

**CITY HALL OFFICE**  
250 BROADWAY, SUITE 1792  
NEW YORK, NY 10007  
**TEL:** (212) 788-7286  
**FAX:** (212) 227-3176

**DISTRICT OFFICE**  
5827 FLATLANDS AVENUE  
BROOKLYN, NY 11234  
**TEL:** (718) 241-9330  
**FAX:** (718) 531-1600

DISTRICT46@COUNCIL.NYC.GOV



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## MEMO OF SUPPORT

**Int. No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Re:** Reimbursement for Video Surveillance Cameras at Non-public Schools

**Background:** Non-public schools educate hundreds of thousands of students across New York City, yet many not-for-profit institutions lack the resources to install modern security systems at building entrances and exits. While the City already reimburses schools for the cost of unarmed security guards, camera systems, an increasingly important tool for prevention and monitoring, remain financially out of reach for many schools. This legislation expands the City's existing reimbursement program to include the purchase, installation, operation, and maintenance of video surveillance cameras at qualifying non-public schools.

**Current Process:** Current law allows the City to reimburse schools for security guard services under strict oversight, including prevailing-wage requirements, enrollment thresholds, quarterly reimbursements, reporting obligations, and annual funding caps. However, there is no dedicated reimbursement structure for camera systems at school entrances, leaving a critical safety gap.

**Solution:** This bill establishes a reimbursement program for security cameras near school entrances and exits and includes associated monitoring and operational costs.

To ensure fairness and fiscal responsibility, the program:

- Considers enrollment size and school endowment when setting reimbursement levels
- Requires cost-sharing by schools with greater financial capacity
- Maintains existing labor protections and oversight rules
- Subjects reimbursements to annual appropriations

**Position:** This legislation offers a practical, cost-conscious way to strengthen school safety by building on an existing program and targeting resources where they are most needed. By expanding an existing reimbursement program to include modern surveillance systems, the bill will help ensure that all students, regardless of school type, have access to secure classrooms.