

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

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October 16, 2017
Start: 2:03 p.m.
Recess: 2:47 p.m.

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

B E F O R E:

BEN KALLOS
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David G. Greenfield
Mark Levine
Carlos Menchaca
Antonio Reynoso
Ritchie J. Torres
Joseph C. Borelli

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

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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

[sound check]
[pause]
[background comments]
[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON KALLOS: Good afternoon and welcome to this hearing of the Committee on Governmental Operations. I'm Council Member Ben Kallos, chair of the Committee; as always, you can tweet me @BenKallos. Today we're holding a second hearing and vote on Proposed Introduction 1517-A that I sponsored in relation to the timing of disclosure reports for candidates for public office.

Under current law, candidates for public office in New York City are required to file a financial disclosure with the Conflicts of Interest Board; you can actually read about all of... every single person sitting here, our outside income and all 51 members of the Council, plus the Comptroller, plus the Public Advocate, plus the Mayor online right now at NYC.gov on the Conflicts of Interest Board page. Now new candidates or candidates who can't afford an expensive election lawyer may not be aware of this requirement; the Conflicts of Interest Board has told us that they would like to be able to inform

2 candidates about this obligation, but to do so the
3 Board first needs to know who the candidates are.
4 Unfortunately, the same day that we learn who
5 candidates are, when they file petitions, is also the
6 day on which financial disclosure are due. In other
7 words, right now the Board can send you a letter
8 telling you that you failed to comply with a
9 requirement you didn't know existed, but they cannot
10 tell you about it in advance; today we're going to
11 change that. Proposed Introduction 1517-A will move
12 the deadline for candidates to file the financial
13 disclosure forward by 25 days; this allows the
14 candidates to be fairly notified while also leaving
15 sufficient time for the filings to be available for
16 the primary election. If we're serious about
17 candidate disclosures, then we should also be serious
18 about giving candidates a fair opportunity to submit
19 them.

20 I wanna thank the New York City Conflicts
21 of Interest Board for identifying this problem and
22 working so closely with us to craft a solution. I
23 also wanna thank my colleagues on the Committee --
24 Council Member Joe Borelli, who was here first, as
25 always; Council Member David Greenfield, who is

2 waiting in the wings; and Council Member Antonio
3 Reynoso. I will now ask the clerk to call the roll.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,
5 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on
6 Governmental Operations, Introduction 1517-A. Chair
7 Kallos.

8 CHAIRPERSON KALLOS: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD:
11 Congratulations, Council Member Kallos on a
12 commonsense piece of legislation I'm proud to
13 support; I vote aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Torres.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Borelli.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 5 in the
21 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
22 the item has been adopted by the Committee.

23 CHAIRPERSON KALLOS: I want to
24 acknowledge we were joined by Council Member Torres
25 and we will hold the vote open.

2 [pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON KALLOS: The Committee Clerk
4 will continue calling the roll.

5 [pause]

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Levine.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Vote aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote currently
9 stands at 6 in the affirmative.

10 [pause]

11 [background comments]

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call,
13 Committee on Governmental Operations, Introduction
14 1517-A. Council Member Menchaca.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote aye on
16 all. Thank you.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote,
18 Introduction 1517-A was now adopted by the Committee
19 7 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no
20 abstentions.

21 CHAIRPERSON KALLOS: Government Ops is
22 adjourned.

23 [gavel]

24 [background comment]

25

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 October 24, 2017