

**TESTIMONY OF ROBERT PERRY,
LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE NEW YORK CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION,**

Before

**THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

Regarding

**INT. NO. 512,
THE HUMAN RIGHTS IN GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS AUDIT LAW**

April 8, 2005

Legislation is often promoted as a landmark. Int. No. 512 in fact proposes a major reform in our local human rights law.

The bill's legislative findings and intent affirm that justice and equality are core principles articulated in our nation's founding documents: the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence.

Drawing on these principles and on principles of human rights that are broadly recognized,¹ the legislation states that the City has an affirmative obligation to enhance

¹ See United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948); Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1969); Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (1981).