaron Fried](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:49:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Aaron Fried

[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-4811

From: [Aaron Roth](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Rights
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 11:28:41 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Thanks,

Aaron Roth

From: [Aaron S](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:26:34 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Aaron Stein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:56:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Aaron Stein

[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-4853

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Abba Lauterbach](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:43:01 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Abba Lauterbach
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1705

From: [Abby Kaufthal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Endorsement for Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:25:42 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Abby kaufthal

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Abe Bindiger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 10:58:57 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Abe Bindiger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-3963

From: [Abe Z.](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Stand with Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:33:23 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Abe Zweig
Zip code 11210

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Abraham Feigenbaum](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:25:46 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. When "peaceful" protests descend into verbal and physical harassment, they are no longer peaceful, and should be kept far away from places of worship, which are sanctuaries for many people. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Abraham Feigenbaum
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5424

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Abraham Gilbert](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 8:20:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Abraham Gilbert
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [adam glick](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:08:14 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. adam glick

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10036-5811

From: [Adam Hakimian](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Free Speech and Worship Access AH
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:01:11 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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-Adam

From: [Adam Stein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:34:45 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Adam Stein

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [adina wallerstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:23:53 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. adina wallerstein
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6606

From: [Alan Hackman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 6:32:15 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Afshin Hakimian

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Afsoon Daniel](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 8:44:19 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Afsoon Berookhim



From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Alan Gross](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:49:33 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Alan Gross
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-3102

From: [Alan](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 9:51:49 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Alan Laytner

From: [Alan Kravetz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 9:16:08 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Best regards.

Alan

--

Alan Lee Kravetz

[REDACTED]

[Westport, CT 06880](#)

[REDACTED]

From: [Alan Wasserman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:25:59 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Alan Wasserman (10801)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [albert shayek](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:12:20 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. albert shayek
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-3311

From: [Alexander Fox](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding the Right to Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 3:57:25 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted, Alex Fox

From: [Alexa Mund](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship and Safety
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 11:36:14 AM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Alexa Mund

From: [Alexander Goren](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:28:59 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Alexander Goren



E-mail



From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Alexis Shapiro](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:54:33 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City resident, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City.

Our State and Federal Constitutions grant every citizen the right to practice whatever religion they choose to. This right must be protected and not eroded! Worshipers must be free to enter and exit their place of worship unmolested, free from fear and intimidation for simply exercising their Constitutional rights. As a representative of the people, you must protect the rights and freedoms guaranteed to us.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Alexis Shapiro
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10019-5850

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Alice Smith](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:45:29 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Alice Smith
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-4133

From: [Alisa Eilenberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Championing Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:42:10 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Alisa Eilenberg
Bronx, NY 10463

From: [Alisha Summers](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Support Needed: Bill 0001-2026 and Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:23:23 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Alisha Summers

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Alisha Summers

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Aliza Methal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:37:43 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Aliza Methal
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5514

From: [Aliza Sebel](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:00:13 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [Allan Lieberman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship Amid Protests
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:42:35 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Allan Lieberman
Woodmere NY

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Allison Williams](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 8:54:49 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Miss Allison Williams
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11372

From: [alyssa schuck](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:44:43 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Alyssa Schuck

From: [Alyssa Winter](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:30:05 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York State resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Alyssa Winter
Cedarhurst, NY 11516

From: [Amnon Shemi](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:50:41 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Amy Atlas](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:43:48 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Amy

Sincerely,
Mrs. Amy Atlas

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10021-3572

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Amy Harlib](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:26:46 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Amy Harlib

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10011-2707

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Amy Schrader](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:27:18 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Amy Schrader
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10024-3605

From: [Andia Smull](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:12:46 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
ARS

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Andrea keehn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 8:27:11 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Andrea keehn
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2403

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Andrea Wallach](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:56:57 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ms. Andrea Wallach

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10023

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Andrew Adelson](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:54:42 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Andrew Adelson
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10013-2460

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Andrew Siris](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:26:14 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Andrew Siris
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-2842

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Andrew Solomon](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:10:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to a recent audit of antisemitic incidents (which is consistent with other reports), New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mr Andrew Solomon

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10024-6022

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Angela Fachlaev](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 8:49:42 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Angela Fachlaev
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-1333

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ani Huebner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:11:37 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Ani Huebner
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10021-4703

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship and Protest
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:01:03 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Ani Huebner
10021

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Anita Smielowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:35:30 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

Dear council members

I was furious when new Mayor Mandami rescinded the protection of security around all places of worship to prevent violence and assaults and physical damage to these hallowed institutions.

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Anita Smielowitz
[REDACTED]
Brooklyn NY 11223

Sincerely,
Mrs Anita Smielowitz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-5405

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:36:37 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Ann Cohn

From: [Ann Eizik](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:48:59 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Ann Eizik
Monsey NY

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Anna Calderon](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:21:36 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Anna Calderon
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1755

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Anna Ecker](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:28:23 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Anna Ecker
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Anna Lis](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:28:10 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Anna Lis

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10040-3845

From: [Anne Rivers](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 4:40:07 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

The information contained in this electronic e-mail transmission and any attachments are intended only for the use of the individual or entity to whom or to which it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If the reader of this communication is not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent responsible for delivering this communication to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, copying or disclosure of this communication and any attachment is strictly prohibited. If you have received this transmission in error, please notify the sender immediately by telephone and electronic mail, and delete the original communication and any attachment from any computer, server or other electronic recording or storage device or medium. Receipt by anyone other than the intended recipient is not a waiver of any attorney-client, physician-patient or other privilege.

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [annie FONFEDER](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:18:27 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
miss annie FONFEDER
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-2914

From: [Annie Hofstatter](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:43:25 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Annie Hofstatter

From: [Anthony Mammon](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:50:17 AM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted, Anthony Mammon

From: [Anya Carrasco](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Vote Against Buffer Zone Bills
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 9:56:25 AM

Hello,

My name is Anya and I am a resident in the Kingsbridge area neighborhood of the Bronx.

I write to you in opposition to Speaker Menin and Councilmember Dinowitz's proposed bills around places of worship and educational facilities, and urge City Councilmembers to vote against them.

In tandem with Governor Hochul's proposed buffer zone laws, these bills embody the Palestine exception to free speech: they have been invoked explicitly to target pro-Palestine protests. The proposed places of worship proposal is intended to derail scrutiny around the city's protection of illegal sales of stolen Palestinian land. The educational facilities bill is intended to criminalize protests on college campuses. Both would criminalize First Amendment-protected speech and assembly.

Because places of worship and educational facilities are everywhere, these bills would make most of the city off-limits to protest — prohibiting and proscribing countless demonstrations. Protest at places of worship has also been essential to reproductive health and queer activism, rooted in the principle that no institution is exempt from public accountability. Free speech protections cannot be selectively applied.

For years, New Yorkers have sought to bring attention to the illegal sale of Palestinian land at settler recruitment fairs held in houses of worship and educational facilities. These events violate the federal Fair Housing Act, New York's Human Rights Law, Real Estate License Law, and Real Property Law, as well [Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention](#). Rather than addressing these flagrant violations, these bills silence and punish New Yorkers, further exposing us to police brutality, and distract from grave legal violations.

Speaker Menin and Councilmember Dinowitz's final-hour amendment should not be counted as a victory. In fact, they deputize the New York Police Department, and its delinquent record of violence against Black, brown and muslim residents of the city, with even more power to decide when protest is permissible and when it isn't. The conflation of sites of worship and illegal land sales is one made by Zionists in our communities as they attempt to shield themselves from scrutiny using claims of anti-semitism. But the truth remains that these illegal land sales displace Palestinians. Under the violence of lawfare here and in occupied Palestine, Palestinians in the West Bank are left with no legal recourse to stay in their homeland, and I strongly object to the mobilization of our city's resources to abet ethnic cleansing.

