

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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NOVEMBER 19, 2020
Start: 12:05 P.M.
Recess: 12:11 P.M.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: CHAIR MATHIEU EUGENE

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Bill Perkins
Daniel Dromm
Mathieu Eugene
Inez D. Barron

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

Council Member Diana Ayala

2
3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Okay, Sergeant Hope if could
4 start the Cloud recording.

5 SERGEANT HOPE: The recording started.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Thank you. Good morning
7 everyone. Welcome to the Committee on vote on Civil
8 and Human Rights. At this time will all panelists
9 please turn on your video. The minimize disruption
10 please place electronic devices to vibrate or
11 silent. Thank you for your cooperation. We are ready
12 to begin.

13 CLERK: Ready?

14 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: I'm Mathieu Eugene,
15 and I am the Chair of the Civil and Human Rights
16 Committee. Thank you for attending our featured
17 votes today and for Introductions 1684-A and 1635-A
18 sponsored by Council Member Ayala. Before we begin, I
19 would like to acknowledge my colleagues on the
20 committee who have joined us. Council Member Vallone,
21 Council Member Dromm and Council Member Brad Lander,
22 and Council Member Perkins. Thank you so very much.
23 Even though New York City has some of the strongest
24 anti-discrimination laws in the country, we still
25 hear stories about older workers being discriminated

1 in terms like either working or trying to get
2 unemployment. Some of these issues were ignited at
3 the progress meeting we had on this topic late last
4 year. With the Covid-19 pandemic, age discrimination
5 has only worsened for older Americans completely laid
6 off and disproportionately targeted in
7 disproportionately protected categories. And as of
8 September, 2020 when the apparent race of people over
9 the age of 55 has increased from 3.3% prior to the
10 pandemic to 26.4%. I have been examining the
11 testimony of DFTA. While considering to end the COVID
12 vaccine program (sic) we are identified as the world
13 of operation prospective maintenance that can
14 strengthen protection for these workers. This bill
15 tasks the city Commission on Human Rights, and the
16 Department of City Human Services to be brought with
17 discretionary (inaudible) and human age
18 discrimination. Proposed Introduction B No. 1684-A
19 would require the Commission to create a type of this
20 commission poster that covers age discrimination, and
21 to make education and (inaudible) on age
22 discrimination and available to—on the work site.
23 These posters would develop how to be displayed by
24 every city agency. Proposed Introductory B No. 1685-A
25

1 requires the Department of Citywide Administrative
2 Services to include training on age discrimination as
3 part of all the trainings provided to the city
4 employees. This one must be taken by city employees
5 every two years. Before I do close, I would like to
6 thank our committee staff Beckie Zumareine (sp?),
7 Senior Counsel to the Committee; Warren DV voice
8 analyst and (inaudible) Finance Analyst as well as my
9 staff Melissa Witzer, and I would like also to thank
10 all the staff for the City Council that make all the
11 training possible today. For this I would like now
12 to call on Council Member Ayala to say some few words
13 about her being Intro 1684-A and Intro 1685-A.
14 Council Member Ayala.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Thank you. I will
17 be brief in my remarks. I just wanted to thank the
18 staff as well. We just voted on a few of the bills
19 in the Aging Committee as well and we hope will have
20 strengthened this package and will give older adults
21 the tools that they need to really fight back against
22 this type of discrimination that we all know happens.
23 Unfortunately, it's very difficult to prove that it's
24 happening, and so with this package we're hoping to
25 put a little more teeth behind our policies and the

2 requirements onto the agencies. So, thank you to all
3 of my colleagues for showing up today and voting to
4 ensure that older adults are protected in the
5 workplace. Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Thank you very much
7 Council Member Ayala. Now I let me call the Clerk
8 and to call the roll please, and call the roll.

9 CLERK: Good afternoon. William Martin
10 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Civil
11 and Human Rights. The items are coupled. Chair
12 Eugene.

13 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Barron.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you.
16 Congratulations to Council Member Ayala. I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Thank you. Dromm.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: (pause)

19 CLERK: You're muted Council Member.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I vote aye and
21 this is very important and necessary legislation.
22 Thank you very, very much.

23 CLERK: Thank you, sir. Lander

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye on
25 all. Diana, thank you and congratulations.

2 CLERK: Thank you. Perkins.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: (INAUDIBLE) Did
4 you hear me? I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Yes, Council Member. Thank you,
6 sir.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Thank you very
8 much. I appreciate the support.

9 CLERK: Okay, by a vote of 5 in the
10 affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions
11 both items have been adopted by the committee. Thank
12 you.

13 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Thank you very much.
14 Now this hearing is adjourned. (gavel)

15 FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you. I'll see you
16 at the Stated.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: Thank you very
18 much.

19 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: I'll see you, and
20 good luck.

21 FEMALE SPEAKER: Thank you.

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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 _____ NOVEMBER 28, 2020