

Youth & Education Committee

June 4, 2012

Resolution in support of the passage of Assembly Bill 4760-2011/Senate Bill 595-2011: An ACT to amend the education law, in relation to permitting boards of education to grant parents or guardians, physically limited by a disability, the ability to obtain bus services for their children

WHEREAS: Current law requires a school district to provide transportation for all children attending kindergarten through eighth grade who live more than two miles from the school they legally attend and for children attending grades 9-12 who live more than three miles from the school they legally attend; transportation shall be provided for such children up to a distance of 15 miles, the distances in each case measured by the nearest available route from home to school; and

WHEREAS: Current busing policy under the N.Y. State Education Law has a disproportionate impact on parents with disabilities who are unable to provide transportation for their children or escort their children to and from school due to their disabilities; and

WHEREAS: Local school boards do not have the authority to grant exceptions in situations where extra bus services are needed; and

WHEREAS: The legislation pending in the N.Y. State Legislature, A.4760/S.595, would amend the law to empower school districts to have discretion in determining individual need for public busing to local schools; and

WHEREAS: Passage and implementation of this bill would be a strong measure to support the ability of local school districts, including the N.Y.C. Department of Education, to expand access and provide the highest quality education to all of the children that they serve; and

WHEREAS: On June 14, 2011, the State Senate unanimously passed S.595; and

WHEREAS: The companion bill, A.4760, has been removed from the Assembly Education Committee's agenda for the current legislative session; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: Community Board 12-Manhattan calls upon Assembly Member Catherine Nolan, Chair of the New York State Assembly Education Committee, to bring A.4760 up for a vote in her committee and calls upon the New York State Assembly as a whole to pass this bill during the current legislative session scheduled to end on June 30, 2012.

This resolution was approved by the following vote:

Committee Members	4-0-0-0
Other Board Members	1-0-0-1 (not voting due to employment by the DOE)
Public Member	1-0-0-0