

New York City Council

Memorandum in Support of Legislation

This memorandum is authored by the sponsor and explains the need for the legislation referenced below, in accordance with Rule 6.00(d) of the Rules of the Council.

Legislative Service Number:

- INT 959-2024

Prime Sponsor:

- Council Member Joann Ariola

Bill Title:

- **A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the creation of a small business disaster recovery and resiliency advisory board**

Submitted by:

- Council Member Joann Ariola

Justification

This bill would establish a program administered by the Department of Veterans' Services in coordination with the Department of Social Services to provide monthly rental assistance to homeless veterans, covering their monthly housing rent up to a maximum amount based on the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development's fair market rent guidelines. Veterans would not be required to contribute from their income toward rent. To be eligible, a veteran would need to have a gross income not exceeding 200% of the federal poverty level, not be receiving another governmental housing subsidy, and be a New York City resident. The Commissioner of Veterans' Services would have to periodically reassess eligibility and discontinue assistance if a veteran no longer meets the eligibility criteria or secures permanent housing that does not require rent payments. Finally, the Commissioner would have to conduct outreach to landlords and homeless veterans about this program.

This bill would greatly help with the homeless veterans crisis our city faces

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.