

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON CIVIL SERVICE AND LABOR

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December 18, 2009  
Start: 1:18 pm  
Recess: 1:23 pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E: MICHAEL C. NELSON  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
James F. Gennaro  
Melissa Mark-Viverito  
Ydanis Rodriquez  
Larry Seabrook

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2 CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Let's begin  
3 the meeting on the Council of Civil Service and  
4 Labor. Good afternoon. I'm Council Member Mike  
5 Nelson. I chair the Committee on Civil Service  
6 and Labor. Today the committee will hold a vote  
7 on proposed resolution number 1924-A. This Reso  
8 calls on Congress to alter the James Zadroga 9-11  
9 Health and Compensation Act.

10 The Zadroga Act would provide many  
11 persons exposed to the toxins of Ground Zero a  
12 right to be medically monitored and confers upon  
13 many who are sick as a result of such exposure, a  
14 right to treatment. Thank you for attending  
15 today's hearing.

16 It's been estimated that almost  
17 100,000 workers and volunteers participated in the  
18 rescue, recovery and clean up on and after 9-11.  
19 Many of these workers were New York City uniformed  
20 personnel, including members of the FDNY,  
21 including Emergency Medical Services workers, the  
22 NYPD, the Port Authority of New York and New  
23 Jersey, the Department of Sanitation and the  
24 Department of Corrections. In addition, area  
25 workers, residents and students were also directly

1 exposed to the World Trade Center attack.

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3 Although the New York City  
4 Council's in favor of many aspects of the Sadroga  
5 Bill, Reso number 924-A. It urges Congress to  
6 amend certain aspects of the bill. This  
7 resolution would go further. Woludl call for the  
8 House version of the bill to be amended in  
9 accordance with the Senate version, which would  
10 cut the city's responsibility of funding under the  
11 act from a maximum of half a billion dollars to a  
12 maximum of a quarter of a billion dollars. That's  
13 B, Billions.

14 The resolution would also cite  
15 evidence tending to show a causing 4 dollars.  
16 That's B, Billions. The resolution would also  
17 cite evidence intending to show a causal  
18 connection between cancers and exposures to 9-11  
19 toxins and would call on Congress to strongly  
20 consider adding cancer as an enumerated condition  
21 under the Act.

22 Today we've been joined by members  
23 of the Committee, Council Members James Gennaro  
24 and Larry Seabrook. I'd like to also thank staff,  
25 Jennifer Wilcox, the legislative analyst and

1  
2 Shaniqua Onussu, the policy analyst. And of  
3 course, there's always the Sergeant at Arms that  
4 makes these meetings possible. We're going to  
5 take a vote on this bill. All the members had a  
6 chance to read it? Well, we have to wait for  
7 Billy for that one. Whenever Billy's ready.  
8 Members ready? Okay. Council Member Seabrook.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes, Mr.  
10 Chair to explain my vote.

11 CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Sure.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I'm in  
13 support of this resolution and I'd like my name to  
14 be added to the resolution if at all possible. I  
15 vote aye.

16 CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Thank you  
17 Council Member. Council Member Gennaro.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you  
19 Mr. Chairman. I proudly vote yes and I also ask  
20 that my name be put on there as a sponsor. I just  
21 sent an email to my staff to make sure that that  
22 happens also. Thank you for your leadership on  
23 this Mr. Chairman and I proudly vote yes.

24 CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Thank you  
25 Council Member Gennaro. Council Member Melissa

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2 Mark-Viverito.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VIVERITO: I vote

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aye.

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CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Thank you.

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And of course, Council Member Mike Nelson. I vote

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aye. And I think this attack, similarly to the

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attack at Pearl Harbor where anybody who was

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injured in that attack too, that survived of

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course should be entitled to the services we're

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recommending Congress to approve today, whether

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they were combatants or non-combatants. This was

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an attack on the United States of America, nothing

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else, pure and simple. So I'm proud to vote aye.

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COUNSEL: By a vote of four in the

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affirmative, zero in the negative and no

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abstentions, item is adopted. Members please sign

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the Committee report. Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Thank you.

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One second, please. Right and we're going to hold

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the vote open for half an hour. Oh, terrific. We

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were going to hold the vote open for you. Council

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Member Ydanis Rodriguez, how do you vote?

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COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIQUEZ: [off

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CHAIRPERSON NELSON: Final vote?

Sure.

COUNSEL: William Martin, Committee Clerk final vote on the Committee on Civil Service and Labor, resolution 1924-A is not five in the affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON NELSON: With that, I adjourn today's hearing, Civil Service and Labor. Thank you all for attending.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Amber Gibson, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Amber Gibson \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_ December 30, 2009 \_\_\_\_\_