These bills would also dramatically increase police presence at these locations, becoming another tool for surveillance, mass arrests, and selective enforcement — especially against communities of color. The proposals mirror the FACE Act, which the Trump administration is now weaponizing to prosecute anti-ICE and pro-Palestine protesters and journalists alike, accelerating the national criminalization of dissent.

I urge all council members to vote against these bills. It is the precise duty of elected members of our City Council to protect the right of New Yorkers' to protest and practice for our freedom of speech and assembly.

Thank you,
Anya

From: [Anya Spector](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:26:32 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

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Submitted,

© Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred, All Rights Reserved

Anya Y. Spector, LMSW, PhD
Sent from my iPhone

From: ariellewis1233@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Ariel Lewis](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:24:01 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ariel Lewis
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ariella Chayne](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:00:01 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ariella Chayne
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-2547

From: [Arielle Kimsal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:36:36 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Thank you,
Arielle

From: [Arkadiy](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Endorsement for Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:14:29 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [ARKADY GERSHKOVICH](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:20:28 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. ARKADY GERSHKOVICH
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-1145

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Arlene Gonter](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:25:40 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Arlene Gonter
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5228

From: [Arlene Ross](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:36:45 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

This is imperative for religious freedom!

Submitted,

Arlene J Ross

From: [Arlene Ross](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:13:31 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,

From: [Arthur Katz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:34:52 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Arthur Moskowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:56:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Arthur Moskowitz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4504

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Aryeh Fuss](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:24:20 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Aryeh Fuss
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11213-4927

From: [Ava Cushner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:46:20 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,
Ava Cushner
11598

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ava Gropper](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 12:16:58 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Ava Gropper
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-4511

From: aviyam.levinson@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Avi Levinson](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 6:01:24 PM

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Dear Council Members,

As a New York City resident, I am submitting this written testimony in support of Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers be able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to the ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State experienced 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Furthermore, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. The alarming number of these incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization. Many American Jews live with gnawing fear.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Avi Levinson
4543 Delafield Ave Bronx, NY 10471-3904

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avital Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:11:20 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Avital Cohen

[REDACTED] Forest Hills, NY 11375-1029

From: [Ilan Madjar](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 7:23:48 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Avital Madjar

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avraham Soleimani](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:50:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Avraham Soleimani
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avrohom Kryman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:26:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Avrohom Kryman
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-5004

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avrohom Nusbaum](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:52:27 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Avrohom Nusbaum
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5248

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avrohom Vegh](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:40:23 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Avrohom Vegh
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3199

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avrohom Wolman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:21:16 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Avrohom Wolman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4817

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avrohom Zachariash](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 11:55:33 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Avrohom Zachariash
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11204-1428

From: [Ayala Dorfman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship Amid Protests
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:45:24 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Aziva Biderman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:11:53 PM

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Dear Council Members,

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Aziva Biderman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4414

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Baila ettlinger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:34:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Baila ettlinger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3729

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Barbara Dweck](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:57:26 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Barbara Dweck
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6903

From: [barbara gochberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:43:20 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Dr. Barbara Gochberg
Bronx, NY

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Barbara Klein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:35:07 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Barbara Klein
10023

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Barbara Langsam](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 3:51:46 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation. Stop Antisemitism now!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Barbara Langsam
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-1833

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Barbara Morgan](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:40:28 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Barbara Morgan

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10027-4709

From: [Barbara Reilly](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:52:07 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Barbara Shamah](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:35:15 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

182% increase in anti semitic attacks since new administration took office. Given some questionable appointments, it seems protecting the Jewish community is lip service.

Sincerely,
Ms Barbara Shamah
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-2736

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Barbara Weinstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:15:18 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr Barbara Weinstein
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10011-0525

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Barry Stein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:50:13 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Barry Stein
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10128-0705

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Batsheva Fogel](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:12:22 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Batsheva Fogel
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3938

From: bshonek@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Batsheva Shonek](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:18:10 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Batsheva Shonek
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3741

From: [Bella Kesler](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:16:24 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Bella Spektor](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:25:46 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Bella Spektor
[REDACTED] Bronx, NY 10463-3815

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:23:50 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Ben Krischer

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Ben Krischer

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ben Natanov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:45:31 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Ben Natanov

[REDACTED] Jamaica, NY 11435-1203

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Benjamin Eleff](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:11:24 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Benjamin Eleff
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-1939

From: [benjamin Gober](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Safety and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:26:05 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Benjamin Gober
- Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Benjamin Lifshitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:21:00 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Benjamin Lifshitz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5142

From: [Benji Horowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:48:55 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

bh

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:16:03 PM

[REDACTED]

As a NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026.

The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest.

I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST: The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND: Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction.

Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Regards,
Ben
NYS

From: [Bernard Vaiselberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:32:10 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [Bernard Weinstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 3:51:00 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Bernard Weinstein MD

From: [Paul White](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 3:55:24 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Bernard White

From: [B blumie](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 6:20:25 AM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Beth Bloom

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Beth Perez](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 9:13:31 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ms Beth Perez

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10025-4919

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Betty Ehrenberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:53:19 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Betty Ehrenberg
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10033-1205

From: [Betty Roth](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:09:59 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Betty Roth Staten Island NY

From: [Beverly Pincus](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 10:12:34 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Bina Hyman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:16:18 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Yaakov Binyomin Pfeiffer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:10:19 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Yaakov Binyomin Pfeiffer
[REDACTED] Inwood, NY 11096-1303

From: [Bita Gil](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship and Free Speech
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:38:34 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Boruch Sternglantz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:21:01 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Boruch Sternglantz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-5108

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Bracha Hershkowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:26:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Miss Bracha Hershkowitz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-5102

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Brad Gerstman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:24:15 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Brad Gerstman
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10021-4032

From: [Brandon Shulman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:45:32 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Brenda Elishis](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:22:54 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Brenda Elishis
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-2426

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Brenda Neuhoff](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:20:23 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brenda Neuhoff
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5142

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Brocha Ettlinger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:34:13 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Miss Brocha Ettlinger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3729

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Brocha Montag](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:40:52 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brocha Montag
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4811

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Brocha Silverstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:20:29 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Brocha Silverstein
[REDACTED] Cedarhurst, NY 11516-1523

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Bruce Lovett](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:13:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Bruce Lovett
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5632

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Bruce Stein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:36:58 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Bruce Stein

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10038-3654

From: [Coach Gold](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:18:08 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
C Hold

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [C Kirsten](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:19:08 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ms. C Kirsten

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10023-7902

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Cara Eisen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 9:26:30 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation. I understand trying to balance this with honoring first amendment rights, and am moved by that challenge, especially in these divisive times. But I urge you to keep us safe, and not to allow politics to support having people live in fear.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ms. Cara Eisen

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10024-5306

From: [Cara Stein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:01:32 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

C.VS

From: [CARI SOLEIMANY](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship Amid Protests
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 6:07:26 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Carin Bail](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:30:17 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Carin Bail
[REDACTED] Queens Village, NY 11427-1011

From: [Dr. Carl Guterman's Office](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:21:30 AM

[REDACTED]

As a NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [CAP](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:56:16 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Carla A.

