



# THE CITYWIDE COUNCIL FOR DISTRICT 75

CHRISTI ANGEL-PRESIDENT, JOHANNA GOMEZ-VICE PRESIDENT, STEFANNIE BONILLA-2<sup>ND</sup> VICE  
PRESENT, REBECCA ALLY-TREASURER, MICHELLE WHITE-SECRETARY, MASUMA AKTER-COUNCIL  
MEMBER, JESSICA RIVERA-COUNCIL MEMBER, SHARON STEWART-COUNCIL MEMBER, ELIJAH  
HOBBS-PUBLIC ADVOCATE, GISSELLE RAMIERZ-PUBLIC ADVOCATE

## Resolution #19

### Resolution in Support of New York State Senate Bill S8059 –

### The Blue Envelope Program

Sponsored by Stefannie Bonilla

WHEREAS, individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), developmental disabilities, behavioral health needs, and other neurodivergent conditions often experience heightened anxiety, communication challenges, or sensory sensitivities during high-stress situations, including traffic stops and interactions with law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, misunderstandings during such encounters have tragically resulted in escalations, trauma, and even loss of life, particularly for those who may have difficulty processing commands, speaking, or making eye contact; and

WHEREAS, New York State Senate Bill S8059, sponsored by Senator Jamaal Bailey, seeks to establish a statewide Blue Envelope Program to provide individuals with a clear, accessible way to communicate their needs and identity as someone with a disability or mental health condition during a law enforcement stop; and

WHEREAS, the Blue Envelope would contain essential documents (such as ID, insurance, and registration) along with written guidance for both the vehicle operator and the law enforcement officer on how to communicate safely, clearly, and respectfully; and

WHEREAS, the bill calls for widespread, no-cost distribution of these envelopes without requiring medical documentation or personal data collection, ensuring dignity and privacy for all who need them; and

WHEREAS, the legislation also mandates specialized training for law enforcement officers across New York State, focused on effective communication with individuals who are neurodivergent or have other disabilities, to reduce bias, misunderstandings, and harm; and

WHEREAS, this initiative aligns with the values of inclusion, safety, dignity, and disability justice that our Council upholds for all students, families, and community members—especially those within District 75 and other high-needs populations;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Citywide Council for District 75 supports Senate Bill S8059 in full and urges the New York State Legislature and Governor to pass and enact this legislation without delay; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council will send letters of support to the offices of Senator Jamaal Bailey, the Chairs of the Senate and Assembly Transportation Committees, and other key stakeholders, and will share this resolution with other education councils, disability advocacy organizations, and the broader public; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council calls on the New York City Department of Education and the New York City Police Department to prepare for the program's implementation by ensuring access, awareness, and culturally responsive training materials for all affected communities, should the legislation be signed into law.

This Resolution was approved at Citywide Council for District 75 Calendar Meeting held on November 5th, 2025 by a vote of 9 yes. Members present including: Christi Angel, Johanna Gomez, Stefannie Bonilla, Rebecca Ally, Michelle White, Masuma Akter, Elijah Hobbs, Jessica Rivera, and Sharon Stewart.