

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS

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September 24, 2013
Start: 11:39 a.m.
Recess: 12:20 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway, 14th Floor
New York

B E F O R E: Erik Martin Dilan
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Gale A. Brewer
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
Elizabeth Crowley
Lewis A. Fiddler
James F. Gennaro
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Brad S. Lander
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Rosie Mendez

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joel Rivera
Jumaane D. Williams
Eric A. Ulrich
James S. Oddo

2 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Good morning,
3 and it is still morning. I'd like to call this
4 hearing to order. Welcome everyone. My name
5 is Erik Martin Dilan, the Chair of the City
6 Council's Housing and Buildings Committee, and
7 today the Committee will be voting on four
8 bills for consideration today, as well as three
9 resolutions proposed. The first of which is
10 proposed introduction 1086A that will require
11 at least one faucet and toilet in each bathroom
12 that are capable of working without electrical
13 power in case of an outage. The next is
14 proposed Intro 1090A, which will require the
15 City to conduct a study of the effects of wind
16 on existing buildings, and this study will be
17 conducted by the City's Office of Long Term
18 Planning and Sustainability and consultation
19 with New York City building's department. The
20 next item is Introduction 1095A, which will
21 require the Building's Department to create a
22 manual explaining the City's flood construction
23 requirements in plain English and Spanish, and
24 this manual also will be posted on the
25 Department of Buildings website. The next item

1 is proposed Introduction 1098A, and that will
2 require that a new--that new and substantially
3 improved buildings in flood-prone areas will be
4 equipped with vac water valves. A vac water
5 valve prevents sewage and waste from the public
6 sewer system from backing up and getting into
7 these buildings and these back ups can happen
8 whenever the public sewer system overflows such
9 as during a flood. Resolution--onto the
10 resolutions now. Resolution, the first of
11 which, 1708 calls upon Congress to enact and
12 the President to sign the Flood Victim
13 Prevention, excuse me, the Flood Victim Premium
14 Relief Act of 2013. This act will extend the
15 phase in period for new insurance premiums so
16 that home owners premiums will increase
17 gradually instead of sharply. The next is
18 intro--resolution, excuse me, 1808; calls upon
19 Congress to amend the Biggert-Waters Flood
20 Insurance Reform Act of 2012, to reduce home
21 owner's flood insurance burdens. For example,
22 the resolution calls on Congress to allow for
23 properties newly mapped into flood zones to
24 have their flood insurance rate phased in
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1 instead of all being changed at once. The
2 resolution also calls for higher deductibles to
3 reduce the amount of the premiums that home
4 owners would face. Resolution 1927 calls upon
5 Congress to enact and the President to sign,
6 H.2287, and S.1480. This bill would amend the
7 Stafford Act so that co-ops and condos are
8 eligible for the same assistance after a major
9 disaster that the single family home owners
10 are. The bills before the Committee today are
11 based on proposals contained in the report of
12 the Building Resiliencing [phonetic] Task
13 Force. This task force was made up of over 200
14 volunteers from a variety of fields convened by
15 the Mayor and the Speaker in the wake of
16 Hurricane Sandy. Each of these bills before the
17 Committees today is intended to make buildings
18 and homes more resilient to storms and other
19 disasters. These bills were first heard back
20 in June, and we have made changes to the bills
21 based on comments we've received from
22 stakeholders. Those changes are reflected in
23 the legislation as well as the Committee
24 Report. The resolutions before the Committee
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2 today are intended to make flood insurance more
3 affordable and to provide better assistance to
4 people affected by disasters. At this time I'd
5 like to ask the Clerk to couple all of these
6 items and I urge my colleagues to vote yes on
7 each of the items before us today. I ask the
8 Clerk to call the roll.

9 CLERK PENN: Kevin Penn, Committee
10 Clerk. Roll call in the Committee on Housing
11 and Buildings. Council Member Dilan?

12 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: I vote aye.

13 CLERK PENN: Brewer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye,
15 and I'd like my name added to all of the bills
16 and resolutions. Thank you very much.

17 CLERK PENN: Fiddler?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDDLER: Everybody
19 ought to have a working toilet, so I vote aye.

20 CLERK PENN: Jackson?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on all.
22 Please list my name on the all bills and
23 resolutions.

24 CLERK PENN: Mark-Viverito?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I
3 vote aye and please write my name as well.

4 CLERK PENN: Mendez?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I vote aye
6 on all.

7 CLERK PENN: Williams?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye
9 on all. Please add my name to all those.

10 CLERK PENN: Ulrich?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye
12 and ask that my name be added to the Reso 1927.

13 CLERK PENN: Oddo?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

15 CLERK PENN: By a vote of nine in
16 the affirmative, zero in the negative, no
17 abstentions, all items have been adopted.
18 Members, please sign the Committee reports.

19 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: I will allow,
20 will allow the roll to remain open for as long
21 as the rules allow, and at that time the
22 hearing will be adjourned.

23 CLERK PENN: Gennaro?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

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CLERK PENN: Vote stands at 10 in the
affirmative.

UNKNOWN: This meeting is adjourned.
[gavel]

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 there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date 10/01/2013