



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Res 0189-2024 **Version:** A **Name:** Amendment to the New York State Constitution to move New York City elections to even-numbered years.

Type: Resolution **Status:** Laid Over in Committee

In control: Committee on Governmental Operations, State & Federal Legislation

On agenda: 2/28/2024

Enactment date: **Enactment #:**

Title: Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the voters to approve, an amendment to the New York State Constitution to move New York City elections to even-numbered years

Sponsors: Sandra Ung, Shekar Krishnan, Nantasha M. Williams, Sandy Nurse, Carlina Rivera, Tiffany Cabán, Alexa Avilés, Crystal Hudson, Gale A. Brewer, Chris Banks, Farah N. Louis, Julie Menin, Susan Zhuang, Diana I. Ayala, Selvena N. Brooks-Powers

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Attachments: 1. Res. No. 189, 2. February 28, 2024 - Stated Meeting Agenda, 3. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 2-28-24, 4. Proposed Res. No. 189-A - 3/6/24, 5. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - February 28, 2024, 6. Committee Report 12/4/24, 7. Hearing Testimony 12/4/24, 8. Hearing Transcript 12/4/24

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
2/28/2024	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
2/28/2024	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/4/2024	A	Committee on Governmental Operations, State & Federal Legislation	Hearing Held by Committee	
12/4/2024	A	Committee on Governmental Operations, State & Federal Legislation	Laid Over by Committee	

Proposed Res. No. 189-A

Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the voters to approve, an amendment to the New York State Constitution to move New York City elections to even-numbered years

By Council Members Ung, Krishnan, Williams, Nurse, Rivera, Cabán, Avilés, Hudson, Brewer, Banks, Louis, Menin, Zhuang, Ayala and Brooks-Powers

Whereas, In New York City elections for Mayor, Public Advocate, Comptroller, City Council and Borough Presidents are held on odd-numbered years; and

Whereas, New York City elections have been held in odd-numbered years since 1894; and

Whereas, In New York elections for all statewide officials, Assembly Members and State Senators are

held on even-numbered years; and

Whereas, Presidential elections are held on even-numbered years; and

Whereas, Elections for United States Congress are held on even-numbered years; and

Whereas, In 2021, a year where New Yorkers were electing a new Mayor, a new Comptroller, four new Borough Presidents and new Council members in many districts only 23% of registered voters cast a ballot; and

Whereas, Over the past 20 years, turnout in New York City for state elections has averaged 35.6%; and

Whereas, Over the past 20 years, turnout in New York City in municipal elections has averaged less than 30%; and

Whereas, Over the past 20 years, turnout in New York City for Presidential elections has averaged 60.7%; and

Whereas, According to Citizens Union, cities that have moved local elections from odd- to even-years have all seen increased turnout; and

Whereas, Moving municipal elections in New York City to even-numbered years would likely increase voter turnout; and

Whereas, Voters in even-numbered year elections tend to be more demographically representative of the electorate as a whole; and

Whereas, Data suggests that turnout would increase the most for younger voters and voters of color if municipal elections were to be moved to even-numbered years; and

Whereas, Additional election cycles require voters to expend additional resources to learn how and where to vote and to make an additional trip to the polls; and

Whereas, When Representatives are elected by a small number of voters they are only accountable to a limited portion of their constituents; and

Whereas, Moving elections into even-numbered years will greatly decrease the cost of election administration; 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 voters to approve, an amendment to the New York State Constitution to move New York City elections to even-numbered years.

Session 13
LS #13328
3/5/24

Session 12
LS #13328
05/17/23
EHC