From: [Carol Grossman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding the Right to Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 9:34:59 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Carol Grossman

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Carol Lipsky](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:07:17 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Carol Lipsky

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10021-3908

From: [Carol Rosenthal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship and Safety
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:19:39 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Carol Rosenthal
Queens, NY

From: [Carrie Edwards Wolkoff](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 11:39:20 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Best regards,
Carrie Edwards
Gene Therapy Payer Lead Commercial and Federal US
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Caryn Weinblatt](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:13:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Caryn Weinblatt
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-5066

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Cathleen Sims](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:32:15 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Cathleen Sims

[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11201-2325

From: [cathy Reed](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Protect Worship and Free Speech
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:52:41 AM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Cathy Reed

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Celia Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:22:31 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.
Celia Cohen

Sincerely,
Mrs Celia Cohen
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-3233

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [CHAIM BANASH](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:31:03 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
MR CHAIM BANASH
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-4672

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaim Breier](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:22:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Chaim Breier
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-4502

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaim Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:49:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Chaim Cohen
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaim Fink](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:39:14 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Chaim Fink
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3130

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Yosef Chaim Portal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 6:29:42 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Yosef Chaim Portal
[REDACTED] Chestnut Ridge, NY 10977-6915

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Avi Levinson](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 6:01:24 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a New York City resident, I am submitting this written testimony in support of Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers be able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to the ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State experienced 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Furthermore, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. The alarming number of these incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization. Many American Jews live with gnawing fear.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mr. Avi Levinson

[REDACTED] Bronx, NY 10471-3904

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaim Shonek](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:17:36 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Chaim Shonek
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3741

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaim Simon](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:58:07 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Chaim Simon
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-2864

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaim Stober](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:02:00 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Chaim Stober
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1600

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chana Flohr](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:16:42 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

I am an observant Jew and a wife and mother of observant Jewish males who frequent synagogues every day. I would feel 100% vulnerable if antisemitic masses can congregate around our places of worship and scream and shout angrily with the intent of intimidating and keeping us from worshipping.

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Chana Flohr
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-4835

From: [chanale](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:21:20 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [charl salameh](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:04:27 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. charl salameh
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-1012

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [charles semah](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:17:20 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. charles semah
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-2041

From: [Charles Brumer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:37:26 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted, Charles Zbrumer 11230

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [charna silber](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:49:56 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. charna silber
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11204-1048

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Charnee Lieber](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 11:44:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Charnee Lieber
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5229

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chava Goldman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:43:47 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills was way too close to home for me personally. My brothers in a nearby yeshiva were banned from leaving for several hours - we were worried for their safety and for the safety of my sister, brother in law, and little baby, who live not far from the scene of the protest. American Jews in general face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Chava Goldman

[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1848

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaya Feuerman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:33:58 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Chaya Feuerman
[REDACTED] Fresh Meadows, NY 11366-1261

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaya Kranz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:52:39 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Thank you,

Sincerely,
Miss Chaya Kranz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11204-1742

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaya Kryman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:27:31 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Chaya Kryman
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-5004

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaya Monosov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:40:11 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Chaya Monosov
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-4864

From: [Chaya Gordon](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces Is A Right!
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:35:11 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Chaya Okay
Woodmere, NY

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NOTHING IN THIS EMAIL CONVERSATION IS, OR SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE, A CONTRACTUAL OR OTHER LEGAL COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF MAGUIRE LENDING LLC OR ANY AFFILIATES THEREOF.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaya Perl](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:21:59 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Chaya Perl
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4909

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chaya Steinberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:33:30 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Miss Chaya Steinberg
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-2534

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Chayim Walllk](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:12:52 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

My family and community are literally traumatized by the blatant antisemitism taking place in NYC. It has nothing to do with the state of Israel. It's anti Jewish. All we ask is to please have a safe haven for prayer and community gatherings. As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Chayim Walllk
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-5030

From: [Cheryl Doberman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:21:39 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Cheryl Mayerhoff](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 2:26:45 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Cheryl Mayerhoff
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3158

From: [Cindy Becker](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 7:20:04 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 7:44:16 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Cindy Neiburg

From: [Cindy Schreier](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Endorsement for Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:57:48 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Cindy Schreier

From: [Craig Berkowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:43:53 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Craig Berkowitz

From: [cindy merrick](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:30:50 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Cynthia Cottle

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access. You must protect against hate
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:26:19 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Cynthia Perry MD

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Pastiche Guattari](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Protect Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:19:10 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Cynthia Roblin

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Cynthia Roblin

From: [cindyrosen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:03:38 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Cynthia S Rosen

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:17:27 AM

[REDACTED]

I stand with the millions of New York citizens who do not support racism, hate, calls to violence, or a terrorist propaganda agenda. As a New York City resident (10024), NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Dr. D. Johnson

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From: [Dale Weiner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:26:03 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Dale Weiner

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Daniel Brownstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:30:28 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Daniel Brownstein
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-5604

From: [Daniel Friedlander](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:32:14 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Daniel Fridlander

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Daniel Friedman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:50:27 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City resident, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police to create security perimeters at places of worship across the city. It is critical that people be able to enter and exit churches, synagogues and mosques without fear of intimidation or harassment.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State (NYS) recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country. And 68% of these (documented) incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several politically-motivated confrontations outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I very much support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to vote for this act.

Sincerely,
Mr. Daniel Friedman
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-5025

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Daniel Sodden](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 6:13:55 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Daniel Sodden
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-1342

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Daniel Spekman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 9:28:33 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

When our Forefathers established this country in the hope of obtaining religious freedom, they incorporated into the first amendment of the Constitution, Freedom of Religion.

It can be easily understood by a layman that this principle was established so that religious freedom can be practiced in this beautiful country without fear of interference from religions which are opposed to the belief of other religions.

The fact that at this point in time we have to consider passing any type of legislation to protect the basic religious rights that are Forefathers established this country on is something that's not even necessitate any type of legislation, but if it does that we must sincerely and wholeheartedly vote in favor of such legislation and laws to uphold the basic tenants of the United States Constitution and the freedom of religion.

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Daniel Spekman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4131

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:05:19 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones. **FIRST** The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid. **SECOND** Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer. The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest. Submitted, © Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred, All Rights Reserved

From: [Danna Sobiecki](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Spaces and Free Speech Rights
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:30:41 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Danna Sobiecki

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [daphne druckman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:16:23 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms daphne druckman
[REDACTED] Hallandale Beach, FL 33009-5949

From: [Daphne Stern](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 7:58:40 AM

[REDACTED]

As a NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Daphne Stern

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Darin Zaga](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:05:19 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Darin Zaga
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6609

From: [Darlene Mollov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:12:48 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Darlene Mollov
10901

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Darlene Mollov

From: [David Bensonhurst](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Urgent: Endorsement for Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Worship Access
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 1:40:09 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Dave Bensonhurst

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Sent from my iPhone

From: davidbistricher@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [David Bistricher](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:15:41 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Bistricher
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5305

From: [David Braun](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:02:17 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
David Braun

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From: [David Callen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship Amid Protests
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:10:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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David Callen

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [David Cohn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 10:59:16 AM

Good morning,

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Best regards,
David Cohn

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [david friedman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 9:50:24 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. david friedman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4827

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [david greenberger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:46:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr david greenberger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-2357

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [DAVID ISHAY](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 2:29:21 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. DAVID ISHAY
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-4829

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Kirzner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:11:30 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Kirzner
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5428

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [DAVID KLEIN](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:37:36 PM

[REDACTED] report suspected phishing emails with the Phish Alert Button or forward them to phish@oti.nyc.gov as an attachment.

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. DAVID KLEIN
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1743

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [david Landman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:41:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. david Landman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4603

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Levy](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:18:27 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Levy

[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1852

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Lieber](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 11:44:19 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Lieber
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5229

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Lowenstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:35:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Lowenstein
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-1618

From: [David Muchnik](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:17:12 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

David Muchnik

Sincerely,
Mr. David Muchnik
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5402

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Pivovoz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 9:06:08 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Pivovoz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4415

From: [David Musher](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:41:05 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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David R. Musher, MD
[REDACTED]
New York, NY 10029

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Ribner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:51:07 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Ribner
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4817

From: [David Saed](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 7:23:14 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

David Saed, Esq.
11753

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [david steinberger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:23:14 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. david steinberger
[REDACTED] Bronx, NY 10471-3318

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Tanner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:28:11 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Tanner

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10033-2909

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Wender](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:24:36 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Wender
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3129

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [David Zigelman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:25:11 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. David Zigelman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11234-3418

From: [David](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:46:00 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [Dayna Kashdan](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Free Speech and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:01:56 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Regards,
Dayna Kashdan



From: [dyogev](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:37:33 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Dean Yogev
10028

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Debbi Lederman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:07:43 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills (where I live!), to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Debbi Lederman
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2340

