

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS

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December 19, 2019

Start: 10:17 AM

Recess: 10:19 AM

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Fernando Cabrera
Margaret S. Chin
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Mark Gjonaj
Barry S. Grodenchik
Farah N. Louis
Bill Perkins
Carlina Rivera
Helen K. Rosenthal
Ritchie J. Torres

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

2 (sound check) (pause) (gavel)

3 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: Good afternoon

4 everyone, and thank you for coming. I'm Council

5 Member Robert Cornegy, Chair of the Council's

6 Committee on Housing and Buildings. We're here to

7 hold a vote on Proposed Intro 1710-A, a bill related

8 to extending the J-51 Tax Incentive Program. J-51 is

9 and as-of-right property tax exemption and abatement

10 program. It provides benefits to owners of multi-

11 family residential buildings in order to incentivize

12 them to make certain capital improvements on their

13 properties. J-51 is authorized through state enabling

14 legislation and the City Council must adopt a local

15 law in order for the program to continue after it

16 expires. The program last expired on June 30, 2019.

17 Pursuant to state law, the City Council has through

18 January 1' 2020 to enact legislation to continue the

19 program. Proposed Intro No. 17-A sponsored by

20 Council Members Richards would extend J-51 through

21 June 30, 2020. This bill will take effect

22 immediately and would apply retroactive to J-to when

23 J-51 last expired. I'm joined today by Council

24 Members Grodenchik, Council Member Chin, Council

25 Member Louis, Council Member Rivera and Council

1 COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS

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2 Member Espinal. We now ask the clerk to call the
3 roll.

4 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk,
5 roll call vote Committee on Housing and Buildings.
6 Introduction 1710-A. Chair Cornegy.

7 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: I proudly vote aye.

8 CLERK: Chin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

10 CLERK: Espinal

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

12 CLERK: Grodenchik.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER: Just to very briefly
14 explain, I want to thank the Chair for expediting
15 this today. I want to thank Donovan Richards my
16 colleague, our colleague for getting this done.
17 This--this affects the lives of tens of thousands of
18 people in my district. It's--it's a modest relief from
19 taxes, our property taxes, but every little bit helps
20 for families trying to make do in New York City. So,
21 I proudly vote aye today. Thank you.

22 CLERK: Rivera.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER: RIVERA: Aye.

24 CLERK: Louis.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: [off mic] Aye.

2 CLERK: By a vote of 6 in the
3 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
4 the item has been adopted by the committee.

5 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: We will hold the
6 vote open for 10 minutes.

7 MALE SPEAKER: Sure. I'm not sure Russ
8 will come back in. [pause]

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Hi, it's
10 Jerome?

11 MALE SPEAKER: Yes.

12 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: The hearing on
13 Housing and Buildings is closed. [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 January 2, 2020