

Committee on Governmental Operations

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

Committee on Governmental Operations

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December 8, 2021
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HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: Hon. Fernando Cabrera, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Darma V. Diaz
Stephen T. Levin
Ben Kallos
Alan N. Maisel
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Kalman Yeger

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Oswald Feliz
Carlos Menchaca

Committee on Governmental Operations

A P P E A R A N C E S

(NONE)

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2
3 SERGEANT LUGO: Pc started.

4 SERGEANT BIONDO: Thank you, recording to cloud is
5 up.

6 Good afternoon, and welcome to today's remote New
7 York City Council vote for the Committee on
8 Governmental Operations.

9 At this time will all panelist please turn on
10 their video for verification purposes?

11 And, to minimize disruptions, we ask all
12 electronic devices to be placed to vibrate or silent
13 mode.

14 Thank you for your cooperation.

15 Chair Cabrera, we are ready to begin.

16 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you so much, I know
17 it's been a long day, uh, for all the Sergeants of
18 Arms, so we appreciate all that you do -- and to all
19 of the staff.

20 Good afternoon, uh, I am Council Member Fernando
21 Cabrera, Chair of the Committee on Governmental
22 Operations. I wanted to start off by thanking the
23 members of the committee who have joined us today.
24 We have, I see Council Member Kallos, Council Member
25 Dromm, Council Member Powers, Council Member Yeger,

1 Council Member Darma Diaz, Council Member Rodriguez,
2 Council Member Rosenthal, and I believe that covers
3 everyone.
4

5 Uh, today, uh, we... Today the committee will be
6 voting on three pieces of legislation. The first is
7 proposed Introduction number 1621-A sponsored by
8 Council Member Daniel Dromm. This will establish a
9 committee to examine the city's position on nuclear
10 disarmament, and issues related to recognizing this
11 city as a nuclear weapons-free zone. The committee
12 will consist of seven members, three of whom will be
13 appointed by The Speaker, and four of whom, including
14 the chairperson will be appointed by The Mayor. The
15 advisory committee will be required to meet at least
16 four times per year and produce an annual report
17 summarizing its findings and conclusions. The
18 committee will dissolve upon the submission of its
19 fifth annual report.

20 Second bill we are voting on today's proposed
21 Introduction number 1867-A, sponsored by Ydanis
22 Rodriguez, which relates non-citizen voting. New
23 York City is a city of immigrants, and immigrants
24 make up close to 40 percent of the city's population,
25 and even larger share of its workforce. Immigrants

1 are a vital part of the city's economic, cultural,
2 and civic landscape. This will allow certain
3 immigrants who are not yet US citizens to vote in
4 municipal elections. The bill would create a new
5 class of voters called municipal voters. A municipal
6 voter would be any individual who is (i) is not a
7 United States citizen, (ii) is either a lawful
8 permanent resident or otherwise authorized to work in
9 the United States, (iii) has been a resident of New
10 York City for at least 30 consecutive days, (iv)
11 meets all the qualifications for registering or pre-
12 registering to vote under the Election Law other than
13 United States citizenship, and (v) has registered or
14 pre-registered to vote as a municipal voter with the
15 New York City Board of Elections. Municipal voters
16 will be able to vote in any election for Mayor,
17 Comptroller, Public Advocate, Borough President or
18 City Council Member or any other city ballot
19 initiative. Municipal voters will not be authorized
20 to vote in any state or federal election. The Board
21 of Elections will be tasked with implementing the
22 bill. Among other things the BOE will be required to
23 create a new voter registration form and absent
24 ballot applicant to be used by municipal voters and
25

1 provide information on notices to municipal voters
2 about the law. The BOE will be prohibited from
3 requiring voters to form a separate line or vote in a
4 separate location. The bill will also include privacy
5 protections for municipal voters. Finally, the bill
6 create an advisory group that will provide
7 recommendations regarding any problems or potential
8 improvements with respect to the municipal voting
9 process. The advisory group would be made up of five
10 members chaired by the Public Advocate. There will
11 be four representatives of the community-based
12 organization, two appointed by The Mayor and two by
13 The Speaker of the Council.

14
15 Third and final bill we are voting on today's
16 proposed Introduction number 2459-A sponsored by
17 Council Member Oswald Feliz. And, as I know this...
18 I believe this is his very first bill, so
19 congratulations.