From: [David Aidelson](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:47:17 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Debbie Aidelson

From: [debbie weinstein fein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:52:44 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Debbie Fein

From: [Debbie Florsheim](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:32:56 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Debbie Florsheim
10506

From: [Debbie Goldberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Voice Matters: Support Bill 0001-2026 for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:25:56 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Debbie Goldberg
NY 11422

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Debbie Goldberg

Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Deborah Zoimen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:42:41 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Debbiezoim Deborah Zoimen
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3611

From: [Debby Sobin](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:24:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Debby Sobin

From: [Deborah Bermish](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:55:48 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Deborah Bermish
11366

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Deborah](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Worship Access Amid Protests
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:29:28 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Deborah Briggs
10023

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Deborah Hettleman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:20:56 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Deborah Hettleman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-7201

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Deborah Landman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:47:49 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Deborah Landman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4603

From: [Demalemu5](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 11:10:54 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Deborah Mara

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Deborah Weinberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:15:47 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Deborah Weinberg
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1814

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Deborah Wolofsky](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:33:53 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Deborah Wolofsky
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4749

From: [Debra Abittan](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Support Needed: Bill 0001-2026 and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:09:56 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Debra abittan

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Debra Berkovits](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:07:24 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Debra Berkovits
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-4313

From: [Denise Montague](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Support Needed: Bill 0001-2026 and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 2:53:54 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Denise Montague

From: [Devorah](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:36:00 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Denise OBrien

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Devora Kozlik](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:43:24 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Devora Kozlik
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-4489

From: [Diana Levin](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Worship Spaces
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:44:07 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Diane Berkowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Rights
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:43:16 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Diane Berkowitz

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Diane Hirschberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:48:17 AM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Diane Hirschberg [REDACTED]
Structured Systems 22 Lake Road, Rye, NY 10580
Health Insurance for individuals, nonprofits and small businesses

[REDACTED]
NYC, NY 10021

From: [Diane Manheim](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Rights
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 12:56:02 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Diane Manheim
West Hempstead NY 11552
Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Vital to Protecting Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:26:03 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Diane Sarnoff
Woodmere 11598

From: [Dina Benun](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:42:04 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Dina Benun, NY, NY

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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Rochelle Dina Kupperman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:01:39 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Dina Kupperman

Sincerely,
Mrs. Rochelle Dina Kupperman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-2079

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Dina Wizmur](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:30:02 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Dina Wizmur
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10019-0096

From: [Donna Bergman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Voice Matters: Support Bill 0001-2026 for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:48:44 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Donna Bergman

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Donna Lippman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Protest
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 7:04:52 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Donna Lippman
New York, NY

From: [Donna Zapin](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship and Protest
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:11:47 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Donna

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Donna Zapin
Pediatric Occupational Therapist
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Doris Adest](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:31:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Doris Adest
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-2128

From: [Dorit Kafaierad Yahoo](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please read!! Support for Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Rights and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:30:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Dorit Mik

From: [Doron](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 4:22:30 PM

[REDACTED]

Hello,

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Doron Fagelson

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Suzanne Segal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:08:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Dorothy van amerongen

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Douglas Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:01:57 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Douglas Cohen

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Douglas Weiner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 8:56:55 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Douglas Weiner

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10025-2637

From: [Dov Ginsburg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:17:00 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Dovid Reich](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:46:37 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Ty
David reich

Sincerely,
Mr. Dovid Reich
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5321

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Dovid Roth](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:48:16 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Dovid Roth
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6505

From: [Eddie Pantiliat](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:07:45 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

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Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Edis Fuss](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: A Call for Balanced Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:15:31 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

[REDACTED]

From: [Edward Arfe](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:27:04 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Edward Arfe, Esq.
NYC

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Sent from Edward Arfe

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [EDWARD ESSES](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:23:28 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. EDWARD ESSES
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-3056

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Efraim Moseson](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:53:30 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Efraim Moseson
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4472

From: [Efrem Berk](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Call for Balanced Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 5:03:20 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Efrem Berk

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Zehava Witkin-Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:46:45 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Zehava Witkin-Cohen
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-1735

From: [Eileen Benun](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:10:08 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Eileen Benun

From: [elaine arnold](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:27:37 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Elaine Arnold

From: [Elaine Cohn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I WANT MY MOSQUES PROTECTED TOO. Bill 0001-2026
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:38:02 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Elaine Pass !!

From: [Elaine Cohn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: If anyone opposes this bill, he or she is submitting to a funded mob mentality that believes in racism.
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:41:38 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Elaine Pass !! Hammondsport, NY

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From: [Mark s](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Rights and Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 6:07:39 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Elana Kornreich](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship Access
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 8:49:29 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eli Sabbagh](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:23:22 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eli Sabbagh
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-2801

From: [Elikan, Eliana](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:03:27 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Eliana Elikan

Eliana Elikan Freilich

C:

E:

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eliana Jacobs](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 2:42:06 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Eliana Jacobs

Sincerely,
Ms. Eliana Jacobs
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10024-6048

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eliezer Biderman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:11:16 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eliezer Biderman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4414

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Elinoar Abramov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:58:00 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Elinoar Abramov
[REDACTED] Forest Hills, NY 11375-2242

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eliot Y Ghatan](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:59:15 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Eliot Y Ghatan
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-5102

From: [elisa albert](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:55:41 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [Steven Kadish](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Step Towards Protecting Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:29:55 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Elisa Kadish

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Elise Karras](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 6:02:05 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Elise Karras, LMSW
11106

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Elise Feuerstein Karras, LMSW

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Elisheva Ben-Habib](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:49:06 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Miss Elisheva Ben-Habib
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2415

From: [Elisheva Kierman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:27:23 PM

[REDACTED]

As a NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Elisheva Kierman

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Elisheva Kierman MS CCC SLP TSHH
Maaneh Lashon-Speech Language Pathologist



From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Elisheva Young](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 9:17:34 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Miss Elisheva Young
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5307

From: [Elissa Einhorn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:26:28 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [elite ben-yosef](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:19:11 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Eliteby
Zip 11021

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eliyahu Hurwitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:29:46 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eliyahu Hurwitz
[REDACTED] Woodmere, NY 11598-2145

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eliyahu Sternberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:26:19 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eliyahu Sternberg
[REDACTED] Queens, NY 11691

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eliyahu Weissman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:09:16 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eliyahu Weissman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-5959

From: [Elizabeth Goldbaum](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Protest
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:44:06 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Elizabeth Goldbaum

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Spaces and Free Speech Rights
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:29:04 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones. **FIRST** The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid. **SECOND** Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer. The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest. Submitted, © Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred, All Rights Reserved

From: [Elizabeth Rand](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Call for Balanced Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:30:05 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Elizabeth Rand

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Ellen Feig](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 5:00:12 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ellen Meyerson](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:57:01 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ellen Meyerson

[REDACTED] Floral Park, NY 11005-1045

From: [ELLEN MUSS](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:47:45 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Ellen Muss
New Rochelle, NY

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ellen S Frankel](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 11:40:21 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Ms. Ellen S Frankel

[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-1931

From: [Ellen Weisman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:57:35 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Ellen Weisman

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Elliot Egert](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:09:07 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Elliot Egert
[REDACTED] Spring Valley, NY 10977-1309

From: ejemal1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Elliot Jemal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:33:54 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Elliot Jemal
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6214

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Elya HOBERMAN](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:31:52 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Elya HOBERMAN
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4811

From: [Elyse Zlotnikov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:03:04 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Elyse Zlotnikov
Nyc resident-zip code 10013

From: [Emma Laskin MD](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:52:32 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Emma Laskin

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Emma Laskin

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Zena Vaynblat](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:19:04 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ephraim Gurell](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:51:29 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Ephraim Gurell
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-1792

From: enconeysrealty@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [ephraim nierenberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:14:03 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. ephraim nierenberg
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3622

From: ericchamama1@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Eric Chamama](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:59:52 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eric Chamama

