

Russell Squire
Chair

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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

April 15, 2022

Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NY State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate Majority Leader
172 State Street, Room 330
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Carl E. Heastie
Speaker of the Assembly
LOB 932
Albany, NY 12248

RE: Supporting the Clean Slate Act (S.1553C/A.6399B)

Dear Governor Hochul, Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, and Speaker Heastie,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on April 13, 2022, the board **APPROVED** the following resolution by a vote of 35 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstentions and 0 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS, people who have experienced incarceration continue to experience discrimination in housing and employment sectors even after they have served their time;

WHEREAS, research has shown that housing and employment support people's ability to continue their contributions to society and prevent recidivism;

WHEREAS, we believe that the stigma of incarceration should not be a perpetual punishment for people who are rejoining their communities;

WHEREAS, we believe, as a community, that we are more successful when we support one another and set our returning community members up for success;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, CB8 supports the Clean Slate Act (S.1553C/A.6399B) as proposed by advocates and policymakers to ensure our communities grow stronger together; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, CB8 would also support a shorter timeframe between the completion of a sentence and the sealing of a person's conviction than the three years prescribed for a misdemeanor conviction and seven years prescribed for a felony conviction as indicated in Clean Slate Act (S.1553C/A.6399B).

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Chair

Sarah Chu and Saundrea I. Coleman

Sarah Chu and Saundrea I. Coleman,
Co-Chairs, Social Justice Committee

cc: Honorable Eric Adams, Mayor of the City of New York
Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District