



Legislation Details (With Text)

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Title: Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services to waive competitive civil service exam fees for military veterans.

Sponsors: David G. Greenfield, Maria Del Carmen Arroyo, Fernando Cabrera, Margaret S. Chin, Daniel Dromm, Mathieu Eugene, Lewis A. Fidler, Vincent J. Gentile, Robert Jackson, Letitia James, Karen Koslowitz, Michael C. Nelson, Domenic M. Recchia, Jr., Ydanis A. Rodriguez, Deborah L. Rose, Albert Vann, Jumaane D. Williams, Darlene Mealy

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Res. No. 594

Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services to waive competitive civil service exam fees for military veterans.

By Council Members Greenfield, Arroyo, Cabrera, Chin, Dromm, Eugene, Fidler, Gentile, Jackson, James, Koslowitz, Nelson, Recchia, Rodriguez, Rose, Vann, Williams and Mealy

Whereas, According to statistics from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), based on the 2000 Census, New York City was home to approximately 348,722 veterans at that time; and

Whereas, Although statistical calculations by the VA estimate that in 2009 the number of veterans in NYC was approximately 225,270, many veterans groups disagree with that estimate believing that the methodology used to generate this estimate is flawed, and cite numbers much closer to 300,000; and

Whereas, Returning veterans often confront an array of problems during their transition to civilian life including the lack of employment options; and

Whereas, Some veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have faced extended tours of duty which may have created financial hardships for many of them and their families, since military pay is, more often than not, substantially less than the amount such individuals earned in civilian employment; and

Whereas, The financial welfare of New York State residents who have served in the military, and their families, would be advanced by the enactment of policies designed to ease the transition from military to civilian life; and

Whereas, At this time of a general economic downturn, it is crucial that assistance be provided to veterans to help them avoid financial hardship; and

Whereas, The men and women who sacrifice so much for this nation should be afforded every opportunity to receive access to civil service positions with the City; and

Whereas, Civil service jobs with the City can provide returning veterans with gainful employment, livable wages and job security; and

Whereas, Civil service positions with the City are filled by a process that begins with competitive exams offered by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS); and

Whereas, DCAS charges fees to take civil service exams, except for the Police Officer exam which is free; and

Whereas, Pursuant to authority in State law and the City Charter, civil service exam fees are set by and can also be waived by the Department of Citywide Administrative Services; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York City Department of Citywide Administrative Services to waive competitive civil service exam fees for military veterans.