



Legislation Text

File #: Res 1699-2001, **Version:** *

Res. No. 1699

Resolution condemning Time Out New York Magazine for its hateful comments about the death of John Cardinal O'Connor.

By Council Members Oddo, Nelson, Rodriguez, Abel, Fiala, Golden and Stabile; also Council Members Dear, McCaffrey, Michels, O'Donovan, Povman, Robles, Watkins and Ognibene

Whereas, Time Out New York is a weekly entertainment magazine chronicling events in the New York City area; and

Whereas, In Time Out's "Gay & Lesbian" Section in its January 4-11 edition, the magazine included among "the best" events of 2000 for gay and lesbian people the passing of John Cardinal O'Connor; and

Whereas, The magazine commented that, "Cardinal John O'Connor kicks the bucket: The press eulogized him as a saint, when in fact, the pious creep was a stuck-in-the-1950s, anti-gay menace. Good riddance!"; and

Whereas, The comments published by Time Out about the passing of Cardinal drew outrage from some leaders in the Catholic community; and

Whereas, William Donohue, president of the Catholic League, responded by stating, "This is one of the most mean-spirited and vicious attacks that one could imagine,"; and

Whereas, Joe Zwilling, a spokesman for the New York Archdiocese, commented "Cardinal O'Connor treated every human person with respect and with love, no matter their background, their circumstances or their belief,"; and

Whereas, On January 3, Time Out apologized for its "insensitive tone" in writing about the death of John Cardinal O'Connor, however, the magazine refused to dispute the contention of the published comments that Cardinal O'Connor was "a menace to the gay community"; and

Whereas, John Cardinal O'Connor was the leader of New York's Catholic community for 16 years and was viewed by many as a kind and compassionate person who worked tirelessly on behalf of poor and disadvantaged people; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Council of the City of New York condemns Time Out New York Magazine for its hateful comments about the death of John Cardinal O'Connor.

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01/19/01