20 This bill will make The Mayor's Office of
21 Information Privacy a charter mandated office.
22 Headed by the city's Chief Privacy Officer, The
23 Office of Information Privacy works to safeguard the
24 New Yorkers information while facilitating data
25 sharing across city agencies. By codifying this

1 office, this bill will ensure that the city remains
2 well equipped to respond to the latest developments
3 and information of privacy and data collection.

4 And, with that, I want to thank Council Members
5 Dromm, Rodriguez, and Feliz for their leadership on
6 this bill.

7 I also want to thank our committee staff, C.J.
8 Murray and Sebastian Bacchi for the work on this
9 hearing.

10 Finally, I want to thank my own Legislative
11 Director, Clark Peña, for his assistance.

12 I will now turn it over to my colleague, Council
13 Member Dromm, to say a few words about his bill,
14 followed by Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very much, Chair
16 Cabrera.

17 Uh, before I start with my remarks about my
18 legislation, I do want to congratulate Council Member
19 Feliz on his first piece of legislation. That's
20 great. Many more, I hope, as you move forward in
21 your tenure in the city council.

22 I also want to congratulate Council Member Ydanis
23 Rodriguez, uh, for moving forward the non-citizen
24 voting rights bill. Uh, that's something that I
25

1 carried for a number of years, but when I became
2 Chair of the Finance Committee, I asked, uh, Council
3 Member Rodriguez if he could take the leadership on
4 that, and he has done a stellar job and moved it
5 forward. And, it looks like we're going to get this
6 passed, and we're going to finally get this done.
7 So, thank you, Council Member Rodriguez for your
8 leadership on that legislation.
9

10 Uh, in regards to my legislation, The Committee
11 on Civil Service and Labor, just passed my resolution
12 976-A regarding divestment from nuclear arms, so I
13 will refer everyone to those remarks.

14 I do; however, want to highlight some of the key
15 points of Intro 1621-A. This bill would require the
16 city to convene an advisory committee on nuclear
17 disarmament and a nuclear free-zone, Chaired by an
18 agency or office head, and composed of six experts on
19 nuclear disarmament policy and advocacy. This
20 committee would review the city's current stance on
21 nuclear weapons, and draft a resolution declaring
22 support for the City to remain a nuclear-free zone.
23 Outreach and education would be vital components of
24 the committee's work, which would be detailed in five
25 years of annual reports. If the advocates for the

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2 bill are any indicator, then I know that the advisory
3 committee members will be excellent. And, I very
4 much look forward to reading each report, and then
5 seeing the city act to implement the recommendations.

6 For the record, I want to recognize the advocates
7 who have fought so hard for the passage of this
8 legislation: Kathleen Sullivan, Matthew Bolton, Seth
9 Sheldon, Robert Croonquist, and all the others who
10 supported this effort.

11 I especially want to recognize my good friend,
12 Human Rights Activist Brendan Fay, who first
13 discussed with me ideas about how our city could
14 support nuclear disarmament.

15 And, also, let me thank Irish Consul General
16 Helena Nolan who, was the lead negotiator on nuclear
17 disarmament in the United Nations when they passed
18 their resolution as well on nuclear disarmament.

19 Finally, I want to acknowledge you, Chair
20 Cabrera. It has been a pleasure to work with you. I
21 hope that, uh, we get the opportunity to work
22 together again at some point in the future. And, I
23 thank you for your leadership.

1
2 And, council staff, who worked on this, mainly
3 Brendan McKinney (sp?) and CJ Murray, thank you also
4 for your work. I am most grateful to all of you.

5 Thank you again, Chair Cabrera.

6 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you so much, Council
7 Member Dromm. Congratulations, I know you worked
8 very, very hard on this bill, and the advocates, they
9 are amazing. They never ceased (Background Noise)
10 (INAUDIBLE 00:09:03) on this bill, so I salute you
11 and the advocates as well.

12 And, so, with that, let me turn it over now to
13 the next sponsor of the following bill, uh, and that
14 is Council Member Rodriguez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you Chairman
16 Cabrera, for your leadership, uh, not only on this
17 committee with many other things that we've been able
18 to do in our city. And, thank you for being also a
19 sponsor of the municipal voting rights as also
20 Council Member Dromm. In having conversation with
21 him this morning, and Margaret Chin, told me this is
22 a day full of emotion, because this is about -- going
23 back to 2009 when you are right there carrying on the
24 bill. This bill had three men crying, and we are
25 Council Member Dromm, Council Member Chin, myself,

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2 together with the rest of the colleagues, Council
3 Member Menchaca, and all of us that are determined to
4 write another chapter of this history.

