

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater N.Y. (CACAGNY)

紐約同源會

July 24, 2020

Thank You SHSAT Supporters!

We are happy to report that the New York State Special Legislative Session of July 20th ended on July 23 without considering bill A10731.

This is the bill introduced by departing Assembly Member Walter Mosley. If passed, it would have repealed the Hecht-Calandra Act, the Act that for nearly 50 years insured that admissions to the Specialized High Schools stayed 100% meritocratic scholastically, without regard to wealth, connections, race, religion, sex, zip code, or ethnicity.

CACAGNY thanks members and friends of CACAGNY and NYC Residents Alliance who participated in our energetic joint campaign to send emails and make calls to legislators to oppose the bill. CACAGNY also thanks other organizations that campaigned actively to oppose the bill, including the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Parent Leaders of Accelerated Curriculum Education, Queens Parents United, Keep SHSAT, Elmhurst United, alumni of Brooklyn Technical High School, Stuyvesant High School, and Bronx Science High School, and other organizations and individuals for whose omission we apologize. CACAGNY also thanks all legislators who stood with us in this fight, particularly Chairman of the Committee on NYC Education Senator John Liu.

CACAGNY President Phil Wong said, "We appreciate everyone's efforts to save the Specialized High Schools this legislative session, but the battle is far from over. For selfish reasons, some politicians, bureaucrats, and special interests can't tolerate schools that achieved world renown purely through academic meritocracy, especially when it is the poor and the newly arrived who rely most on such lifelines. We expect bills like A10731 to be introduced again in future sessions, and we will call on you again to tell your legislators loudly and clearly what you think, for your kids, for all the kids of New York City, and for New York City as a place to raise kids. New York City needs these schools!"

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Founded in 1895 in San Francisco, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance is the oldest Chinese American civil rights organization in the United States. CACAGNY is its New York Chapter. www.CACAGNY.org

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