

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

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Thursday, April 11, 2024

Start: 11:15 a.m.

Recess: 11:27 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Joann Ariola, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Carmen N. De La Rosa
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Kevin C. Riley
Lynn C. Schulman
Kalman Yeger
Susan Zhuang

Other Council Members Attending: Borelli

COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

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

N/A

2 SERGEANT PAYTUVI: This is a microphone check for
3 the Committee on Fire and Emergency Management,
4 recorded on April 11, 2024, located in Chambers, by
5 Nazly Paytuvi.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning, and welcome to
7 today's New York City Council Vote for the Committee
8 on Fire and Emergency Management.

9 At this time please place all electronic devices
10 to vibrate or silent mode. Just a reminder, no one
11 may approach the dais.

12 Chair we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON ARIOLA: Good morning, everyone. I am
14 Council Member Joann Ariola, Chair to the Fire and
15 Emergency Management Committee, and I would like to
16 acknowledge members who are currently present:
17 Council Member Riley, Council Member Zhuang, Council
18 Member Schulman, Council Member De La Rosa, Council
19 Member Yeger, and Council Member Gennaro on Zoom.

20 Today we will be voting on two pieces of
21 legislation:

22 Proposed Introduction Numbers 126-A and 127-A,
23 both sponsored by our Minority Leader, Council Member
24 Joseph Borelli, and I am also a co-sponsor on both
25 bills.

2 Proposed Introduction 126-A would require that
3 the Fire Department provide body armor to employees
4 within the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
5 providing emergency medical services. Such body armor
6 will be required to meet ballistic and stab resistant
7 standards.

8 Proposed Introduction 127-A would require the
9 Fire Department to provide de-escalation and self-
10 defense training to its employees providing medical
11 services within the Bureau of Emergency Medical
12 Services. Such training would be available at least
13 once every third calendar year. This would be in
14 addition to any defense training EMS workers receive
15 when they start at the Department.

16 As this committee's chair, I will always fight to
17 protect the safety and well-being of our first
18 responders. Our City's EMS workers are one of the
19 most, if not the most, underserved part of our
20 municipal workforce. By passing these bills today, I
21 believe we are increasing their safety as they work
22 their jobs here in the City of New York. We need to
23 protect our City's EMS workforce. I encourage all of
24 my colleagues to vote aye on the bills, and would now

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2 like the Clerk to call the rollcall vote - and we
3 have also been joined by Council Member Feliz.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Good morning, William
5 Martin, Committee Clerk, rollcall vote, Committee on
6 Fire and Emergency Management for proposed
7 Introductions 126-A and 127-A. Items are coupled.

8 Chair Ariola?

9 CHAIRPERSON ARIOLA: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Yeger?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: I vote aye on these very
12 wise bills being sponsored by one of our common sense
13 members, common sense being what we look for here.
14 This is the very least we can do for some of the
15 hardest working City employees who have incredibly
16 dangerous jobs. I vote aye on all, thank you.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Riley?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

22 Council Member Feliz?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

25 Council Member De La Rosa?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: I just want to say
5 congratulations to Council Members Borelli and
6 Ariola, and to say that as someone who used to work
7 for EMS, these are very needed bills. And I vote aye
8 on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: I vote aye for our fire
11 fighters who run towards the danger every time an
12 accident happens. Thank you for everyone's support.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of eight in the
14 affirmative, zero in the negative, and zero
15 abstentions, both items have been adopted by the
16 Committee. Madam Chair, that is a full Committee.

17 CHAIRPERSON ARIOLA: Thank you to everyone for
18 your votes and your words, your kind words.

19 I will now end the meeting.

20 (GAVEL SOUND) (GAVELING OUT)

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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 2, 2024