

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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March 13, 2019
Start: 9:57 a.m.
Recess: 10:26 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: ROBERT E. CORNEGY
Chairperson

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

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

2 [sound check] [pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: --for coming. I'm
4 Council Member Robert Cornegy, Chair of the Council's
5 Committee on Housing and Buildings. We're here to
6 hold a vote on bill related to reducing childhood
7 exposure to lead hazards. Proposed Intro No. 464-B
8 would require the Department of Health and Mental
9 Hygiene to investigate the potential sources of
10 elevated blood levels -blood lead levels in children
11 including inspecting any dwelling where a child with
12 an elevated blood lead level spends 10 or more hours
13 per week. This bill would also add to existing lead
14 hazard remediation requirements for facilities
15 providing daycare services, requiring them to post
16 notices describing any order to remediate a lead
17 hazard, and to remediate such hazard within 21 days.
18 Finally, under this legislation building owners would
19 be required to investigate and remediate a lead
20 hazard when a child spends 10 or more hours per week
21 in one of their units. The bill does this by
22 defining the terms 'resides' to mean routinely spend
23 ten or more hours per week within a dwelling unit.
24 The definition of resides does not effect until
25 January 1, 2020, which is necessary to ensure that

2 both tenants and owners are educated about this new
3 definition, and to provide the city with time to
4 procure the personnel and equipment necessary for
5 enforcement. The goal of this bill is protect more
6 children. It is neither the intent nor the
7 understanding of the Council that the definition of
8 'resides' will have impact on the enforcement of lead
9 hazard violations prior to its effective date or any
10 retroactive impact on the -valid--validity of
11 previous, and outstanding lead hazards related
12 violations. I'm joined today by Council Member
13 Perkins, Council Member Torres, Council Member Dromm,
14 Council Member Cabrera, Council Member Grodenick and
15 Council Member Cohen--Council Member Rivera. Sorry,
16 Carlina. [background comments] [pause]

17 CLERK: William Martin. Roll call vote
18 Committee Clerk, Committee on Housing and Buildings,
19 Introduction 464-B. Chair Cornegy.

20 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: I vote aye.

21 CLERK: Cabrera.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

23 CLERK: Torres.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: [off mic] I vote
25 aye. (sic)

2 CLERK: Grodenchik.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye

4 CLERK: Perkins.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye.

6 CLERK: Rivera.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

8 CLERK: By a vote of 6 in the
9 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
10 the item has been adopted by the committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: I'm sorry. One of
12 the bill's sponsors, Council Dromm has an opening
13 statement.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very
15 much, Mr. Chair. I appreciate the opportunity just to
16 say a few words on the piece of legislation. The
17 reason why I wrote the legislation is specifically to
18 address the issues of 'resides'. There have been
19 cases where—that have been lost in court because of
20 the term 'resides' and how that applies in the law,
21 and cases brought to our attention. So, we felt that
22 redefining that word 'reside' is very important to
23 mean that anybody who spends 10 or hours in a
24 residence actually resides in that residence and, you
25 know, having been a New York City public school

2 teacher for 25 years I know the detrimental effect
3 that even the littlest bit of lead can have on a
4 child's brain, and their future. So, I think that
5 this piece of legislation is going to prove to be
6 very beneficial to all young people who live in New
7 York City. Thank you very much. [pause]

8 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: We'll hold the roll
9 open for ten minutes. [background comments/pause]

10 CLERK: Continuation roll call, Committee
11 on Housing and Buildings, Introduction 4644-B.
12 Council Member Chin.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I vote aye.

14 CLERK: Final vote Committee on Housing
15 and Buildings the item has been adopted by the
16 committee 7 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and
17 no abstentions.

18 CHAIRPERSON CORNEGY: We are adjourned.

19 [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 April 15, 2019