

President Steve Stowe
First Vice President Jennifer Hu
Second Vice President/IEP Rep Elizabeth Chan
Recording Secretary Vito LaBella
Treasurer/ BBP Appointee Marie Brugueras



Council Members
Ghada Amin Maya Rozenblat- ELL Rep
Jona Isufi Joyce Xie
Li Ping Jiang Kevin Zhao- BBP Appointee

Resolution 8 (SY22-23)

Resolution Supporting State Assembly Bill A01275 Naming the Lunar New Year as a State Holiday

Resolution approved by vote on February 8, 2023 with 8 Yes; 2 Excused and 1 Unexcused

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Steve Stowe - Yes | 7. Jona Isufi - Yes |
| 2. Jennifer Hu - Excused | 8. Li Ping Jiang - Yes |
| 3. Elizabeth Chan - Yes | 9. Maya Rozenblat - Yes |
| 4. Vito LaBella - Yes | 10. Joyce Xie - Yes |
| 5. Marie Brugueras - Excused | 11. Kevin Zhao - Yes |
| 6. Ghada Amin - Unexcused | |

Sponsors: Liping Jiang, Joyce Xie, Kevin Zhao

Co-sponsors: Jennifer Hu, Stephen Stowe

WHEREAS, State of New York Assemblymember William Colton has sponsored a bill A01275 titled “AN ACT to amend the general construction law, in relation to declaring Asian Lunar New Year a public holiday”. As of the writing of this resolution, the bill has 36 co-sponsors. Full information on the bill is available [here](#).

WHEREAS, the legislative process could include amendments to A01275 but this resolution supports the bill in any “substantially similar” form which is defined as establishing the Lunar New Year as a State of New York Holiday.

WHEREAS, approximately 44% of students in District 20 are of Asian descent per the Department of Education (DOE)¹. The population of the State of New York is approximately 9.3% Asian descent².

WHEREAS, there are currently 13 State holidays in the State of New York including several which commemorate cultural and historical legacies including New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King’s Birthday, Juneteenth, Columbus Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Asian Lunar New Year represents a similarly significant cultural and historical legacy.

WHEREAS, families celebrating Asian Lunar New Year are often forced to decide between sending their children to school or celebrating with family and friends. This is a decision the families who celebrate the Asian Lunar New Year in our District should not have to make.

¹ New York City, Department of Education, Information and Data Overview, “Demographic Snapshot”; <https://infohub.nyced.org/reports/school-quality/information-and-data-overview>

² US Bureau of the Census; <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/NY>

WHEREAS, the bill has currently been referred to the State of New York Assembly Standing Committee on Governmental Operations (the “Committee”), chaired by Assemblymember John T McDonald III. The full list of members are found [here](#).

THEREFORE, the Community Education Council of District 20 calls upon:

- Committee Chair McDonald to expeditiously schedule hearings on A01275
- Members of the Committee to vote in favor of moving A01275 in substantially similar form to the full Assembly
- Members of the State of New York Assembly to approve bill A01275 in substantially similar form if brought to a floor vote
- Members of the State of New York Senate to vote to approve substantially similar companion legislation, and vote to approve if brought to a floor vote
- Governor Kathy Hochul to sign any substantially similar approved bill into law