

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL WELFARE

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December 19, 2023  
Start: 11:54 a.m.  
Recess: 11:58 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Diana Ayala, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Tiffany Cabán  
Crystal Hudson  
Linda Lee  
Chi A. Ossé  
Lincoln Restler  
Kevin C. Riley  
Nantasha M. Williams

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sound check for the  
3 Committee on General Welfare. Today's date is  
4 December 19, 2023, being recorded by Danny Huang in  
5 the Chambers.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, welcome  
7 to the Committee on General Welfare.

8 At this time, we ask that you please  
9 place phones on vibrate or silent mode. Thank you.

10 Chair, we are ready to begin.

11 CHAIRPERSON AYALA: Thank you. [GAVEL]

12 Good morning, everyone, and welcome to today's  
13 hearing. My name is Diana Ayala, and I am the Deputy  
14 Speaker of the New York City Council and the Chair of  
15 the General Welfare Committee.

16 Today, our Committee will be voting on  
17 Proposed Intro. 1153-A sponsored by Council Member  
18 Nurse. The bill would require the Commissioner of  
19 Social Services to produce two quarterly reports in  
20 consultation with the Police Commissioner, the  
21 Commissioner of Sanitation, and the Commissioner of  
22 Parks and Recreation to understand how many people  
23 experiencing homelessness were removed in public  
24 spaces and what housing services they were offered

2 and whether there were any involuntary removals or  
3 arrests.

4           According to a recent audit by the New  
5 York City Comptroller, sweeps of homeless and campus  
6 were found to do little when it came to connecting  
7 those experiencing homelessness on our streets with  
8 City services or with a permanent housing, yet  
9 thousands of sweeps occur each year. The bill will  
10 help us to better understand which agencies are  
11 conducting the sweeps and what types of services are  
12 being offered to unsheltered people.

13           At this time, I'd like to acknowledge my  
14 Colleagues who are here today, Council Members Ossé,  
15 Lee, Hudson, Williams, Restler, Caban, and Riley.  
16 Also, I would like to thank the Committee Staff who  
17 worked to prepare this hearing and vote, Aminta  
18 Kilawan, Senior Legislative Counsel; David Romero,  
19 Legislative Counsel; Panina Rosenberg, Policy  
20 Analyst; Julia K. Haramis, Unit Head, and finally, my  
21 staff, Elsie Encarnacion, Chief of Staff.

22           I would now like to turn it over to the  
23 Clerk to do the roll call for this vote.

24           COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good  
25 morning, William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call

1 COMMITTEE ON GENERAL WELFARE

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2 vote Committee on General Welfare, Proposed  
3 Introduction 1153-A. Chair Ayala.

4 CHAIRPERSON AYALA: I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Riley.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Caban.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hudson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ossé.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Restler.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Stevens.

18 Ung. Williams.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
21 vote of eight in the affirmative, zero in the  
22 negative, and no abstentions, item has been adopted  
23 by the Committee.

24 CHAIRPERSON AYALA: With that, this vote  
25 is concluded. Thank you. [GAVEL]

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 22, 2023