

The New York City Council

City Hall New York, NY 10007

Legislation Text

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Int. No. 883

By Council Members Cabrera, Gentile, Chin, Halloran, Fidler, Koo, Vallone, Vann, Williams, Wills, Arroyo, Rivera, Gonzalez, Palma, Vacca, Ignizio, Oddo, Weprin, Greenfield, Dilan, Ferreras, Mealy, Ulrich, James and Barron

A Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to the use of school property by private groups or individuals on the basis of religious content or expression or for the purpose of worship services.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Section 521 of the New York city charter is amended by adding a new subdivision i to read as follows:

i. The chancellor of the city school district, the board of education, the department of education, or any employee thereof, may not deny permission to private groups or individuals to use public school property because of the religious content or viewpoint of their expression and may not prohibit worship services or meetings containing expression, which are defined as "worship" or as "worship service" either by the city, by the department or by the group itself. The city does not endorse the views expressed by the private groups or individuals who use the public schools under these provisions.

§2. This local law shall take effect immediately.

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