

The New York City Council

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Res 1249- Version: * Name: Create a uniform baseline standards for drug

2016 testing, including synthetic cannabinoids, for

individuals who are on probation or parole. (A.8575)

Type: Resolution **Status:** Filed (End of Session)

In control: Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services

On agenda: 10/13/2016

Enactment date: Enactment #:

Title: Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign A.8575, which

seeks to create a uniform baseline standards for drug testing, including synthetic cannabinoids, for

individuals who are on probation or parole.

Sponsors: Ruben Wills

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Assembly Bill, 2. October 13, 2016 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/13/2016	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
10/13/2016	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2017	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Res. No. 1249

Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign A.8575, which seeks to create a uniform baseline standards for drug testing, including synthetic cannabinoids, for individuals who are on probation or parole.

By Council Member Wills

Whereas, Currently, New York State does not have an established baseline standard for drug testing individuals who are on probation or parole; and

Whereas, While State correctional institutions test probationers and parolees for illegal substance use, such as marijuana and cocaine, these institution do not test for synthetic cannabinoids; and

Whereas, Synthetic cannabinoids are generally marketed as legal and typically consist of plant material coated by chemicals, which are supposed to mimic THC, the active chemical compound in marijuana; and

Whereas, According to the New York State Department of Health, hospitals located in the State have recently experienced a dramatic increase in emergency department visits for adverse health effects due to

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synthetic cannabinoids; and

Whereas, In response to this alarming public health risk, New York City enacted local laws

criminalizing the sale and production of synthetic cannabinoids; and

Whereas, A.8575, introduced by New York State Assembly Member Edward P. Ra and pending in the

Assembly, seeks to create a set of uniform minimum standards for drug testing parolees and probationers,

which would include synthetic cannabinoids; and

Whereas, A.8575 would permit local probation departments, municipalities, and regional departments of

parole, to employ stricter drug testing policies; and

Whereas, A.8575 would identify individuals on probation and parole who see synthetic cannabinoids as

a way to cheat current drug tests; and

Whereas, Many of these probationers and parolees subsequently become one of the many victims of

synthetic cannabinoids that result in drug-related hospital admissions; and

Whereas, Identifying these individuals would help lower the number of people going to New York State

hospital emergency rooms due to the use of synthetic drugs; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls on the New York State Legislature to pass and

the Governor to sign A.8575, which seeks to create a uniform baseline standards for drug testing, including

synthetic cannabinoids, for individuals who are on probation or parole.

WJH LS 6114

4/4/2016