[REDACTED] White Plains, NY 10601-1553

From: [Eric Kurtzman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:39:24 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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All the best,

Eric

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eric Leibowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:00:31 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Eric Leibowitz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-2914

From: [Eric London](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:28:07 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

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Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Eric Shuter](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:27:59 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Eric Shuter
[REDACTED] Richmond Hill, NY 11418-1345

From: [Erica Baruch](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:35:55 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Erica Baruch

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:08:14 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Erica Freeman

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Erik Yankelovich](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship and Protest
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:38:31 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
-EY

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Step Towards Protecting Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:59:29 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

erika germano

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Sent from my iPhone

From: ehochber@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [erika Umame](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:33:09 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. erika Umame
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10014-7800

From: [Eryn Victoria Fox](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:23:42 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Eryn

From: [Esther Krawitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Protest
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 7:34:29 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Esther Amini

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Davidova](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:55:36 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther Davidova
[REDACTED] Forest Hills, NY 11375-1337

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Elbaum](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:29:36 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther Elbaum
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4820

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther F Schwartz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:02:42 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther F Schwartz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-4084

From: [E Jacobs](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship Access
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 8:43:32 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Esther Jacobs

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Kanner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:57:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Esther Kanner
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-4917

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Koenig](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:25:42 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther Koenig
[REDACTED] Fresh Meadows, NY 11365-2948

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Nussbaum](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:44:03 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther Nussbaum
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4137

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Salamon](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:03:03 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther Salamon
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4629

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Esther Talansky](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 4:43:12 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I am all for freedom of speech but not at the cost of freedom of religion.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Esther Talansky

Sincerely,
Mrs. Esther Talansky
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-5251

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ettie Sendrovitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:07:14 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Ettie Sendrovitz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-3802

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Zev Kops](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:16:34 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshipers` are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Zev Kops
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2308

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Zev Perkal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:02:31 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Zev Perkal
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1603

From: [Evan Schweitzer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:24:29 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Evan Schweitzer, CPA

[REDACTED]

Merrick, NY 11566

[REDACTED]

From: [EVAN SHORE](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:46:52 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Evan Shore

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Sent from my iPad

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Evelyn Schiffer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:15:30 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Evelyn Schiffer
[REDACTED] Cedarhurst, NY 11516-1641

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Faigie Selengut](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:22:59 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I Faigie Selengut am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Faigie Selengut
[REDACTED] St Brooklyn, NY 11230-4811

From: colish@everyactioncustom.com on behalf of [Faith Colsh](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:48:24 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely, Faith Colsh

Sincerely,
Ms. Faith Colsh

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10012-1936

From: [Fariba Ghodsian](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Necessary Step for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:43:47 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Dr Fariba Fischel Ghodsian

[REDACTED]

From: [Fawn Rich](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Step Towards Protecting Worship Access!!!
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 7:16:08 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Fawn Rich
10010

From: [Fayge Feder](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:19:17 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Fay Feder
Woodmere, NY

From: [Faye Wilbur](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Endorsement for Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:58:36 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Faygie Friedman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:20:17 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrsy Faygie Friedman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3733

From: [fs1117nyc](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:31:45 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Felice Schachter, MSEd
10023

From: [FeliceAnna Yesilevskiy](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: A Call for Balanced Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:02:21 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Felicia Hirshfeld](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:36:13 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

FELICIA HIRSHFELD
New York, NY

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From: [felicia miller](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:32:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Felicia Miller
11954

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Florence Reiser](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:36:13 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Florence Reiser

[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-2720

From: [Fran Kalish](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:01:26 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Fran Kalish

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Frances Angelborg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:31:37 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Frances Angelborg

From: [Francine Green](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:56:44 PM

As a NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest.

I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones. FIRST The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer. The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction.

Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.
Submitted, © Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred, All Rights Reserved

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Frank Braun](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 9:14:14 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Frank Braun
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5440

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Frida Aminova](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:17:25 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Frida Aminova
[REDACTED] Rego Park, NY 11374-2645

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Frieda Reiz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:55:04 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Frieda Reiz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4052

From: [Frima Ackerhalt](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship and Safety
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:32:10 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Frima Ackerhalt
14221

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [G SADOWSKY](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:09:21 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

This legislation is an unfortunate but necessary step to preserving the safety and rights of worshippers.

Sincerely,

Dr. G SADOWSKY

[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-3727

From: [Gabrielle Fishman](#)
To: [NYC Council Hearings](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the 100' safety buffer
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:43:13 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to instate the 100-foot safety buffer around houses of worship, consistent with the protections that already exist for abortion clinics.

According to NYPD data, antisemitic incidents continue to account for the largest share of hate crimes in New York City. In neighborhoods such as Borough Park and areas near Central Park East, protests outside synagogues have blocked entrances, disrupted services, and created an atmosphere of intimidation and fear for congregants and attendees.

This proposal is a content-neutral public safety measure, not a restriction on free speech. New Yorkers should be able to access houses of worship and community events without fear or harassment.

Please prioritize safe access and restore the 100-foot buffer as the bill was originally drafted.

Respectfully,

Gabby Fishman

Fort Greene

From: [Gabriella Diamond](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:29:24 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Gabriella Diamond

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gad Klein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:26:45 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Gad Klein

From: [gail.cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 8:21:51 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Gail cohen

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Gail Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 1:16:45 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Gail Cohen

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10028-2094

From: [gail frydkowski](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:25:45 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

G Fryd
10009

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Gail Gassner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:05:09 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Gail Gassner

[REDACTED] Forest Hills, NY 11375-5406

From: [Gail Kraushar](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship from Protest Disruption
Date: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 12:31:59 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Gail Kraushar

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

From: [gale Warm](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 7:27:16 AM

[REDACTED]

I'm

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Gale warm
11746

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Galina wolf](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 10:51:28 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new

elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Galina Wolf

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:35:10 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Gary D. Ambrose

Director

PCM Consultants LLC

Seventeen Battery Place

Suite 913

[New York, NY 10004](#)

Phone [\(212\) 972-0056x210](#)

Fax [\(646\) 292-8910](#)

gambrose@pcmny.com

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Gary Lundner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 5:29:51 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Gary Lundner
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-3107

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Gedalya Kahn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:26:32 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Gedalya Kahn
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-3807

From: [genia bekker](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship and Protest
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:10:35 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Genia Bekker
11235

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Gennadi Traiberman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Step Towards Protecting Worship Access
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 10:09:27 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Submitted,

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Gennadi traiberman

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Geoffrey Kole](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:36:02 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Geoffrey Kole

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10040-4082

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Gidon Goldberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:14:00 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Gidon Goldberg
[REDACTED] Jamaica, NY 11418-1845

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [glen tobias](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 10:20:09 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. glen tobias

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10021-4297

From: [Gloria Goldenberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:32:54 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Gloria Goldenberg, Esq.
Solomon & Bernstein
453 FDR Drive, C906
[New York, New York 10002](#)
Telephone [\(212\) 545-8611 x119](#)
Facsimile [\(212\) 545-0238](#)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Golda Gelb](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:25:50 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Golda Gelb
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4741

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Golda Srebro](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:21:26 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Golda Srebro
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11204-1738

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Goldie Schlosser](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:17:06 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Goldie Schlosser
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4824

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Goldy Reichman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:10:08 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Goldy Reichman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-3254

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:17:16 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Grace Arking

From: [qbiens22](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:24:47 PM

[REDACTED]

As a NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Gregg L Bienstock

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hacha Zellermaier](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:35:02 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hacha Zellermaier
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11218-3512

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hadassah Bakst](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:18:58 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Hadassah Bakst
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4623

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hadassah Schwartz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:15:06 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hadassah Schwartz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4506

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hadassah Shapiro](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:14:49 PM

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Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hadassah Shapiro
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11234-3439

From: [Haim Benari](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Championing Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:23:22 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Haim Benari

From: [Haina Just-Michael](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 4:49:10 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Haina Jst-Michael JstMediaGroup,Inc.

