Staff: Committee on Public Housing

Audrey Son, Counsel

Jose Conde, Senior Policy Analyst

Ricky Chawla, Policy Analyst

John Basile, Financial Analyst

Chima Obichere, Finance Unit Head



**The New York City Council**

Jeffrey Baker, Legislative Director

**Committee Report of the Infrastructure Division**

Terzah Nasser, Deputy Director, Infrastructure Division

**Committee on Public Housing**

Hon. Alicka Ampry-Samuel, Chair

**December 14, 2021**

**Proposed Res. No. 1201-A:** By Council Members Rivera, Chin, Ampry-Samuel, Louis, Brannan, Cornegy and the Public Advocate (Mr. Williams)

**Title:** Resolution calling on Congress to pass and the President to sign, H.R. 235, the Public Housing Emergency Response Act

**Res. No. 1222:** By Council Members Rivera, Gjonaj, Ampry-Samuel, Chin and Cornegy

**Title:** Resolution calling upon the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign the Green New Deal for Public Housing Act

**Introduction**

On December 14, 2021, the Committee on Public Housing, chaired by Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, will hold a hearing on Proposed Res. No. 1201-A, calling on Congress to pass and the President to sign, H.R.235, the Public Housing Emergency Response Act; and Res. No. 1222, calling upon the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign the Green New Deal for Public Housing Act.

**Background**

**Proposed Res. No. 1201-A**

H.R.235, otherwise known as the Public Housing Emergency Response Act, sponsored by Representative Nydia Velazquez, currently pending in the United States House of Representatives, would invest $70 billion into the Public Housing Capital Fund at the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help support the funding needs of public housing authorities throughout the United States, including the New York City Public Housing Authority. This resolution would call on the United States Congress and the President to sign H.R.235.

**Res. No. 1222**

The Green New Deal for Public Housing Act, sponsored jointly by Senator Bernard Sanders and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, would commit nearly $180 billion over a decade for the rehabilitation, upgrade, and transition of 1.2 million public housing units across the nation. This resolution would call on the federal government to enact legislation to establish a “Green New Deal that is specific to public housing.

[THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK]

Proposed Res. No. 1201-A

..Title

Resolution calling on Congress to pass and the President to sign, H.R.235, the Public Housing Emergency Response Act.

..Body

By Council Members Rivera, Chin, Ampry-Samuel, Louis, Brannan, Cornegy, Cabãn, Rosenthal and the Public Advocate (Mr. Williams)

Whereas, The New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) is the largest public housing authority in North America, providing affordable housing to low and moderate income New Yorkers; and

Whereas, The historical federal disinvestment from public housing authorities has limited the amount of available resources for NYCHA to correct mold conditions, broken boilers, lead conditions, leaking roofs, and stalled elevators; and

Whereas, According to NYCHA’s Capital Plan for Calendar Years 2019-2023, from 2001 to 2017, the annual federal capital grants for NYCHA have declined from $420 million to $346 million and NYCHA has experienced a cumulative federal capital grant funding loss of $1.34 billion since 2001; and

Whereas, According to NYCHA’s most recent Physical Needs Assessment, the total projected cost of all needs – repair and replacement – over the next five years is $31.8 billion, and $45.2 billion over 20 years; and

Whereas, H.R.235, sponsored by Representative Nydia Velazquez, currently pending in the United States House of Representatives, would invest $70 billion into the Public Housing Capital Fund at the Department of Housing and Urban Development to help support NYCHA’s funding needs and the funding needs of the other public housing agencies throughout the United States; and

Whereas, The passage of this Congressional bill is critical to providing public housing authorities like NYCHA with the necessary funding to help maintain their buildings and give tenants a suitable place to live; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls on Congress to pass and the President to sign, H.R.235, the Public Housing Emergency Response Act.

JLC/AS

LS 12452/ 12468

12/14/21 11:36 a.m.

Res. No. 1222

..Title

Resolution calling upon the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign the Green New Deal for Public Housing Act.

..Body

By Council Members Rivera, Gjonaj, Ampry-Samuel, Chin and Cornegy

Whereas, The new estimate of 2019’s global carbon emissions, conducted by Global Carbon Project, revealed that Fossil CO2 emissions are set to grow 0.6% to a record high of 37 billion metric tons; and

Whereas, According to New York City’s (NYC) OneNYC 2050 report, by the 2050s, the City’s average temperatures are expected to increase by up to 5.7 degrees Fahrenheit, and many more New Yorkers may die each summer from intense heat; and

Whereas, Additionally, within the same timeframe, sea levels are expected to rise by up to 30 inches and cause coastal flooding, which would impact nearly 1 million residents who will live in the expanded coastal floodplain; and

Whereas, According to a Data for Progress report, A Green New Deal for New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Communities, NYCHA currently uses 40%-50% more energy per square foot than the median NYC multi-family building, while providing unhealthy home environments that lack comfort and safety; and

Whereas, According to the abovementioned plan, NYCHA’s backlog of $31.8 billion in repairs is a result of decades of disinvestment in low-income communities of color; and

Whereas, In 2019, the City Council passed the Climate Mobilization Act requiring most large buildings to reduce their emissions by 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050, however NYCHA buildings were exempt; and

Whereas, The Green New Deal for Public Housing Act, introduced by Senator Bernard Sanders and Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, aims to rehabilitate, upgrade and transition all public housing into carbon-free homes through education, training and jobs; and

Whereas, The benefits of A Green New Deal for NYCHA include investment in low-income and racialized communities and the creation of over 300 thousand jobs in the City over the course of ten years; and

Whereas, Additional benefits include improvements to safety, health, and comfort for NYCHA residents while ultimately reducing NYCHA’s annual carbon emissions to zero by 2030; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign the Green New Deal for Public Housing Act.

LS #12970

12/17/19

AR