



## Legislation Details (With Text)

<b>File #:</b>	Res 0497-2002	<b>Version:</b>	A	<b>Name:</b>	"Investigating for Tomorrow's School Act of 2002" & "America's Better Classroom Act of 2001"
<b>Type:</b>	Resolution	<b>Status:</b>	Adopted		
		<b>In control:</b>	Committee on State and Federal Legislation		
<b>On agenda:</b>	9/25/2002				
<b>Enactment date:</b>	<b>Enactment #:</b>				
<b>Title:</b>	Resolution calling upon the United States Congress to enact S.905 and H.R.1076, known collectively as the America's Better Classroom Act of 2001.				
<b>Sponsors:</b>	Helen Sears, Tony Avella, Maria Baez, James E. Davis, Bill De Blasio, Ruben Diaz, Simcha Felder, James F. Gennaro, Alan J. Gerson, G. Oliver Koppell, Margarita Lopez, Michael C. Nelson, Diana Reyna, James Sanders, Jr., Larry B. Seabrook, Kendall Stewart, Christine C. Quinn, Erik Martin Dilan				
<b>Indexes:</b>					
<b>Attachments:</b>	1. Committee Report, 2. Stated Meeting - Hearing Transcript, 3. Hearing Transcript				

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
9/25/2002	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
9/25/2002	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
10/28/2002	*	Committee on State and Federal Legislation	Hearing Held by Committee	
10/28/2002	*	Committee on State and Federal Legislation	Amendment Proposed by Comm	
10/28/2002	*	Committee on State and Federal Legislation	Amended by Committee	
10/28/2002	A	Committee on Finance	Approved by Committee	
10/28/2002	A	Committee on State and Federal Legislation	Approved by Committee	Pass
10/28/2002	*	Committee on Finance	Hearing Held by Committee	
10/28/2002	*	Committee on Finance	Amendment Proposed by Comm	
10/28/2002	*	Committee on Finance	Amended by Committee	
11/7/2002	A	City Council	Approved, by Council	Pass

Proposed Res. No. 497-A

Resolution calling upon the United States Congress to enact S.905 and H.R.1076, known collectively as the America's Better Classroom Act of 2001.

By Council Members Sears, Avella, Baez, Davis, DeBlasio, Diaz, Felder, Gennaro, Gerson, Koppell, Lopez, Nelson, Reyna, Sanders, Seabrook, Stewart, Quinn and Dilan

Whereas, The extraordinary need to build new schools and modernize existing school buildings is one of the most pressing issues affecting our children today; and

Whereas, Furthermore, according to the Fiscal Year 2002 Mayor's Management Report (MMR), a significant number of New York City public schools are overcrowded, with 43.7% of elementary schools, 37.6% of middle schools and 63.7% of high schools operating above capacity, representing 45.9% of all elementary and middle school students and 73.3% of all high school students, respectively; and

Whereas, Additionally, there is a continuing gap between school capacity needs and available seats as the City struggles to reduce class sizes in the early grades and expand pre-kindergarten access; and

Whereas, According to the New York City Partnership, approximately 90% of City schools require repairs and/or upgrading; and

Whereas, Furthermore, many school buildings lack such necessities as lab facilities and computer wiring, at a time when students must meet

new State standards in order to graduate high school; and  
Whereas, Additionally, the MMR indicates that 78.2% of school buildings were rated in "fair condition," 6.53% were rated in "fair to poor condition" and 2,194 hazardous building violations were issued for the City's public schools; and  
Whereas, Research has shown that decaying environmental conditions can affect a student's ability to learn, as well as the health and morale of students and teachers; and  
Whereas, The America's Better Classroom Act of 2001 (S. 905 and H.R. 1076) would provide approximately \$25 billion in tax credit bonds to school districts throughout the United States in order to build new classrooms and address school renovation needs, with an estimated \$1.5 billion in bonding authority allocated to New York City; and  
Whereas, Furthermore, Under the America's Better Classroom Act, local authorities would be exempt from paying interest on qualified public school modernization bonds, resulting in a significant savings to New York City; and  
Whereas, Passage of the America's Better Classroom Act is crucial to ensuring that our children attend schools that are modernized and in environments conducive to learning; now, therefore, be it  
Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the United States Congress to enact S.905 and H.R.1076, known collectively as the America's Better Classroom Act of 2001.

LP  
10/24/02

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