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Haleh Damaghi](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 5:43:22 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Haleh Damaghi
[REDACTED] Kings Point, NY 11024-1010

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hannah Farhi](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:39:26 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hannah Farhi
[REDACTED] St New York, NY 10021-4300

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hannah Lapidus](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:19:59 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hannah Lapidus
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6105

My name is Hannah and I am a concerned citizen.

I write to you in opposition to Speaker Menin and Councilmember Dinowitz's proposed bills around places of worship and educational facilities, and urge City Councilmembers to vote against them.

In tandem with Governor Hochul's proposed buffer zone laws, these bills embody the Palestine exception to free speech: they have been invoked explicitly to target pro-Palestine protests. The proposed places of worship proposal is intended to derail scrutiny around the city's protection of illegal sales of stolen Palestinian land. The educational facilities bill is intended to criminalize protests on college campuses. Both would criminalize First Amendment-protected speech and assembly.

Because places of worship and educational facilities are everywhere, these bills would make most of the city off-limits to protest — prohibiting and proscribing countless demonstrations. Protest at places of worship has also been essential to reproductive health and queer activism, rooted in the principle that no institution is exempt from public accountability. Free speech protections cannot be selectively applied.

For years, New Yorkers have sought to bring attention to the illegal sale of Palestinian land at settler recruitment fairs held in houses of worship and educational facilities. These events violate the federal Fair Housing Act, New York's Human Rights Law, Real Estate License Law, and Real Property Law, as well Article 49 of the Fourth Geneva Convention. Rather than addressing these flagrant violations, these bills silence and punish New Yorkers, further exposing us to police brutality, and distract from grave legal violations.

Speaker Menin and Councilmember Dinowitz's final-hour amendment should not be counted as a victory. In fact, they deputize the New York Police Department, and its delinquent record of violence against Black, brown and muslim residents of the city, with even more power to decide when protest is permissible and when it isn't. The conflation of sites of worship and illegal land sales is one made by Zionists in our communities as they attempt to shield themselves from scrutiny using claims of anti-semitism. But the truth remains that these illegal land sales displace Palestinians. Under the violence of lawfare here and in occupied Palestine, Palestinians in the West Bank are left with no legal recourse to stay in their homeland, and I strongly object to the mobilization of our city's resources to abet ethnic cleansing.

These bills would also dramatically increase police presence at these locations, becoming another tool for surveillance, mass arrests, and selective enforcement — especially against communities of color. The proposals mirror the FACE Act, which the Trump administration is now weaponizing to prosecute anti-ICE and pro-Palestine protesters and journalists alike, accelerating the national criminalization of dissent.

I am sick of zionists weaponizing "anti semitism" to hurt palestinian and activist communities. I am a proud New York Jew and I urge all council members to vote against these bills. It is the precise duty of elected members of our City Council to

protect the right of New Yorkers' to protest and practice for our freedom of speech and assembly.

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hannah Tepfer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 6:33:50 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Hannah Tepfer
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5423

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Harold Schonfeld](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:19:17 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Harold Schonfeld
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6765

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Harriet Nockenofsky](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 11:56:56 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Harriet Nockenofsky
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-5104

From: [Harry C.](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:45:14 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Harry Cederbaum

From: [Harvey Arfa](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026 1:12:52 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Harvey Arfa

● Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred,

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Harvey Eagle](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 8:55:32 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Harvey Eagle
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10010-6401

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hayim Lowenstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:25:17 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Hayim Lowenstein
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-3151

From: [Heidi Hass](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:31:59 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Heidi Hass

From: [Helaine Harman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:52:28 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Helaine Harman

From: [Helaine Harte](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:15:22 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
H. Harte

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [HELEN Fisher](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:19:50 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. HELEN Fisher
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3610

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [helen greenberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Sunday, February 22, 2026 11:22:17 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. helen greenberg
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10009-3547

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Helen Pinkhasova](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:13:51 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Helen Pinkhasova
[REDACTED] Forest Hills, NY 11375

From: [Helen Weichholz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Worship Access Amid Protests
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 7:22:48 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Helen Weichholz
10025

Helen Weichholz

US: [REDACTED]
Israel: [REDACTED]
WhatsApp: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Helen Weichholz

US: [REDACTED]
Israel: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Helen Weichholz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Henny Miller](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:55:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Henny Miller
[REDACTED] Kew Gardens, NY 11418-1402

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Henri Azizo](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 8:57:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Henri Azizo
[REDACTED] Fresh Meadows, NY 11366-1416

From: [gastro7](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:51:39 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Henry Klotz

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:32:11 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,

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D. Hermann Chasen

From: [Hillary Bell-Mendez](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 5:07:01 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Hillary Bell

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Hillel Plumer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 6:41:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Hillel Plumer
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-4718

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Rebecca Steinmetz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:38:58 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

I feel that people should have the freedom to access their respective houses of worship without being accosted by protesters. As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms. Rebecca Steinmetz
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3126

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Howard Ettliger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:33:44 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Howard Ettliger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-3729

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [howard katzenstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 1:34:05 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. howard katzenstein
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6609

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Howard Schoenfeld](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:13:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Howard Schoenfeld
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3428

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ida Unger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:55:41 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs Ida Unger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-4018

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ilana Taubman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:28:55 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ilana Taubman

[REDACTED] Fresh Meadows, NY 11365-3418

From: [Ilana Taubman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Monday, March 2, 2026 11:13:37 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Ilana Taubman
11365

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ilene Safier](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 10:06:50 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Ilene Safier

[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10314-4357

From: [Illana Moskowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:40:30 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

illana moskowitz



From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ira M Steinmetz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:31:14 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Ira M Steinmetz
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-3301

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ira Plutzker](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:24:43 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ira Plutzker

[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11224-4013

From: [Ira Spodek](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:08:25 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Ira Spodek

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Irena Starikov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 11:26:25 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [Irene Wesel](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Solution for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:49:31 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [Irina Gulbrandsen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 10:54:04 AM

[REDACTED]

Hello,

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Irina Gulbrandsen

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Irving Moskovits](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 10:53:01 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Irving Moskovits
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-6419

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Irwin Shamah](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 7:24:42 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Irwin Shamah
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-2214

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Israel Gaiger](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:18:09 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Israel Gaiger
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11204-1469

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [issac bodenstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 7:27:26 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. issac bodenstein
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-1528

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Issac Young](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:08:09 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Issac Young
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5307

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Zissy Orlander](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 12:36:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Zissy Orlander
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-1846

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Ivon Katz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:08:40 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a 5th district constituent and NYC resident, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation and I hope you will do whatever is within your power.

Sincerely,
Mr. Ivon Katz

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10028-4553

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jack M Rubin](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:28:43 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jack M Rubin
[REDACTED] Staten Island, NY 10309-2709

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jack Joshua Fulda](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:50:03 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jack Joshua Fulda

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10033-8507

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jack LACHMAN](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:22:01 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Prof. Jack LACHMAN
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-4625

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jack Wolco](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:43:35 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
mr Jack Wolco
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11219-3974

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jacob Rosenwasser](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 4:08:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a Jewish New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment, intimidation or worse.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues a stone throws away from where I live. Such as Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jacob Rosenwasser
[REDACTED] Kew Gardens, NY 11415-3302

From: [Jacob Tauber](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Protest
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:26:40 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jay Wilamowski](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding the Right to Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 9:11:55 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jacob Wilamowski
Bronx

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Jay

From: [Jacqueline Donner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:07:03 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Jacqueline Donner

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [jaege](#) [REDACTED]
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 9:09:58 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones. **FIRST** The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid. **SECOND** Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer. The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest. Submitted, © Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred, All Rights Reserved

From: [Jacob Weichholz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Endorsement for Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:23:21 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jake Weichholz

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Jacob Weichholz, CPA, MBA

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jweichholz@withum.com

(O) 212-829-3268



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From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [James Asher](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 9:36:33 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. James Asher
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10075-0231

From: [Jamie Levine](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Call for Balanced Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:40:36 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jamie Levine
10028

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jrcohn](#)
To: [NYC Council Hearings](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Protection for synagogues, churches and mosques
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:13:27 PM

Thank you
Sent from my iPad

> On Feb 26, 2026, at 2:43 PM, NYC Council Hearings [REDACTED] wrote:

>

> Hello,

>

> Your statement will be added to the legislative record.