5 You know, when we passed the bill of
6 emancipation, it was a lot doubt about what could be
7 the future. What will happen after, you know, and
8 the people that were denied their rights, now will be
9 seen and treated as human beings. So, the same
10 doubts I know that is also in the head of a lot of
11 people. What will happen when one million New
12 Yorkers who will stay here during COVID? I don't
13 think that is... I don't think that anyone that has
14 now lived that experience like the one that I did for
15 a green card... From 83' to 2000, washing dishes at
16 O'Henry Restaurant or working in a factory, yes, I
17 wanted to be a citizen, but my language didn't allow
18 me to (Background Noise) (INAUDIBLE 00:11:30).
19 There's so many of us people here. They just stay
20 working daily. They are still here delivering food,
21 working in supermarkets, that we... they've been
22 living in the shadows. A lot of people run for
23 citywide office, but they don't spend time in those
24 communities, because they see those people as second
25 and third-class citizens. They deserve to have a

1 voice. We used to allow New Yorkers that were not
2 citizens to vote a 150 years ago. And, this started
3 changing when they saw new immigrants coming. They
4 were Irish, they were Italian, they were Jewish,
5 (INAUDIBLE 00:12:15) Black, and Latinos. And, for
6 me, it's important that we want to recognize this
7 bill will now (INAUDIBLE 00:12:23) the power of
8 anyone. This bill will just strengthen. Chairman
9 (INAUDIBLE 00:12:28) Cabrera, anyone, go to Sheridan
10 Avenue and 157, it's full of a lot people from
11 Nigeria. Go to Brooklyn, and you'll see also a lot
12 of people from Nigeria. Go to Queens, you'll see
13 people from Bangladesh, from India, working so hard.
14 People coming from the former Soviet Union, from
15 Latin America. So, now this is not about Latinos.
16 This is not about Asians. This is about 100 thousand
17 Irish that they come here undocumented. They come
18 with working... They get their permits later on.
19 So, I am appealing to my colleagues to see outside
20 the box. We have opportunities to follow Takoma
21 Park, they've been doing it since the 1990's,
22 speaking to their former Chairman of the DNC, Tom
23 Perez, he has said, "In my town, we did it in the
24 90's. We've been working perfectly. We can do it in
25

1 the city of New York." The city of New York can be a
2 role model to fix it and let those Trump supporters
3 know we are not following you, but we follow New York
4 City. We are going to be strengthening the vote.

5 So, with that, I'm sorry for my emotion, but for
6 me this is about, it's the day where we have the
7 opportunity. Women had the right to vote in 1919,
8 because before that was white males that had land,
9 that had the right to do it. Each generation had the
10 opportunity to expand our (Background Noise)
11 (INAUDIBLE 00:14:04) and amend our charter of our
12 constitution. New York State constitution never used
13 the word "only" when they say citizens have the right
14 to vote. And, that's why academics and lawyers,
15 including the law department of New York City,
16 including the Legislation Division led by Paul Ochoa,
17 from Mayor di Blasio, they revised this bill,
18 including the council lawyers, they advocate. So,
19 this bill has been written -- has been allowed by
20 lawyers of the council to go and have hearings on
21 three occasions.

22 The first thing that we go through as a council
23 member, is that when we put (INAUDIBLE 00:14:43)
24 request, we get feedback back, and we've been told,
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2 "Well you can do it or you cannot do it." Lawyers
3 have revised our (INAUDIBLE 00:14:52) request, and
4 they said, "You can do it".

5 This is the moment, let's make history, let's
6 vote for this bill.

7 Thank you, Chairman. Thank you, Danny, you've
8 been so great, and for me, I'm just adding what I am
9 doing with the work that you have already started, as
10 Margaret Chin, too.

11 Thank you, (INAUDIBLE 00:15:10), sir.

12 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Nothing to be sorry about,
13 uh, Council Member, your feelings are surely
14 understood, uh, I know that this is a very emotional
15 bill for you. I've seen you fight for this bill,
16 and, you know, with all of your heart, and of course,
17 uh, Council Member Dromm for being the catalyst here
18 from the very beginning. It's so unselfish to be
19 able to share with another council member. So, I
20 know this is a very important moment for both of you.

