

COMMUNITY SAFETY ACT

Common-Sense Legislation to Address
Discriminatory & Ineffective Policing

FACT SHEET (8/1/2013)

New Yorkers want to live in a safe city where all residents are treated with dignity and respect, and where the New York City Police Department (NYPD) is not above the law. Communities United for Police Reform (CPR) is proud to support **two bills of the Community Safety Act that will be coming to a vote of the full New York City Council in 2013**: the End Discriminatory Profiling Act (Intro 1080) creating a strong ban on discriminatory profiling by police, and the NYPD Oversight Act (Intro 1079) establishing meaningful NYPD oversight. **Both bills were passed with veto-proof majorities in June 2013. Mayor Bloomberg vetoed both bills at the end of July. The New York City Council will have the opportunity to vote to override Mayor Bloomberg's vetoes in August.**

About the End Discriminatory Profiling Act (Int. 1080)

Protects New Yorkers against discriminatory and ineffective policing. What the legislation would do:

- **Establish an enforceable ban on profiling and discrimination by the NYPD.** The current racial profiling ban in NYC has no mechanism to enforce the law.
- **Broaden the categories of communities protected from discrimination.** In addition to race, ethnicity, religion and national origin, categories protected against discriminatory profiling would include: age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, immigration status, disability and housing status.
- **Make the NYPD accountable for practices such as stop-and-frisk that have a disproportionate impact on communities of color and other New Yorkers.** In addition to claims based on intentional discrimination, New Yorkers would be able to bring claims based on unjustified and disproportionate impact on certain communities.

About the NYPD Oversight Act (Int. 1079)

Supports better policing by creating mechanisms for transparency and accountability of the NYPD. What the legislation would do:

- **Assigns responsibility for NYPD oversight to the Commissioner of the Department of Investigation.** In NYC, the DOI currently oversees about 300 city agencies – including the Fire Department, Department of Education and Human Resources Administration – but not the NYPD. The FBI, CIA and LAPD all have an inspector general.
- **Oversight would include reviewing and auditing NYPD operations, policies, programs and practices.** An inspector general would not be involved in operational decisions.
- **Improve transparency and accountability.** Reports would be made public and revisited annually to see if recommendations have been followed.

ENDORSERS OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY ACT (as of 8/1/2013)

Over 100 local and national organizations are endorsing the Community Safety Act, including:

- 32BJ SEIU
- 1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East
- 5 Borough Defenders
- A Call to Men
- Adhikaar for Human Rights
- After Hours Project, Inc.
- Amnesty International USA
- Arab American Association of New York
- Asian American Legal Defense & Education Fund
- Association of Legal Aid Attorneys/UAW Local 2325
- Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice
- Audre Lorde Project
- BAYAN-USA
- Bill of Rights Defense Committee
- Black Women's Blueprint
- Bronx Defenders
- Brooklyn Community Pride Center
- Brooklyn Movement Center
- Brotherhood/Sister Sol
- CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities
- Campaign to Stop the False Arrests
- Center for Anti-Violence Education
- Center for Community Alternatives
- Center for Constitutional Rights
- Center for NuLeadership on Urban Solutions
- Center for Popular Democracy
- Center on Race, Crime & Justice of John Jay College of Criminal Justice
- Chhaya CDC
- Child Welfare Organizing Project
- Children's Defense Fund of New York
- Coalition for the Homeless
- Color of Change
- Communications Workers of America Local 1180
- Community Service Society
- Community Voices Heard
- Council on American Islamic Relations-New York
- Creating Law Enforcement Accountability & Responsibility
- Criminal Justice Clinic at Pace Law School
- Damayan Migrant Workers Association
- Day One
- Desis Rising Up & Moving
- Dignity in Schools Campaign - New York
- Drug Policy Alliance
- El Puente
- Families Against Stop & Frisk
- Families for Freedom
- FIERCE
- The Fortune Society
- The Game Changers Project
- Gay Men of African Descent
- Gay Men's Health Crisis
- Girls for Gender Equity
- HAMS Harm Reduction Network
- Harm Reduction Coalition
- Human Rights Watch
- Immigrant Defense Project
- Interfaith Assembly on Housing and Homelessness
- Jews Against Islamophobia
- Jews for Racial & Economic Justice
- Justice Committee
- Labor Council for Latin American Advancement - NYC
- Lambda Independent Democrats of Brooklyn
- Latino Commission on AIDS
- LatinoJustice PRLDEF
- Legal Action Center
- Legal Aid Society
- Lower East Side Harm Reduction Center
- Make the Road NY
- Malcolm X Grassroots Movement
- Manhattan Young Democrats
- Marijuana Arrests Research Project
- Metropolitan Community Church of New York
- NAACP-Legal Defense and Education Fund
- National Action Network
- New York City Anti-Violence Project
- New York Civil Liberties Union
- New York Communities for Change
- New York Harm Reduction Educators
- Northern Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights
- Peoples' Justice for Community Control and Police Accountability
- Persist Health Project
- Picture the Homeless
- PROS Network
- Public Science Project
- Queers for Economic Justice
- Red Umbrella Project
- Restaurant Opportunities Center of New York
- RightRides for Women's Safety
- Sistas & Brothas United/ Northwest Bronx Community & Clergy Coalition
- Streetwise & Safe
- St. Anne's Corner of Harm Reduction
- Sylvia Rivera Law Project
- Tribeca for Change
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- T'ruah: the Rabbinic Call for Human Rights
- Turning Point for Women and Families
- TWU Local 100
- UPROSE
- VAMOS Unidos
- VOCAL-NY
- Washington Heights CORNER Project
- Working Families Party
- Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice
- Youth Represent