



The City of Buffalo Common Council

1413 City Hall
Buffalo, NY 14202

Meeting: 01/16/18 02:00 PM
Department: Common Council
Category: Miscellaneous
Prepared By: Jim Montour
Initiator: Jim Montour
Sponsors:
DOC ID: 4352 F

TABLED

AGENDA ITEM 17-1163

K. Lee, RSOA Task Force Et Al - FBI Registry Access for Summer Camps

Honorable Members of The Buffalo Common Council,

As the appointed members of the Common Council’s Registered Sex Offender Awareness Task Force, we are charged with advocating the best legislative policies to give the citizens of The City of Buffalo the knowledge and tools to keep families and their children safe.

A recent point of discussion among the membership of the Task Force is a loophole in Federal law that prevents summer camps from checking in on potential new employees by accessing the FBI’s database of sex offenders.

Summer camps and similar organizations are tasked with ensuring the safety of our children on a daily basis, and it should be of the highest importance that they are able to properly screen potential employees and volunteers using the most comprehensive database. As of now, the 17,117 registered sex offenders in Upstate New York would show up on a state database used for background checks during this process, but violent or sex crimes committed in a different state may not be listed on the New York registry.

The initiative to allow summer camps to have access to the FBI database has been ongoing for over seven years with no legislation being passed. As of this week, Senator Charles Schumer has announced that there is bipartisan support in Congress to pass a bill to close this loophole.

We respectfully recommend that your honorable body pass a resolution calling on Congress to swiftly pass a bill that gives summer camps and similar programs that have the job of monitoring the wellbeing of our children on a regular basis, access to the FBI’s database of sex offenders when screening potential employees and volunteers. We believe that this legislation will serve to better protect the children of The City of Buffalo.

Respectfully,

The Registered Sex Offender Awareness Task Force
President: Keyon Lee

HISTORY:

07/11/17	Common Council	REFERRED TO LEG	
07/18/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 09/12/17
09/12/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 09/26/17
09/26/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 10/10/17
10/10/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 10/24/17
10/24/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 11/08/17
11/08/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 11/21/17

11/21/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 12/05/17
12/05/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 12/19/17
12/19/17	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 01/02/18
01/02/18	Legislation Committee	TABLED	Next: 01/16/18

RESULT:	TABLED	Next: 1/30/2018 2:00 PM
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