21 And, uh, and with that, uh, I believe Council
22 Member Yeger -- Council Member Yeger, uh, has some
23 comments.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very much, Mr.
25 Chair, and thank you for Councilman Rodriguez who's

1 worked very hard on this bill, as he said, for a very
2 long time -- and to all the folks who have been
3 working on this topic for a very long time.

4 Uhm, you know, I've... I've spoken on this...
5 On this council, on the floor of this council, and
6 hearing committees about my own family history, uh,
7 which doesn't need to be necessarily recited today,
8 but, uhm, for purposes of my explanation, I think it
9 is relevant.

10 Uh, I... True I'm not a descendant of people who
11 came here on the Mayflower or of Native Americans.
12 Uh, my father came here on a boat, uh, with his
13 parents and his older brother. All of four of my
14 grandparents came here after, in different ways,
15 having escaped the atrocities of Nazi Germany. Uhm,
16 my mother's father was able to make his way to Japan,
17 uh, ultimately to China, where he resided for several
18 years, and then here to the United States. None of
19 them were citizens when they came here, and
20 ultimately they became citizens. And, today, their
21 grandchild, the grandchild and the son of immigrants
22 is a member of the New York City Council -- one of 51
23 who have this title. I imagine that, if they were
24 here today, they'd be wondering how that all
25

1 happened, but they would also note that it's the
2 blessing of God that created this great country that
3 gave the right of citizenship, and that enabled us to
4 be a part of this American miracle of democracy --
5 the longest serving democracy -- the longest existing
6 democracy in the history of the world.
7

8 For me, and my colleagues have heard me say this
9 many times, uh, and it's one of the reasons I have
10 the highest number of "no" votes of any member of the
11 council from any party. I take my oath of office
12 seriously. And, to me, that means supporting the
13 constitution of the United States, supporting the
14 constitution of the State of New York, that's what's
15 in our oaths. And, I took that same oath several
16 years before when I was sworn in as an attorney. An
17 oath to support, to honor the constitution of this
18 state. The constitution of this state, in my
19 estimation, and in a very simple reading, limits
20 voting to citizens. And, that doesn't mean that it
21 can't be changed. It only means that we can't change
22 it. We -- The City Council -- can't change it. It
23 can be changed. It can be changed by the state
24 legislature; submitted to the voters; the voters can
25 adopt it, and that would be the law. This is not a

1 message of -- that it would be bad for more people to
2 be enfranchised. My grandparents were enfranchised.
3 I'm looking around this committee, and I see many
4 people whose grandparents could not vote -- Blacks
5 (sic), women, who are here in this room today, who
6 have the right to vote in this legislature, who
7 couldn't vote... whose grandparents couldn't vote,
8 because they were denied that right. The denying of
9 a right to vote is not right. It's not proper. It's
10 inconsistent with a democracy. But, the question is
11 whether or not we are legally allowed to do it. And,
12 the answer to that is no we can't. And, there are
13 many reasons why, and ultimately when the courts
14 strike this law down, because it will be voted out of
15 committee today and will be voted off the floor
16 tomorrow, uhm, it will be very clear why. But, I'll
17 say some of them, uhm, the idea that we can do
18 something just because it's right -- just because it
19 makes it sense -- just because it feels good, and
20 then walk away and say we did our jobs? That's not
21 what our job is. I don't believe it. I don't
22 believe it's (Background Noise) (INAUDIBLE 00:19:33)
23 it's in... it's in... it... that it is consistent
24 with our oath. And, it's not a criticism of anybody
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2 who's worked on this. Council Member Rodriguez, who,
3 with whom I've served for, uh, four years, less, uh,
4 about 20 in change days, uh, has been a tremendous
5 advocate for this. It's not about a particular
6 segment of the community. He listed the different,
7 uhm, of... of potential vote... voting blocks, uh,
8 and he's right, it wouldn't be limited to one
9 particular segment, it would be everybody who has
10 this right granted by the statute, as long as the
11 statute is legal. But, the statute's not legal.

