

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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November 21, 2024
Start: 10:40 a.m.
Recess: 10:44 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Lynn C. Schulman, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Kristy Marmorato
Julie Menin
Mercedes Narcisse
Susan Zhuang

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning. This is a
3 microphone check for the Committee on Health. Today's
4 date is November 21, 2024, located in the Chambers,
5 recording done by Pedro Lugo.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
7 welcome to the New York City Council vote of the
8 Committee on Health.

9 At this time, can everybody please
10 silence your cell phones.

11 At this time and going forward, no one is
12 to approach the dais. I repeat, no one is to approach
13 the dais.

14 Chair, we are ready to begin.

15 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: [GAVEL] Good
16 morning, everyone. My name is Lynn Schulman, Chair of
17 the New York City Council's Committee on Health.

18 Today, the Committee will vote on
19 Introduction 1018-A, sponsored by Council Member
20 Brannon and myself, which would prohibit the sale of
21 dogs and cats in retail pet shops and will align the
22 City's Administrative Code with the statewide
23 prohibition on the sale of dogs, cats, and rabbits in
24 pet stores, which goes into effect December 2024.

2 Before we start, I want to dedicate
3 today's vote to former Council Member Paul Vallone,
4 who unexpectedly passed away earlier this year and
5 who was an especially devoted animal advocate.

6 I'd also like to note that we are joined
7 by Council Members Marmorato, Ariola, De La Rosa,
8 Zhuang, and Narcisse, and virtually Council Member
9 Menin, Gennaro, and Feliz.

10 Animal welfare is a fundamental aspect of
11 our community's health and compassion. This past
12 September, we held a hearing on the state of animal
13 rescue in New York City and heard from a number of
14 dedicated organizations and passionate animal welfare
15 advocates. As Chair of the Health Committee, I am
16 committed to making sure that the City is taking the
17 welfare of our animals seriously, and passing
18 Introduction 1018 as a step in that direction. The
19 unregulated sales of animals in our city not only
20 perpetuates animal cruelty but can also pose public
21 health risks.

22 In conclusion, I would like to thank the
23 dedicated animal welfare advocates, ACC, the Mayor's
24 Office of Animal Welfare, and the many organizations

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2 and individuals who attended our September hearing to
3 make their voices heard on this issue. Thank you.

4 Clerk, we are ready to begin the vote.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
6 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
7 vote, Committee on Health on Proposed Introduction
8 1018-A. Chair Schulman.

9 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Yeger.
11 Gennaro.

12 UNIDENTIFIED: (INAUDIBLE)

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Council
14 Member Gennaro.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
17 you. Feliz.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
20 you, Council Member Feliz. De La Rosa.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Menin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
25 you, Council Member Menin. Narcisse.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Zhuang.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ariola.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

7 Congratulations, Chair.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

9 Marmorato.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote no.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
12 vote of eight in the affirmative, one in the
13 negative, and no abstentions, item has been adopted
14 by the Committee.

15 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Thank you,
16 everyone, and this concludes the hearing of the
17 Health Committee and the vote. [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 22, 2024