



Legislation Text

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Res. No 2005

Resolution calling upon the appropriate committee of the Council to conduct an oversight hearing regarding the possible correlation between the increasing drop-out rate among New York City high school students and the newly instituted Regents requirements for graduation from high school.

By Council Members Lopez, Clarke, Malave-Dilan, Espada, Henry, Linares, Moskowitz, Perkins and Quinn; also Council Members Foster, Marshall and Robinson

Whereas, For the first time in eight years, drop-out rates for New York City high school students have risen; and
Whereas, According to the Board of Education's 2001 annual report, the drop-out rate jumped from 17.5% for the class of 1999 to 19.5% for the class of 2000; and
Whereas, The Board of Education's new testing policy is cited as the reason for the rise; and
Whereas, The new testing policy, which is being phased in over the next few years, requires students to pass five Regents examinations in order to graduate; and
Whereas, Currently, only about half the students in high school are graduating within four years, even though most of the Regents exams requirement have not been phased in; and
Whereas, The Board of Education estimates that if the Regents testing phase-in continues during this school year, the new testing will place roughly 84% of high school students out of reach of a diploma, due to their inability to pass Regents examinations; and
Whereas, AS a result of already low rates of graduation among high school students, combined with an unprecedented number of estimated students who may not pass the five required Regents examinations, the number of high school drop-outs in the City is in danger of rising even further; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the appropriate committee of the Council conduct an oversight hearing regarding the possible correlation between the increasing drop-out rate among New York City high school students and the newly instituted Regents requirements for graduation from high school.

L.S. #4278
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7/23/01

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