



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins Repeals 'Walking While Trans' Law

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS February 2, 2021

| ISSUE: **LGBTQ EQUALITY; TRANS RIGHTS; POLICE REFORMS**

(Albany, NY) - Today, under the leadership of Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, the Senate Majority passed legislation (S.1351) to repeal the outdated 1976 law known as the 'Walking While Trans.'

The "loitering for the purpose of engaging in prostitution" statute has led to discriminatory enforcement based on how an individual is dressed or their gender identity. The law has

disproportionately impacted trans women, particularly trans women of color.

"The Senate Majority made it clear, we stand for equality and justice. For too long, this loitering statute has been used to target LGBTQ people, communities of color and victims of sex trafficking, **Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins said.** "I thank Senator Hoylman and advocates who have helped make this happen. By repealing the Walking While Trans Law, we are creating a safer New York for people in the LGBTQ+ community."

The legislation sponsored by Senator Brad Hoylman passed in a vote of 45 to 16. Governor Cuomo signed the bill into law, a short time later.

The repeal of the "Walking While Trans" law builds on the Senate Majority's passage of nation leading police reforms last year to improve community relations and rebuild trust between law enforcement and the communities of color.