12 We'll hear a lot in the discussion about the
13 words, you know, floor versus ceiling as it relates
14 to the words in the constitution when it talks about
15 citizens. That, uh, the fact that it says citizen
16 means that the constitution set a floor, that's who
17 must be granted the right to vote. But, it's not
18 limited to that group of people, the citizens, the
19 right to vote. And, that's just not true. And, it's
20 not consistent with basic, very basic, statutory
21 interpretation.

22 There's an old Latin phrase that courts use when
23 they interpret statutes, "Expressio unius est
24 exclusio alterius". And, the very basic meaning of
25 that is, and my Latin is not as good as it used to

1 be, is that when a statute or a... a constitution,
2 or a law, or an ordinance, or a rule, or a regulation
3 says something, and it excludes other things in that
4 category, it necessarily has excluded them to the
5 exclusion of being used. Therefore, when it says
6 citizen and it doesn't say resident, that's what it
7 means. Now, how do we know that for sure? The
8 constitution actually used the word resident in many
9 different places, particularly, for example, in the
10 makeup of the Independent Redistricting Commission,
11 and that it has to take in to account the residents
12 of New York. And, excluded, and as differentiated,
13 from the citizens of New York. Because when
14 legislative seats are designed, they are not designed
15 simply around citizens, they're designed around
16 residents.

17
18 So, the constitution's pretty clear that citizens
19 are the ones who are granted the right to vote
20 exclusively. Again, it can be changed, and perhaps
21 it ought to be, but not by us. And, that's why I'm
22 voting no today, and doing that with great respect
23 for the advocates who believe in this, to the people
24 who believe that this is right.

1
2 And, those who will ultimately take the oath of
3 citizenship at some point in the future, and who will
4 have, uh, journeyed on a quest to become a citizen of
5 this country, they ought to know that the oath to the
6 constitution has meaning.

7 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

8 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you so much.

9 And, with that, let me, uh, pass it on now to
10 Council Member Menchaca. I see his hand is raised.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you, Chair.

12 Uh, and I want to speak on our... Our City, Our
13 Vote. Uh, it's a bill that is important to me and
14 many members of my community who have been
15 championing this larger conversation about
16 enfranchising more immigrants.

17 Uh, I want to say thank you to Danny Dromm, our
18 incredible twelve term... Or twelve year fighter for
19 immigrants, and Ydanis Rodriguez, uh, has been
20 leading the fight on this bill. Uhm, but there is a
21 lot of internal conversation right now on the city
22 council that is trying to stop this bill. And, I
23 want to address some of those issues, but I think
24 what I want to do is... is bring it back to what
25 Council Member Yeager just brought up in terms of the

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2 constitution and what the constitution has given us
3 as cities.

4 This city, the City of New York and its charter
5 is an incredibly powerful charter. Uh, our city
6 council legal teams have looked at this, and have
7 answered the question of whether or not we have the
8 power to do it.

9 Now, the pushback will be -- and I'm not saying
10 Council Member Yeger is anti-immigrant, I don't...
11 I'm not saying this, but there will be proponents out
12 there that will try to knock this out and make some
13 of the same arguments that Council Member Yeger is
14 making.

15 What I want to make sure that we know, is that
16 this committee... I don't have a vote on this
17 committee, uhm, but the council itself must bring
18 this up on Thursday and vote, uh, and let your vote
19 speak for itself, uh, and ensure that we can actually
20 move forward to implement this. Because, this is not
21 going to be an easy implementation. This is going to
22 require a very kind of new thinking for a city like
23 ours. But, it is important to enfranchise some of
24 the most vulnerable people, our working families,
25 across many immigrant constituencies that deserve the

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2 ability to choose their leader to make their lives
3 better. Uh, and I saw this in participatory
4 budgeting, uh, that is where I saw the beginning of
5 how we can enfranchise people in the neighborhood to
6 make decisions, uh, that they want.

7 Uh, and, so I'm here to speak in favor of that. I
8 want to say thank you who's voting yes on this.

9 And, Chair, thank you so much not just hearing
10 us, but I have... you know, you've been there along
11 the way, and I want to say thank you on behalf of the
12 communities that I represent -- that we all
13 represent. Thank you so much.

14 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you so much, uh,
15 Council Member Menchaca, thank you for your words.
16 And, uh, I know we have lot of... a lot of votes
17 today.

