

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AND
WORKER PROTECTION

----- X

April 11, 2023
Start: 11:08 a.m.
Recess: 11:12 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: Marjorie Velázquez
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu
Erik D. Bottcher
Gale A. Brewer
Amanda Farias
Shekar Krishnan
Julie Menin
Chi A. Ossé
Julie Won

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning and
3 welcome to the New York City Council vote of the
4 Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection. At this
5 time, can everyone please silence your cell phones?
6 Thank you for your cooperation. Chair, we are ready
7 to begin.

8 CHAIRPERSON VELÁZQUEZ: [gavel] Good
9 morning. My name is Marjorie Velázquez and I'm Chair
10 of the Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.
11 Welcome to our committee hearing and vote on proposed
12 Intro. 8A related to the disclosure of total ticket
13 cost in advertisements for entertainment events in
14 New York City. I'd like to acknowledge my colleagues
15 on the Committee, Council Member Ossé, Council Member
16 Fariás, Council Member Bottcher, Council Member
17 Menin, Council Member Krishnan, Council Member
18 Brewer, and Council Member Abreu. New York City is
19 one of the world's most preeminent centers for live
20 entertainment and events. We are the home of
21 Broadway, iconic sports franchises like the Yankees
22 and Mets, and renowned venues large and small. As
23 the Chair of Consumer and Worker Protection Committee
24 it is of utmost importance to me and New Yorkers that
25 we receive honest, transparent, and fair treatment

2 for event venues and other commercial establishments.
3 All too often, however, when consumers go online to
4 buy tickets to events they are surprised by fees that
5 increase the cost by as much as 20 percent. The bill
6 that we are hearing today which was sponsored by
7 Council Member Brannan would help address these
8 surprise costs by requiring event operators and
9 ticket sellers to include the entire cost of a ticket
10 including tax and fees in their advertisements. This
11 disclosure could help consumers understand the full
12 cost of a ticket purchase up front rather than being
13 surprised later. I now call on the clerk to call the
14 roll.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Good morning, William
16 Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on
17 Consumer and Worker Protection. Chair Velázquez?

18 CHAIRPERSON VELÁZQUEZ: Aye, but I'm
19 going to pass it to Council Member Brewer.

20 COUNCIL CLERK: Sure.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I got some calls
22 on this bill. Is there a difference between 8 and
23 8A? Was there any difference in that or does anybody
24 know? Okay, so the fines are changed and the--

2 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: [interposing] The
3 fines are reduced, yes.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Reduced.

5 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: So, the first
6 violation is a zero dollar penalty, and now we've
7 made a-- yeah, and then the second is up to \$250; the
8 third is up to \$500.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: And there's
10 something about third-party, what did you say?

11 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Yeah, so if an
12 advertiser is relying on a third-party ticket-seller
13 for information about fees that they wouldn't
14 otherwise have information to, that could be a
15 defense if they're found in violation and relied on
16 that information which they would--

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: [interposing] So
18 that seemed to be one of the issues at stake.
19 Alright, thank you. I'm sorry, just--

20 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Yeah, that's fine.

21 CHAIRPERSON VELÁZQUEZ: Alright, aye.

22 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Abreu?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

24 COUNCIL CLERK: Bottcher?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

2 COUNCIL CLERK: Brewer?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye, and
4 although there was some concern about smaller venues
5 that are not the large garden-type events, making
6 sure that they would be able to deal with the
7 advertising. So I hope that has been addressed. I
8 vote aye.

9 COUNCIL CLERK: Thank you. Fariás?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye.

11 COUNCIL CLERK: Krishnan?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

13 COUNCIL CLERK: Menin?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

15 COUNCIL CLERK: Ossé?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye.

17 COUNCIL CLERK: By a vote of 8 in the
18 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
19 the item has been adopted by the Committee.

20 CHAIRPERSON VELÁZQUEZ: Thank you. We're
21 adjourned.

22 [gavel]

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date April 17, 2023