

September 25, 2003

**Resolution Against Non-Partisan Elections
Submitted by the Legislation Committee**

Whereas Mayor Michael Bloomberg has proposed a referendum for the November 4th, 2003 election that calls for non-partisan elections; and

Whereas non-partisan elections will eliminate party primaries in New York City elections for Mayor, Comptroller, City Council and Borough Presidents; and

Whereas non-partisan elections may mislead voters since candidates' listed party affiliation may not reflect any commitment to party platforms or principles;

Whereas non-partisan elections, take away the right of rank and file party members to choose the candidates in Primary elections that most represent their political positions;

Whereas non-partisan primaries make it easier for candidates to obscure what they stand for and what their positions are; and

Whereas non-partisan elections would eliminate third-party ballot lines in the November general election; and

Whereas the winners of non-partisan elections tend to be those who spend the most and gain name recognition; and

Whereas non-partisan elections distract attention from more tested reforms that are proven to increase voter participation, such as on site registrations, or longer voting periods;

Whereas non-partisan elections will make it more difficult for candidates of color to win office; therefore be it

Resolved, that PSC-CUNY urge its members to vote No on Question #3 in the NYC November 4, 2003 general election.