

## Bill may allow New Yorkers to identify as multiracial

By Jonathan Lemire  
The Associated Press

**N**EW YORK — New Yorkers may soon be able to identify themselves as more than one race under legislation introduced in City Council.

The measure would change dozens of official documents, including applications for public housing, registration with the Department of Small Business Services, and complaint forms with the city's Commission on Human Rights. Documents required of more than 300,000 city employees would also need to be changed.

Currently, city forms that ask for ethnicity or race have five options: "black, not of Hispanic origin," "white, not of Hispanic origin," "Hispanic," "Asian or Pacific Islander," and "American Indian or Alaskan native."

Advocates of the bill believe the measure would provide a clearer picture of demographics and allow New Yorkers to better recognize their heritage.

"I am 50 percent Irish, 25 percent Korean, and 25 percent unknown," said

Corey Johnson, a city councilman from Manhattan, who drew upon his own heritage to champion the bill during a rally on the City Council steps. Johnson, a Democrat, was one of the co-sponsors of the bill, along with Councilman Ben Kallos, another Manhattan Democrat.

New York City has the highest multiracial population in the country. More than 325,000 city residents identified as more than one race on the 2010 census.

A spokesman for mayor Bill de Blasio said the mayor looked forward to reviewing the legislation. If the measure is passed, the changes would be administered by the mayor's office of operations.

The mayor's own children could be affected by the measure, its supporters pointed out. De Blasio, who is white, is married to Chirlane McCray, who is black.

The U.S. Census has permitted people to mark more than one box denoting race since 2000. Its form includes 14 categories for race or ethnicity and contains a space to write in their heritage if it is not already listed.

A vote on the measure has not yet been scheduled.

## China delays announcement of Sun Yang's doping ban

By Christopher Bodeen  
The Associated Press

**B**EIJING — Olympic and world champion swimmer Sun Yang served a three-month doping ban earlier this year, China's anti-doping agency disclosed recently, in a case that raised questions over why the positive test was kept quiet for so long.

Sun tested positive for the banned stimulant trimetazidine on May 17 during China's national swimming championships in Hangzhou.

The suspension began immediately and ended August 17, prior to Sun's appearance in September at the Asian Games at Incheon, South Korea, where he won three gold medals.

Amid criticism on social media, the anti-doping agency defended its delay in announcing the 22-year-old Sun's test and sanction, saying it was for no other reason than a backlog of cases.

The agency's director, Zhao Jian, told The Associated Press the ban was announced as part of a periodic release of testing results and disciplinary measures. He said Sun's support team and team doctor were also given penalties, which he didn't specify.

Sun's sanction was also posted on the website of the international swimming federation, FINA. It said the Chinese swimming association also imposed a one-year ban on Sun's doctor, Ba Zhen.

Sun won the 400- and 1,500-meter freestyle events at the 2012 London Olympics, and also has five world championship golds. He won gold in the 400 and 1,500 and the 4x100 relay at the Asian Games.

Zhou said Sun's status as a world-famous athlete required authorities to handle his case with greater caution to ensure no mistakes were made.

"This is huge bad news, but we will not cover it up," Zhao said, in comments later carried by the official Xinhua News Agency. "We usually report the violations quarterly or bi-quarterly and we have to wait until the handling of a particular case has been finished."

The need to handle almost 10,000 tests over a six-month period also slowed the process, Zhao said.

"That's why we did not release the reports for the second and third quarters until now," he said.

Zhao said Sun waived his right to have his backup "B" sample tested, but defended himself at a July hearing by saying the positive test was caused by an ingredient in medication he was taking for a heart condition and he wasn't aware it was banned. Under World Anti-Doping Agency rules, an athlete can be permitted a therapeutic exemption if a substance is needed for medical reasons and is declared in advance to authorities.

In a statement, Sun said he accepted the anti-doping agency's decision and pledged



**RESULTS RELEASED.** China's Sun Yang waves after winning the gold medal in the men's 1,500-meter freestyle swimming final at the 17th Asian Games in Incheon, South Korea on September 26, 2014. Sun tested positive for the banned stimulant trimetazidine on May 17 during China's national swimming championships in Hangzhou. He was then suspended until August 17. (AP Photo/Rob Griffith)

to engage in "deep reflection."

"Whatever the cause, as an athlete, I must take responsibility for whatever enters my body," Sun said in the statement posted to his verified account on China's Weibo microblogging service.

Sun noted it was the first time he had been penalized despite taking "countless" doping tests over his swimming career and said the May result left him "shocked."

"From now on, I will be even more strict in my demands on myself," Sun said.

Trimetazidine was added to the World Anti-Doping Agency's list of banned substances in January.

The Chinese swimming program was overshadowed in the 1990s by a doping scandal, when 32 athletes were caught for doping-related offenses, two of them twice, and another three were disqualified from a domestic competition for having excessive red blood cell counts.

Sun has been controversial at times out of the pool.

The first Chinese man to win an individual Olympic swimming gold, Sun was suspended from training and competition last December after being detained for seven days for driving without a license. He'd previously been censured after feuding with his coach and for missing practice in order to make commercial appearances and spend time with his girlfriend.

Ahead of the Asian Games in South Korea, Sun filmed a series of television advertisements gently mocking his chief rival Park Tae-hwan. In one of them, Sun, floating on an air mattress, thanks Park for not quitting swimming to become a singer or television star. "Don't let me win too easily," he adds.

Associated Press researcher Yu Bing contributed to this report.

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