New York City Council

Memorandum in Support of Legislation

This memorandum is authored by the sponsor and explains the need for the legislation referenced below, in accordance with Rule 6.00(d) of the Rules of the Council.

Introduction Number:

Int. No.

Prime Sponsors:

Council Member Abreu

Bill Title:

A local law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the commissioner of homeless services coordinating with hospitals to distribute informational materials on certain weather events to patients and make services directly available to discharged patients during such events.

Submitted by:

Council Member Abreu

Justification:

Extreme weather events, including extreme heat (Code Red) and cold (Code Blue), pose elevated threats to individuals experiencing homelessness. New York City currently provides an array of weather-related resources and services such as cooling and warming centers. To access these resources, individuals experiencing homelessness must be informed and, at times, assisted. Coordination with hospitals to identify discharged patients experiencing homelessness, to inform them about available resources, and to provide direction and transportation to services will help individuals get the services they need during extreme weather events.