

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE &  
FEDERAL LEGISLATION 1  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL  
OPERATIONS, STATE &  
FEDERAL LEGISLATION  
(VOTE)

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2024  
Start: 10:36 A.M.  
Recess: 10:41 A.M.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: Hon. Lincoln Restler, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer  
David M. Carr  
James F. Gennaro  
Jennifer Gutiérrez  
Shahana K. Hanif  
Vickie Paladino  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Inna Vernikov

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE &  
FEDERAL LEGISLATION

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)  
**(NONE)**

1 COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE &  
2 FEDERAL LEGISLATION 3

2 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Check, check, this is a  
3 microphone check on the Committee on Governmental  
4 Operations, State & Federal Legislation. Recorded in  
5 the Committee Room, on November 13, 2024 by Pat  
6 (INAUDIBLE), check, check.

7 (PAUSE)

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning, good morning, and  
9 welcome to New York City Council vote Hearing on the  
10 Committee on Governmental Operations, State & Federal  
11 Legislation.

12 At this time, to minimize descriptions please  
13 place all electronic devices to vibrate or silent  
14 mode and do not approach the dais.

15 Chair, you may begin.

16 CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: (GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING IN)

17 Good morning, my name is Lincoln Ressler; I'm the  
18 Chair of the Committee on Governmental Operations,  
19 State and Federal Legislation.

20 I would like to thank my colleagues who have  
21 joined us today, especially our three Republican  
22 colleagues who showed up, Council Member Inna  
23 Vernikov, Council Member Vickie Paladino, Council  
24 Member David Carr of Brooklyn, and Council Member  
25 Shahana Hanif.

1  
2 Today, we'll be voting on Introduction 1088-A, a  
3 bill sponsored by our speaker, Adrienne E. Adams, to  
4 create a Charter Revision Commission empowered...  
5 that is empowered to revise our City Charter.

6 I'm grateful that Speaker Adams is spearheading  
7 this effort to bring experienced new (LOST  
8 CONNECTION) (INAUDIBLE) to think about how we can  
9 improve the operations and the efficacy of our city  
10 government and restore confidence in the public  
11 sector.

12 Our speaker is a wise leader who's prepared to  
13 make the unusual choice of spending her political  
14 capital on achieving long term goals that will  
15 benefit future generations of New Yorkers. Her  
16 commitment to strengthening checks and balances and  
17 enhancing accountability in our city government will,  
18 over time, provide more New Yorkers the help they  
19 deserve and better ensure our government operates  
20 honestly. I also admire and share her deep pride in  
21 the institution of the City Council.

22 The Charter Revision Commission created by this  
23 legislation will consist of members appointed by the  
24 Speaker, the Mayor, the Comptroller, the Public  
25

1 Advocate, and each of the borough presidents, all the  
2 key elected officials in our city government.  
3

4 They will come together with ample time,  
5 opportunity, and commitment to solicit meaningful  
6 input from New Yorkers across our city.

7 We had an insightful hearing on this legislation  
8 the other week where we were joined by Eric Lane,  
9 Executive Director of the famous 1989 Charter  
10 Revision Commission, former speaker Chris Quinn,  
11 Susan Lerner, and others.

12 We heard valuable feedback about how we can  
13 ensure the commission is successful, from making sure  
14 we have strong... We have strong appointees and a  
15 well-staffed commission to creating public engagement  
16 and hearing process that allows for input at all  
17 stages of the process, including the very beginning  
18 and the very end.

19 We know that the success of this commission  
20 hinges on its ability to establish trust with New  
21 Yorkers and create a process that includes real  
22 meaningful input.

23 When we improve the structure of city government,  
24 we can deliver better outcomes for New Yorkers. This  
25

1  
2 moment in our city's history requires us to advance  
3 transparency, accountability, and integrity.

4 Just as the 89 Charter Revision Commission  
5 created the structure and framework for our city  
6 government to thrive over the ensuing decades, I'm  
7 hopeful that this new undertaking by Speaker Adams  
8 will recalibrate the balance of power, ensure real  
9 accountability of elected officials, and restore  
10 faith in our city government.

11 This is the right, deliberate path forward.

12 I think it's worth noting that in this moment of  
13 crisis in our city government, with the indictment of  
14 Mayor Adams, it's important for us to be soliciting  
15 real and meaningful feedback on how we can improve  
16 the integrity of our government.

17 I'd like to conclude by thanking the Committee  
18 staff, Jayasri Ganapathy and Erica Cohen for all  
19 their hard work.

20 And now I'd like to ask the Clerk to call the  
21 roll.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin,  
23 Committee Clerk; roll call vote for the Committee on  
24 Governmental Operations, State & Federal Legislation  
25 on Proposed Introduction Number 1088-A.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE &  
FEDERAL LEGISLATION

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Chair Restler?

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (ABSENT)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Thank you.

Council Member Hanif?

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: (ABSENT)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Carr?

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Vernikov?

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: With a vote of 7 in the  
affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions,  
item has been adopted by the Committee.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE &  
FEDERAL LEGISLATION

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CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: Thank you so much.

I would now like to conclude the hearing.

(GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING OUT)

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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 15, 2024