

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, 2018
Start: 10:42 a.m.
Recess: 11:04 a.m.

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

B E F O R E: FERNANDO CABRERA
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Ben Kallos
Alan N. Maisel
Bill Perkins
Keith Powers
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Kalman Yeger

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

2 [sound check] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Good morning and
4 welcome to this hearing of-of the Committee on
5 Government Operations. Today we will be holding a
6 second hearing and vote on two bills, Proposed Intro
7 No. 380-A Sponsored by Council Member Mark Treyger in
8 relation to the provision of diapers and baby wipes,
9 and Proposed Introduction No. 853-A sponsored by the
10 Public Advocate in relation to studying the
11 feasibility of providing childcare for city
12 employees. These bills were previously heard in a
13 joint hearing with the Committee on Women in June of
14 this year. Proposed Introduction No. 380-A will
15 require the city to provide a supply of diapers and
16 baby wipes sufficient to meet the needs of children
17 presenting at subsidized childcare centers, the
18 Family Justice Center, the Department of Education
19 programs, domestic violence shelters, and other
20 temporary shelter. The sponsor will speak more on
21 this bill soon, but since introduction, the bill has
22 been amended to include both written notice and
23 language access requirements. Proposed Intro-
24 Introduction No. 853-A would establish a working
25 group consisting of agency representatives and

2 experts in the field of childcare to conduct a
3 feasibility study about providing discounted group
4 childcare centers for the children or of city
5 employees. The feasibility study will be followed by
6 a one-year pilot project to provide such childcare at
7 one or more centers for eligible children. In
8 addition to the feasibility study, the working group
9 will issue a report with its findings at the
10 conclusion of the pilot. Since introduction, this
11 bill has been amended to provide greater detail of
12 the study to be conducted and to make the conducting
13 of the pilot project mandatory rather than
14 conditional. The working group will also now
15 continue to exist and be able to issue future
16 findings and recommendations to the Intro law sunsets
17 five years after enactment. I would like to thank
18 both the Public Advocate and Council Member Treyger
19 for introducing these bills and the members of this
20 committee for their support on this issue. I would
21 also like to thank our committee staff, Council
22 Member—I mean Counsel, and you're going to prophesy--

23 BARD REED: [interposing] Are you?

24 Thank you.

25

2 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: --a promotion.

3 Counsel Brad Breed, Policy Analyst Elizabeth Cronk,
4 Finance Analyst Zachary Harris, and my own
5 Legislative Director Michael Vin (sp?) for all their
6 hard work. I will now ask the Clerk to call the
7 roll.

8 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk.
9 Roll call vote Committee on Governmental Operations.
10 Both items are coupled. Chair Cabrera.

11 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Aye.

12 CLERK: Maisel.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

14 CLERK: Power.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

16 CLERK: Yeger.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Aye.

18 CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the
19 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
20 both items have been adopted by the committee.

21 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Okay, we'll have it
22 open for another 20 min--20 minutes, and--and we would
23 like to have the sponsor of the bill make a
24 statement. [background comments, pause]

2 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Good morning.

3 I'm Council Member Mark Treyger. I'd like to thank
4 Chair Cabrera for his leadership and for his
5 leadership on making sure that this bill advances
6 through the Government Operations Committee and for
7 voting on my bill Intro 380 a Local Law to amend the
8 Administrative Code of the City of New York in
9 relation to the provisions of diapers and baby wipes.
10 Diapers and wipes are an expensive necessity, and
11 many families struggle to afford them. The cost of
12 diapers can especially be a hardship for single
13 parents, and studies show that moms who struggle to
14 afford diapers are more likely to have depression.
15 No parent should ever have to choose between paying
16 rent and buying clean diapers for their child. Our
17 city must show basic decency by providing clean
18 diapers to families. No baby should be exposed to
19 preventable health problems that arise from being in
20 a dirty diaper when our city could easily step up and
21 make sure clean diapers are available. My bill would
22 require the Department of Citywide Administrative
23 Services to make available a supply of diapers and
24 baby wipes sufficient to meet the needs of residents
25 and recipients of subsidized childcare centers,

2 Family Justice Centers, Department of Education Life
3 Programs, Domestic Violence Shelters operated by the
4 Human Resources Administration, and shelters operated
5 by the Department of Homeless Services and the
6 Department of Youth and Community Development. I'm
7 so very proud that our city is stepping up to make
8 sure that diapers are available to our families.
9 Just as this New York City Council led the way to
10 make sure that pads and Tampons were readily
11 available for New Yorkers, the New York City Council
12 is once again taking a stand to provide diapers and
13 wipes. This is common sense legislation and I'm so
14 proud we're taking a major step to do right by our
15 New York families. This will be a historic day. I'd
16 like to thank Chair Cabrera of the Committee, Speaker
17 Corey Johnson and his office for being very
18 supportive as well as the extraordinary, and I want
19 to emphasize the extraordinary Brad Reed who has
20 worked so hard diligently on this legislation, and my
21 staff as well, Anna Scaife, my Chief of Staff;
22 Vanessa Ogle, my Policy Director who has done a
23 fantastic job, and Eric Feinberg. Again, I thank the
24 Committee and I thank you Chair Cabrera.

2 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: Well, we thank you,
3 and thank you for your leadership on this wonderful
4 bill. It's going to help a lot—a lot of families.
5 Thank you so much, and with that, we'll leave it open
6 for the next 20 minutes. [pause]

7 CLERK: Continuation roll call, the
8 Committee on Governmental Operations. Council Member
9 Kallos.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: As a proud new
11 father, I vote aye on all.

12 CLERK: The vote currently stands at 5 in
13 the affirmative.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: This hearing—

15 CHAIRPERSON CABRERA: No, no, no. [pause]

16 CLERK: The final vote, Committee on
17 Governmental Operations, Introductions 380-A and 853-
18 A have been adopted by the committee 5 in the
19 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.
20 Council Member Kallos.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: This committee is
22 hereby adjourned. [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 November 6, 2018