

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON AGING

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April 18, 2024
Start: 11:38 a.m.
Recess: 11:43 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Crystal Hudson, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chris Banks
Darlene Mealy
Yusef Salaam
Lynn C. Schulman
Susan Zhuang

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sound check for the
3 Committee on Aging. Today's date is April 18, 2024.
4 Being recorded by Danny Huang in the Chambers.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
6 welcome to today's New York City Council hearing for
7 the Committee on Aging.

8 At this time, we ask that you silence
9 cell phones and electronic devices to minimize
10 disruption throughout the hearing.

11 Thank you for your cooperation.

12 Chair, we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you so much.

14 [GAVEL] Good morning. I am Council Member Crystal
15 Hudson, Chair of the Committee on Aging, and my
16 pronouns are she/her.

17 I'd like to acknowledge that we've been
18 joined by Council Members Mealy, Zhuang, and Banks.

19 Today, the Committee is voting on my
20 bill, Proposed Introduction number 689-A, a Local Law
21 to codify an existing Cabinet for Older New Yorkers
22 made up of the Commissioners of various City agencies
23 or their designees and Chaired by the Commissioner
24 for the Department for the Aging, or NYC Aging, to
25 facilitate interagency collaboration to improve

2 services for older New Yorkers. The NYC Aging
3 Commissioner would also be required to report on the
4 activity of the Cabinet. Older New Yorkers have many
5 of the same concerns and needs as any other New
6 Yorker, such as affordable housing and accessible
7 healthcare, but they may also require extra supports.
8 This means the City must raise awareness among
9 service and programming providers through an
10 intersectional lens. While NYC Aging has the largest
11 constituency among all City agencies, it also has the
12 smallest budget, less than half of a percent of the
13 City's total budget. As a result, NYC Aging faces
14 challenges in its responsibility to address public
15 policy and service issues for older New Yorkers. In
16 September 2022, given the unique and growing needs of
17 the City's rapidly growing older adult population,
18 the Mayor announced the New York City Cabinet for
19 Older New Yorkers as "an interagency collaborative
20 established to realize and institutionalize an age-
21 inclusive New York City through structural,
22 legislative, and systemic solutions." I am hopeful
23 that it will help to streamline and improve the ways
24 in which the City serves older New Yorkers. Proposed
25 Introduction number 689-A would codify the Cabinet

2 with the goal of ensuring the City's collaborative
3 efforts to improve services for older New Yorkers
4 continue beyond this Administration.

5 Thank you to the advocates, members of
6 the public, and representatives from the
7 Administration who testified and provided valuable
8 feedback at our April 4th hearing. I would also like
9 to thank the Administration for working with us to
10 get this done as well as my Staff, Casie Addison and
11 Andrew Wright, and Aging Committee Staff, Christopher
12 Pepe, Chloe Rivera, and Saiyemul Hamid.

13 I'll now turn it over to the Clerk to
14 call the roll.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:
16 Committee Clerk. Committee on Aging. Roll call vote
17 on Intro. 698. Chair Hudson.

18 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: Mealy.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: Banks.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:

24 Zhuang.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: By a
3 vote of four in the affirmative, zero in the
4 negative, and no abstentions, the items has been
5 adopted.

6 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you, and we'll
7 hold the vote open for a few minutes to see if other
8 Council Members will join us. Thank you.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:
10 Continuation of roll call, Committee on Aging.
11 Council Member Schulman.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:
14 Council Member Salaam.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: The
17 vote now stands at six in the affirmative, zero in
18 the negative, and no abstentions.

19 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: This meeting is now
20 adjourned. Thank you. [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 May 15, 2024