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Res. No. 848

Resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, legislation amending the Public Officers Law to allow non-citizens to hold civil offices.

By Council Members Farías, Hanif and Hudson

Whereas, The New York State Public Officers Law requires anyone holding a civil office to be a citizen of the United States; and

Whereas, New York City has over 100 boards and commissions;

Whereas, Many members of boards and commissions hold a civil office under the Public Officers Law, and therefore must be a citizen of the United States; and

Whereas, According to the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs, New York City had over 1.2 million non-citizen residents in 2022; and

Whereas, Non-citizen New Yorkers pay taxes, own business and send their children to public schools; and

Whereas, New York City needs civil officer holders who have experiences that reflect those of all New Yorkers, including non-citizen New Yorkers; and

Whereas, Many civil officer positions require specific skills or experiences; and

Whereas, Non-Citizen New Yorkers have a variety of different skills and experiences; and

Whereas, Non-citizen New Yorkers have the skills and experiences required to fill certain civil officer positions; and

Whereas, Non-citizen New Yorkers are an essential part of the fabric of New York City; 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, legislation amending the Public Officers Law to allow non-citizens to hold civil offices.

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LS #12818
10/25/23
EHC