18 So, I don't see any other hands raised. Uh, so,
19 with that, uh, let me turn it over to the clerk, uh,
20 to call the roll.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

22 Good afternoon, William Martin, Committee Clerk.

23 Roll call vote for the Committee on Governmental
24 Operations. All three items are coupled.

25 Chair Cabrera?

1 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: I vote aye.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

3 Rodriguez?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye, (Speaking
5 in Spanish 00:25:37 to 00:25:46) thank you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

7 Levin?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I want to congratulate, uh,
9 Council Member Rodriguez on this, uhm, watershed
10 bill. Uhm, and congratulations as well to Council
11 Member Dromm.

12 Uh, and with that, I vote aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

14 Kallos?

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

17 Powers?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

20 Yeger?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Mr. Chair, may I excused to
22 explain my vote?

23 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Absolutely.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you. I'm not gonna
3 reiterate my comments on the Introduction 1867, uh,
4 that will... I'll save that for our exciting day
5 tomorrow.

6 Uhm, I will very briefly, uh, just explain my
7 vote on, uh, Introduction 1621. Uh, I, too, like
8 most recent people, uh, recent thinking people, uh,
9 abhor the existence of nuclear weapons. They're not
10 safe, uh, and, you know, they have historically been
11 used in ways that have made the world unsafe. Uh, it
12 would be a great day if there were no nuclear
13 weapons. But, I, as I said before, and along the
14 same lines of thinking, I have tended to vote in this
15 council the way I believe our structure of government
16 requires, which is that we can't ban nuclear weapons
17 from this city council. We are not military of the
18 United States. We're not the president of the United
19 States. We're not the United States Congress. We
20 are a local body. If this bill were just to create a
21 commission to, uh, discuss it, to, uh, make
22 recommendations to have a thought process, that's
23 fine. But, ultimately the bill is designed in way
24 that says, "And, we here in New York City say No
25 Nukes in New York." That's great as a target -- as

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2 a goal -- as in an ideal to be achieved, but, again,
3 not our job, not our role, not our right, not within
4 the oath of office that we took. Because; however,
5 the achievement of that goal is, uh, valid and
6 valuable, I'm not going to vote no on Intro 1621, I
7 will however abstain, uh, withhold my vote from
8 voting yes on that matter, because of, uh, the
9 thoughts as I've... as I've described them.

10 I'm voting no on 1867, as I've described before.

11 And I'm voting yes on Council Member Feliz's
12 bill, uh, and I congratulate him on moving this. He
13 has quickly proven himself to be wise and thoughtful
14 colleague of ours, and I'm grateful for his service
15 and his partnership, and I'm looking forward to
16 continuing serving with him.

17 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

18 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

20 Darma Diaz?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DARMA DIAZ: I'd like to explain
22 one of my votes, please?

23 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Yes, absolutely.
24
25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DARMA DIAZ: Uhm, in reference to
3 1867-A, I'm... I'm voting yes, but I want it on the
4 record that I'm conflicted.

5 Uhm, The Board of Elections of Elections of the
6 city of New York is in dire need of getting
7 themselves together -- in order. As a former
8 district leader, I could go on, uhm, in the negative,
9 on how elections are impacted by the lack of
10 staffing, the lack of technology, and the lack of
11 order.

12 I'm voting yes on all, but I just wanted it on
13 the record. And, I'm hoping that as we move forward
14 and we move forward tomorrow, that we figure out a
15 way to bring The Board of Elections up to code and up
16 to standards.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you so much.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DARMA DIAZ: You're welcome.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

21 The results for the following items, uh,
22 Introduction... Proposed Introduction 2459-A is
23 adopted by the committee with a vote of 7 in the
24 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions.

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2 Proposed Introduction 1867-A is adopted by the
3 committee with 6 in the affirmative, 1 in the
4 negative, and no abstentions.

5 And proposed Introduction 1621-A is adopted by
6 the committee with 6 in the affirmative, 0 in the
7 negative, and 1 abstention.

8 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you so much.
9 Congratulations to all of the sponsors of the bills.

10 And, with that, uh, we adjourn today's committee.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Chairman.

12 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Thank you.

13 SERGEANT AT ARMS: And, to all members that are
14 on Transportation, we ask you to please stay around.
15 Your Transportation hearing should start in a moment.
16 Uh, Chair Rodriguez, also please, uh, stay around,
17 and we'll rename you as soon as possible, thank you.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

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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 December 29, 2021