

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS

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March 30, 2015
Start: 01:12 p.m.
Recess: 01:30 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway- Committee Rm, 14th Fl.

B E F O R E:
DARLENE MEALY
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
ANDY L. KING
DANIEL DROMM
DEBORAH L. ROSE
MATHIEU EUGENE

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

[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON MEALY: Good morning.

Committee on Civil Rights will begin. I'm Council Member Darlene Mealy Chair of the New York City Council Committee on Civil Rights. I'd like to introduce the other members of the council who have joined us this afternoon; my colleague Mathieu Eugene of Brooklyn, and Danny Dromm of Queens, the Queens, and other council members will be here today. Today the Committee on Civil Rights will vote on the introductory bill number 421A, introductory bill number 689A, and introductory bill number 690-A. Together these bills will help address concerns surrounding the human rights commissions. Lack of enforcement and failure to initiate investigations of discrimination. Intro number 689A will require the commission to conduct no fewer than five investigations of discrimination and housing. And Intro number 690A would require the commission to conduct no fewer than five investigations of discrimination and employment. And Intro number 421A will require the commission to report on its investigations in its annual report to the mayor and to the council. It is our

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2 hope that these bills will help in the enforcement
3 of our civil human rights laws, a law that is one
4 of the most comprehensive laws in the nation. It is
5 very important that we protect the rights of all
6 New Yorkers. I hope that my fellow committee
7 members will support these bills today so we can
8 vote on them tomorrow at our stated meeting. And
9 just to let you know Intro 421 has no fiscal
10 impact. 689A and 690 combined has a course of
11 528,108 dollars annually. Thank you for making this
12 time, taking this time to come out and I want to
13 thank my colleagues for coming here today that we
14 could vote on this important legislation that can
15 help this nation in discrimination across the
16 board. And at this time would anyone like to say
17 anything? Well I do. I just want to say I'm glad
18 this, these important legislation has to be done.
19 We are now putting in people that will go in to see
20 no matter what nationality, religion, sexual
21 orientation. We would have two people go in and
22 then the investigation will happen. If you do to
23 one you should do it to all, across the board. And
24 I'm looking forward this, for this intro and all
25 these legislations to pass. And I'ma [phonetic]

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2 turn it over now to our colleague. I'm sorry, our
3 colleague Council Member Andy King from the Bronx
4 have joined us. Would you have any words.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Let's just pass
6 these resos.

7 CHAIRPERSON MEALY: I concur. We a go
8 for the vote now. Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Kevin Penn
10 Committee Clerk. Roll Call in the Committee on
11 Civil Rights. Intros 421A, 689A, and 690A. Council
12 Member Mealy.

13 CHAIRPERSON MEALY: I vote aye on all
14 and I hope all my colleagues will vote the same.
15 Thank you.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Eugene.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Dromm.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: I'd like to
20 congratulate the Chair Council Member Darlene Mealy
21 on two pieces of legislation and Council Member
22 Lander on this. I think it's a very necessary
23 legislation and I vote aye with that as well. Thank
24 you.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: King.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Everything he said
3 and twice over. And I vote aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: By a vote of four
5 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
6 abstentions all items have been adopted.

7 CHAIRPERSON MEALY: Thank you. We will
8 hold the vote open to about 10 minutes, quarter,
9 1:30. Thank you. Thank you colleagues.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Council Member
11 Rose.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Yes I definitely...
13 Yes. Thank you.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Final vote in the
15 Committee on Civil Rights. Five in the affirmative,
16 zero in the negative, and no abstentions.

17 CHAIRPERSON MEALY: And I just want to
18 thank my colleague Brad Lander for bringing out
19 this great legislation. I'm glad I did my
20 legislation. I'm glad my colleague's here who used
21 to be the chair of Civil Rights. And we looking
22 forward to passing this great legislation. And we
23 doing it tomorrow at our stated meeting. I hope
24 everyone come out because this will be a first step
25 for changing this city and this nation in regards

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2 to the discrimination and housing employment all
3 across the board. So I vote...

4 [gavel]

5 CHAIRPERSON MEALY: ...to close this
6 meeting. And thank you for comin'. Would you like
7 to have any words.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I just. I want to
9 thank you for indulging me and, and waiting for me.
10 This was a very important vote. As the chair said
11 it's going to be a see change in New York City in
12 terms of housing discrimination and civil right and
13 employment. And I am really happy and proud of
14 Chair Mealy for moving this legislation forward and
15 I really ecstatic about being able to vote aye
16 today. Thank you.

17 CHAIRPERSON MEALY: Thank you my
18 colleague and former chair of civil rights. And we
19 gonna [phonetic] close civil rights hearing to
20 adjourn. Close.

21 [gavel]

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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 April 13, 2015