

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Statement on NYS Senate Internet and Technology Committee Passing Critical Legislation to Abolish New York City's Rogue DNA Database

(NEW YORK, NY) – **Terri Rosenblatt, Supervising Attorney of the DNA Unit at The Legal Aid Society**, released the following statement in response to the New York State Internet and Technology Committee passing legislation (S1347) that would abolish New York's rogue DNA database:

“Despite promises to reduce the size of its enormous and rogue database, the City continues to add Black and Latinx New Yorkers' DNA profiles - some as young as 12-years-old and others who have never been convicted of a crime - to it at an alarming rate. The City has shown that it is simply unable to police itself or follow through on public pledges of reform.

The Legal Aid Society applauds New York State Senate Internet and Technology Committee Chair Diane Savino and Senator Brad Hoylman for passing this legislation, and we call on lawmakers in both chambers to calendar it immediately for a floor vote.”

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For 145 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. www.legalaidnyc.org