

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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May 23, 2017
Start: 11:01 a.m.
Recess: 11:44 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm,
16th Fl.

B E F O R E:
COREY JOHNSON
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Karen Koslowitz
Mathieu Eugene
Peter Koo
Inez Barron
Robert Cornegy

[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON JOHNSON: Good morning. My name is Council Member Corey Johnson. I am Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Health. I want to welcome you to today's vote on proposed Introduction #1456A by my good friend Council Member Karen Koslowitz. This bill would bring the iconic restaurant letter grading system to mobile food vendors. Food trucks and carts are subject to health inspections by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene much like brick and mortar restaurants. This bill would allow New Yorkers to quickly see how a mobile food vendor did on their last inspection. I really want to thank Council Member Koslowitz for her leadership on this and I want to thank the committee staff and her staff for moving this quickly because it is important that the City Council weigh in on this and not the state legislature. This is a local issue that is something that the New York City Council should be looking at and that is why I am glad that Council Member Koslowitz introduced this. We had a hearing on this bill a few weeks ago and I am glad we are taking swift and expeditious action on it so with that I want to acknowledge the Committee

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2 Counsel David Sitzer, policy analyst Crystal Pond and
3 I want to give it to Council Member Koslowitz for a
4 statement.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: A very short
6 on. This bill is a very exciting bill. I have not
7 heard any negatives about this bill. When I first
8 introduced this bill at the Council, people that --
9 the people that own the carts and run the carts were
10 very happy about this bill because an A rating will
11 have more people come to them than let's say someone
12 with a C rating or a B rating. Look at the
13 restaurants, most restaurants now have an A rating so
14 it would be very nice walking through the streets and
15 being hungry and stopping off and getting a hotdog or
16 something else to eat while you're running to your
17 next meeting so I am very excited. I want to thank
18 the Chair and I want to thank the committee for this
19 wonderful bill. It is very exciting. Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON JOHNSON: Thank you, Council
21 Member Koslowitz. We are going to ask the Clerk to
22 call the roll.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,
24 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Health,
25 Introduction 1456-A. Chair Johnson?

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2 CHAIRPERSON JOHNSON: I vote aye and I
3 congratulate Council Member Koslowitz.

4 CLERK: Eugene?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: May I explain my
6 vote please? I just want to take the opportunity to
7 congratulate Council Member Koslowitz. This is a
8 wonderful, wonderful bill and I want to commend the
9 Chair also for your leadership on this matter because
10 we know food is about health. This is very, very
11 important. This is health issue and by ensuring that
12 the food vendors [inaudible] grades that will now
13 create confidence and trust also, you know, when the
14 people want to choose to get something to eat before
15 they go to work or after working and I think this is
16 a good thing and this is a big step in ensuring that
17 we at City Council we protect the health of the
18 people we are serving. Congratulations again my
19 colleague and Mr. Chair, thank you for your
20 leadership. Thank you and I vote yes and I want to
21 add my name also on the bill.

22 CLERK: Koo?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye and I
24 also want to congratulate Council member Koslowitz on
25 doing this bill. This is a really important bill and

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COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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I also want to add my name to it [off mic] and this is a wonderful bill and I want to add my name to the bill so I vote aye. Thank you.

CLERK: Barron?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye. Congratulations. I am glad that I am co-sponsoring the bill. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON JOHNSON: I would like to add my name to the bill as well and there are four votes in the affirmative. We are going to keep this vote open. We are waiting for Council Member Cornegy so we will close the vote after he comes. Thank you very much. Congratulations again, Council Member Koslowitz.

CLERK: Continuation roll call, Committee on Health, Council Member Cornegy?

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Vote aye.

CLERK: Final vote on Introduction 1456, the item is passed by a vote of 5 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, no abstentions

CHAIRPERSON JOHNSON: And we are done.

[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 June 22, 2017