>

> Best,

> New York City Council

>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: JANA COHN [REDACTED]

> Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:33 AM

> To: NYC Council Hearings [REDACTED]

> Subject: [EXTERNAL] Protection for synagogues, churches and mosques

>

>

>

>

>

>

> Dear Council members,

>

> New York City has been a tolerant city where people of different color and religions. We need to ensure that that continues. The city should not allow protests in the perimeter of oa temple.

> Please make sure that our right to enter and exit a temple, mosque or church is protected

>

> With much appreciation,

>

> Jana Cohn

>

>

>

>

> Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jane Marks](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship and Free Speech
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:44:29 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jane Marks 10003

From: [Janet Henner](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support - enforceable buffer zones around synagogues
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 6:22:07 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

I live in New York City (10014). I am writing as a New York City resident to urge you to support the establishment of clearly defined and enforceable buffer zones around synagogues, and to restore Sections 60 and 61, which previously enabled synagogue security teams to coordinate effectively with the NYPD for enhanced protection.

For many Jewish families, attending synagogue is not simply a weekly ritual — it is the center of communal, spiritual, and cultural life. Parents bring their children. Seniors gather in fellowship. Life-cycle events are celebrated. No one should have to pass through hostility, intimidation, or targeted harassment in order to pray.

Regulated buffer zones are not about restricting lawful speech. They are about creating a reasonable perimeter that protects access, prevents intimidation at entrances, and allows worshippers to enter and exit safely. Other sensitive locations receive structured protections when public safety requires it. Houses of worship deserve the same thoughtful approach.

In addition, Sections 60 and 61 previously provided a practical framework that allowed synagogue security volunteers to coordinate more directly with law enforcement. That coordination strengthened preparedness, clarified protocols, and enhanced response capacity without placing additional strain on public resources. In the current climate, proactive coordination is not optional — it is responsible governance.

Jewish institutions have faced increasing threats and security concerns in recent years. While community members have stepped up with training and volunteer efforts, they cannot and should not shoulder this burden alone. The City has both the authority and the obligation to ensure that houses of worship remain safe and accessible.

I respectfully ask you to take concrete action: support enforceable buffer zones around synagogues and restore the mechanisms that allow structured cooperation between synagogue security teams and the NYPD. These measures would send a clear message that New York protects all of its communities and will not tolerate intimidation at places of worship.

Thank you for your leadership and your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,
Janet Henner

Enviado desde mi iPhone

From: [janet.rosenblatt](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:09:31 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Janet Kleiner

From: [Janet Zuckerman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Support Needed: Bill 0001-2026 and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:02:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Janet Zuckerman



From: [Janice Blumenthal](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Upholding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:45:18 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Janice Blumenthal
11230

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Janine Ellis](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:41:05 PM

[REDACTED] fe. Report suspected phishing emails with the Phish Alert Button or forward them to phish@oti.nyc.gov as an attachment.

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr Janine Ellis
[REDACTED] Great Neck, NY 11021-4927

From: [Jared D](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:48:44 PM

Hello,

As a NYC resident (Park Slope), New York State citizen, and voter, I am submitting this comment in support of **Bill 0001-2026**. This legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving the right to lawful protest.

I would like to respectfully address two arguments raised in opposition regarding floating buffer zones:

1. **First**, the rights to freer speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to exercise their freedom of speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by the Supreme Court and are constitutionally valid.
2. **Second**, opponents suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy a special status because activities inside those spaces allegedly "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani stated following the Park East Synagogue incident that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." However, the perceived legality of activities within a space does not expand the right to protest those activities. Furthermore, no one (including the Mayor) has identified a specific law, treaty, or international compact governing New York City that has been contravened by activities inside a house of worship. Vague allegations of violations do not grant an elevated status to the right to protest, nor do they provide immunity from reasonable restrictions.

Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest. Simply put enough is enough with the hatred this city is showing towards Jewish people. It is frightening and is starting to look like the build up of hate that marred the late 20s and 30s in Germany. It is starting to become a place where I would never want to start a family.

Thank you,

Jared D

From: [Jason Horowitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 5:22:36 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jason Horowitz

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jay H Goldberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:32:38 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As an elderly New York City resident I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jay H [REDACTED]
2540 Bayswater Ave Far Rockaway, NY 11691-1726

From: [jay Jacob](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Free Speech and Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:47:43 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jay & Shani Lerman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Balancing Rights and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:02:40 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jay Lerman MD

From: [Jay SPECTOR](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Safeguarding Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:30:16 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jay Spector, Esq 11559

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J. Steven Spector, Esq.

From: [Jbohorodza](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:23:41 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones. **FIRST** The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid. **SECOND** Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer. The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest. Submitted, © Copyright 2026 End Jew Hatred, All Rights Reserved

From: [jrweis727](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Spaces from Disruption
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 7:22:45 AM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Jeanne Weisberg

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jeffrey Goldstein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:14:10 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jeffrey Goldstein
[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5301

From: [Ezra Haller](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 10:08:26 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jeffrey Haller

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jeffrey Reichman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:16:06 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jeffrey Reichman
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-2917

From: [Jeff Wells](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 10:41:04 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Jeffrey Wells
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jennifer Meltzer](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:49:49 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Jennifer Meltzer
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2839

From: [Jerry Weiss](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 1:25:17 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jerome Weiss

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [JERROLD WALKENFELD](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:40:19 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. JERROLD WALKENFELD
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-1526

From: [JERRALD WEINSTEIN](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Support Needed: Bill 0001-2026 and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:52:53 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Jerry Weinstein
Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jesse](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Voice Matters: Support Bill 0001-2026 for Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 4:16:44 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone
Jesse Rosenbaum

From: [Jesse Rosenfeld](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:44:04 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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[Yahoo Mail: Search, Organize, Conquer](#)

From: [Jessica Ross](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Balance for Worship Access
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 4:46:26 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Jessica Ross

From: [Jessica Sklar](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocacy for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Rights
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:31:47 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone

From: [Jill Chodorov](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:34:41 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Submitted,

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Jill Kaminsky

From: [Jim Rigg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship and Safety
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:24:46 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

From: [JK \(Lilith\) Canepa](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Proposed ban on protests near places of worship or educational facilities
Date: Sunday, March 1, 2026 10:46:45 AM

[REDACTED]

My name is Judith Canepa and I am an organizer with More Gardens! Fund, El Jardin del Paraiso, and the No North Brooklyn Pipeline Alliance, Im also active in Sane Energy Project, LUNGS, and Jewish Elders and Jewish Voices for Peace.

I submit my comments to oppose Speaker Menin and Councilmember Dinowitz' proposed bills around places of worship and educational facilities.

I remember when the police were called during the High Holidays during a dispute between the congregation upstairs at the Park Slope Jewish Center and B'nai Jacob, the Orthodox congregation downstairs. It was a deep shock to me to see police at my place of worship. Why were we bringing in the law when it was a matter between us Jews? And here we face the same dilemma - we who stand for human rights being told by police - historically a bad sign - that now they're in charge.

The same with schools. Education was once a pursuit of knowledge. If my child is in class and a protest walks by, what does she see? Again, police enforcing a ban on free speech. Is that what we want to teach young minds?

Tell me, where among the citadels of power and the places of influence - places of worship and education - do we New Yorkers practice our right to the First Amendment? The beach, perhaps, or by warehouses.

The bills clearly embody the Palestine exception to free speech: they have been invoked explicitly to target pro-Palestine protests. The places of worship proposal is intended to derail scrutiny around the city's protection of illegal sales of stolen Palestinian land. The educational facilities bill is intended to criminalize protests on college campuses. Both will prevent First Amendment-protected speech and protest.

