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Editorial

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## School safety dunces

You would think the City Council would be singing hosannas over the fact that the NYPD and the Department of Education have dramatically reduced crime in the schools.

And you would think Council members would celebrate a 10% drop in violent incidents, a 12% drop in grand larcenies and the passage of a full school year without a single rape.

But you would be wrong.

Instead, a huge bloc of the Council is focused on whether school safety agents are doing too good a job.

Thursday, the leading proponent of this bizarre idea, Manhattan Councilman Robert Jackson, joined with self-styled education advocates and representatives of the New York Civil Liberties Union to urge the passage of an extremely bad piece of legislation.

Jackson's bill, backed by about half the Council's 51 members, would create a system to track virtually every encounter between students and safety agents. It would route complaints about safety officers to the Civilian Complaint Review Board.

"The Council is concerned that this increasing reliance on punitive measures to enforce discipline is incompatible with a positive and respectful learning environment and undermines students' right to a quality education," the bill says.

Which is plain nuts.

Despite toughened enforcement, there were still 1,900 major felonies in the schools last year. That's what Jackson & Co. should work on if they truly want to ensure a "respectful learning environment" for the kids.