



**U.S. Department of Justice**  
**Civil Rights Division**

CC:MSR:JEM:maf:par  
 DJ 166-012-3  
 2009-0102

*Voting Section - NWB*  
 930 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
 Washington, DC 20530

March 17, 2009

Michael A. Cardozo, Esq.  
 Corporation Counsel  
 100 Church Street  
 New York, New York 10007-2601

Dear Mr. Cardozo:

This refers to Local Law No. 51 (2008), which amends Sections 1137 and 1138 of the city charter as they relate to term limits for the offices of city councilmembers, mayor, and other elected officials of the City of New York in Bronx, Kings, and New York Counties, New York, submitted to the Attorney General pursuant to Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 1973c. We received your submission on January 16, 2009; supplemental information was received on February 26, 2009.

The Attorney General does not interpose any objection to the specified changes. However, we note that Section 5 expressly provides that the failure of the Attorney General to object does not bar subsequent litigation to enjoin the enforcement of the changes. Procedures for the Administration of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (28 C.F.R. 51.41).

Sincerely,

Christopher Coates  
 Chief, Voting Section