Because places of worship and educational facilities are everywhere, these bills would make most of the city off-limits to all protest. The bills could prohibit and criminalize countless demonstrations, even if a protest is merely passing by.

Protest at places of worship whose leaders have tried to control public policy and bodily autonomy has been essential to reproductive health and queer activism. This tradition of protest is based on the principles that no institution is exempt from public accountability, and that free speech protections cannot be selectively applied, both of which are threatened by the

proposed legislation.

These bills would also dramatically increase police presence at places of worship and educational facilities. The legislation would become another tool for surveillance, mass arrests, and selective enforcement, especially against communities of color and the movements challenging entrenched power. There is already widespread use of excessive force by the NYPD against protesters, particularly by its violent Strategic Response Group.

The proposals accelerate the national criminalization of dissent and mirror the FACE Act, which the Trump admin is now weaponizing to prosecute anti-ICE and pro-Palestine protesters, as well as journalists.

I urge all councilmembers, particularly those who claim to value democracy, to vote against these bills. We need our City Council to stand for New Yorkers' freedom of speech and assembly.

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jnathan Krohn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 12:04:05 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jnathan Krohn

[REDACTED] Far Rockaway, NY 11691-5215

From: [JOAN EHRLICH](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:37:26 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Joan Yael Ehrlich

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Sent from my iPad

From: [JoCarole Brodsky](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Voice Matters: Support Bill 0001-2026 for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:46:44 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,

From: [jocelyn.schaible](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Sacred Spaces
Date: Saturday, February 28, 2026 10:05:58 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,
Jocelyn Schaible 14564



"Almost everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about. Be as kind as you can, always."

From: jodi.golinsky
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: CRITICAL!!!!
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:42:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Sincerely,
Jodi Golinsky
[REDACTED]
New Rochelle, NY 10805

From: [Jodi Graber](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Necessary Step for Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:35:45 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Jodi

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jodi Innerfield](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Friday, February 20, 2026 3:45:20 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Ms Jodi Innerfield

[REDACTED] New York, NY 10069-0912

From: [Jody Comins](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Worship Access in NYC
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:48:14 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jody Comins
10010

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Jody Comins (she/her)

From: [Joe Gorelick](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Step Towards Protecting Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:10:54 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,

Joe G

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joel Liff](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:17:47 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joel Liff
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-2259

From: [Joel Sugarman](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Constitutional Approach to Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 8:23:48 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Joel Sugarman, NY 10036

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [JOEL ZIPPER](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 3:03:53 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. JOEL ZIPPER
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-5572

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joey Ishay](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:54:11 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joey Ishay
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6703

From: [Joey Mosseri](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Balanced Approach to Worship and Safety
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 4:20:21 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Joey Mosseri
Brooklyn New York 11223

From: [Jonah Ginsberg](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] urgent
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 6:55:21 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jonah Ginsberg
NYU
10053

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Jonah Levant](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:16:51 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jonah Levant
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2811

From: [Jonathan Altmark](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Access to Houses of Worship Amid Protests
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:04:17 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jonathan altmark

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [JONATHAN SIEGEL](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 1:55:08 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. JONATHAN SIEGEL
[REDACTED] New York, NY 10023-3159

From: [Yechiel Jonathan Jonny Stein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Ensuring Safe Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:33:49 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Jonathan Stein
Flushing, NY

From: [Jonathan Weiss](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 5:40:12 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

Jonathan Weiss, Concerned Citizen

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joseph Beyda](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 4:25:35 AM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joseph Beyda
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11223-2944

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joseph Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:59:54 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr Joseph Cohen
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5049

From: [Joseph Cohen](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Your Support Needed: Bill 0001-2026 and Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 7:49:07 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

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Submitted,

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Joseph Cohen

From: [Joseph Farahnik, P.E.](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Friday, February 27, 2026 5:10:25 AM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Joseph Fa

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joseph Gross](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 6:26:01 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joseph Gross
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-2829

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joseph Klein](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:12:28 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joseph Klein
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11204-1841

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joseph Nawlo](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:01:48 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joseph Nawlo
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-6413

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [JOSEPH SEGAL](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:32:16 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. JOSEPH SEGAL
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230-4110

From: [Josh Ehrlich](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Advocating for Bill 0001-2026: Protecting Rights and Worship Spaces
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:41:01 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

FIRST

The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

SECOND

Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,

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Sent from my iPhone
Dr. Josh Ehrlich

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joshua Fogel](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:12:16 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

According to ADL's 2024 Audit of Antisemitic Incidents, New York State recorded 1,437 antisemitic incidents, the highest number of reported incidents in the country, representing 15% of all antisemitic incidents nationwide. Further, 68% of these documented incidents took place in the five boroughs of New York City. This alarming number of incidents requires us to take immediate action to protect the Jewish communities here in New York City.

We have witnessed several high-profile events outside of synagogues in our community, such as Park East Synagogue and Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, to reference only two. American Jews face growing threats to their safety and well-being. These include violent attacks, antisemitic conspiracy theories, and marginalization rooted in anti-Israel sentiment that often crosses into antisemitism. These incidents highlight why so many American Jews are living in fear today.

I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Dr. Joshua Fogel
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11210-5037

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joshua Kohn](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 2:05:43 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joshua Kohn
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11230

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joshua Mayerhoff](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 2:34:31 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mr. Joshua Mayerhoff
[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 11367-3157

From: [Joshua Moskovitz](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Call to Safeguard Access to Houses of Worship
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 5:30:15 PM

[REDACTED]

As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill [0001-2026](#). The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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The rights to speech and protest are not absolute. No one has a right to march themselves into the Oval Office and demand to exercise their freedom of speech there. And no one has a right to exercise their right to speech while impeding access to a house of worship. Restrictions on these rights in the form of flexible floating buffer zones have been repeatedly upheld by our Supreme Court and are entirely constitutionally valid.

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Opponents of this bill suggest that protests outside houses of worship enjoy some special status because activities inside those spaces "violate international law." Mayor Mamdani expressly stated after the Park East Synagogue debacle that "sacred spaces should not be used to promote activities in violation of international law." Not only is it false that the legality of activities in a space enlarge the right to protest the activity, but not one adherent to this unsupported idea -- including Mayor Mamdani -- has ever identified any law, treaty or international compact governing NYC that has been contravened by activities inside a NYC house of worship. If activities going on in houses of worship violate a law governing this City, which law is it? No one in opposition to this bill, including our Mayor, has come up with an answer.

The stalking horse of vague violations of never-identified laws do not give rise to a new elevated status for the right to speech and protest -- nor does it give rise to immunity from restriction. Please protect access to worship spaces alongside the right to free speech and protest.

Submitted,
Joshua Moskovitz

NY NY 10016

From: [joymimun](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bill 0001-2026: A Step Towards Protecting Worship Access
Date: Thursday, February 26, 2026 3:32:51 PM



As a New York City resident, NYS Resident and voter, I submit this comment in support of Bill 0001-2026. The legislation reflects a careful constitutional balance between protecting public safety and ensuring unimpeded access to houses of worship while preserving lawful protest. I respectfully address below two arguments raised in opposition concerning floating buffer zones.

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Submitted,
Joy Mimun

From: [REDACTED] on behalf of [Joy Mimun](#)
To: [Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Int. 0001-2026 to Let Communities of Faith Pray in Peace
Date: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:11:09 PM

[REDACTED]

Dear Council Members,

As a concerned New York City constituent, I am submitting this written testimony in strong support for Int. 0001-2026, which would require the Police Commissioner to develop and implement a plan to establish security perimeters at places of worship across New York City. It is critical that worshippers are able to enter and exit religious institutions without fear of harassment or intimidation.

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I fully support Int. 0001-2026 and urge you to pass this legislation.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Joy Mimun
[REDACTED] Brooklyn, NY 11229-1802