



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 26, 2023

**Press Contacts:** Amanda Cooper, [pr@naafa.org](mailto:pr@naafa.org) 702-706-4138

**STATEMENT: New York City Mayor Signs Bill INT-0209, a Victory for Size Freedom**

**New York, NY – Today, Tigress Osborn, National Association to Advance Fat Acceptance (NAAFA) board chair and co-founder of the Campaign for Size Freedom,** celebrates a historic civil rights moment, joining Mayor Eric Adams as he signed bill INT-0209, expanding protections against discrimination based on body size in employment, housing, and public accommodations in New York City. To honor this significant moment, Tigress Osborn released the following statement:

“This legislation is a historic victory for all those who have tirelessly advocated for the rights and dignity of fat people. The passage of this bill sends a resounding message that New York City leaders, like 80% of Americans, believe that every individual, regardless of their body size, deserves respect, fair treatment and access to all life has to offer. We are proud to have been part of the collaborative efforts that led to the passage of INT-0209, alongside FLARE Project, RWDSU, Retail Action Project, and Dove. This victory would not have been possible without the dedication and perseverance of our City Council champions and our supporters in the fat community who speak out daily for the rights of individuals of all sizes.”

“At the hearing for this bill, we heard from a dietician who, despite being at the top of her class, could not get an unpaid internship because of her weight. We listened to a college student, unable to take notes in lectures because her university did not provide a desk she could sit in comfortably. These are not isolated stories. This legislation will have a profound impact on the lives of countless individuals. It paves the way for a future where people of all sizes have the freedom to thrive. Our bodies are not the problem. Systems that have ignored us and refused to accommodate us are. This law can help change that.”

“New York City has set an example for other communities across the nation. It demonstrates that size-based discrimination can and must be challenged.”

“The Campaign for Size Freedom celebrates this win, but it's still true that fat people lack protection in the vast majority of the country. Our work is far from done. We are currently supporting similar legislation in New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Vermont. We will continue to collaborate with our partners, engage with policymakers, and amplify the voices of those affected by size discrimination. Together, we will work towards a society that celebrates and embraces the diversity of body sizes and upholds the principles of freedom and equality for all.”

###

**To learn more about the Campaign for Size Freedom, visit [naafa.org/sizefreedom](https://naafa.org/sizefreedom).**