

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

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November 13, 2018
Start: 11:10 a.m.
Recess: 11:41 a.m.

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

B E F O R E: RUBEN DIAZ, SR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Joseph C. Borelli
Costa G. Constantinides
Francisco P. Moya
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Paul A Vallone

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

2 [sound check] [background comments]

3 [gavel]

4 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Good morning, ladies
5 and gentlemen. [background comments] We're good?
6 Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to this
7 hearing of the City Council For-Hire Vehicle
8 Committee. I am Reverend Ruben Diaz, Sr. the chair
9 of the Committee. First, let me recognize my
10 colleagues who are today. We have Council Member
11 Rose, Council Member Vallone and Council Member
12 Borelli. We're expecting the arrival of Council
13 Member Moya. He is not here yet and Council Member
14 Constantinides. Rodriguez will not be here today, but
15 the others are here. Today, we will be voting on six
16 important pieces of legislation with the aim of
17 assisting struggling drivers on ensuring that the
18 Taxi and For-Hire vehicle industry are inclusive and
19 accommodating for all passengers and drivers alike.
20 The first proposal Introduction 1096-A, which I
21 introduced will require high volume for-hire service
22 to affirm that they would not automatically deduct
23 vehicle payments from driver's pay unless the
24 deduction is optional and chosen by the driver. This
25 will prevent drivers from being forced into automatic

2 deductions, but will give them the freedom to choose
3 automatic deduction if that is what they prefer. The
4 second is Proposed Introduction 304-A introduced by
5 Council Member Rodriguez, which will create a task
6 force to study taxi medallion prices and following
7 that story, make the accommodation to change laws on
8 regulations related to medallions. The third is
9 Proposed Intro-Proposed Introduction 1062-A,
10 introduced-introduced by Council Member Grodenchik,
11 which will require high volume for-hire services to
12 pay drivers even if their payment transaction fails
13 through no fault of the driver. We will also be
14 voting on Proposed Introduction 1068-A intro-
15 introduced by Council Member Levine. This bill would
16 require the Taxi and Limousine Commission to engage
17 in financial education and outreach for taxi and for-
18 hire vehicle drivers relating to taxi medallions and
19 for-hire vehicle transaction. Finally, the fifth
20 bill-the fifth bill will be that we will be voting is
21 Proposed Introduction 1079-A introduced by Council
22 Member Richards, which would amend the City Charter
23 to create an office of inclusion, which in the TLC.
24 This new office will be tasked with addressing issues
25 of discrimination and service refuse-refusal for taxi

2 and for-hire vehicles on the basis of race,
3 ethnicity, gender, disability and other—and other
4 categories. Finally, we are proposing—we are—we are
5 voting on Proposed Introduction 1081-A introduced by
6 Council Member Salamanca. This would require the
7 Taxi and Limousine Commission to pro—to provide
8 assistant services for drivers including with mental
9 health, and financial counseling and refer it to an
10 outside organization who can provide additional help.
11 I would like to invite the sponsor of this bill—they
12 are not here now—okay. So, thank you. Now, ladies
13 and gentlemen, I call for a vote on Proposed
14 Introduction 304-A, 1062-A, 1068-A, 1079-A, 1081-A
15 and 1096-A. I recommend a vote yes, and ask—and I
16 ask the Committee Clerk to please call the roll.

17 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk,
18 roll call vote Committee on For-Hire Vehicles. All
19 items are coupled. Chair Diaz.

20 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Aye. I move.

21 CLERK: Rose.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

23 CLERK: Vallone.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Borelli.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all.

3 CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the affirmative,
4 0 in the negative and no abstentions, all items have
5 been adopted by the committee. [pause]

6 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: We will keep the
7 meeting open for the arrival of the other Council
8 Members. So this meet--this meeting is recessed. We
9 are recessed? Okay, thank you. Fast. [pause]

10 CLERK: Continuation roll call the
11 Committee on Fore-Hire Vehicles, Council Member
12 Constantinides.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote
14 aye

15 CLERK: The vote on Committee For-Hire
16 Vehicles, all items have been adopted by a vote of 5
17 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no
18 abstentions.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: And with
20 that, I will gave the end of the--the end of the For-
21 Hire Vehicles meetings closed. [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 29, 2018