

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE TO COMBAT HATE

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April 15, 2026

Start: 1:07 p.m.

Recess: 1:12 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING  
ROOM 3

B E F O R E: Yusef Salaam, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shekar Krishnan  
Darlene Mealy  
Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Julie Won

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Mercedes Narcisse  
Farah N. Louis

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3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone  
4 check for the Committee on Combat Hate. Today's  
5 date is April 15, 2026, being recorded by Tavell  
6 King (phonetic) in Hearing Room 3.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good afternoon, and  
8 welcome to today's New York Council hearing on the  
9 Committee of Combat Hate.

10 At this time, please silence all  
11 electronic devices.

12 No one may approach the dais.

13 Chair, you may begin.

14 CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: [GAVEL] Good  
15 afternoon, everyone. My name is Yusef Salaam. I serve  
16 as the Chair to the Committee to Combat Hate, and I  
17 would like to start off by thanking everyone for  
18 being here today for this vote on Proposed  
19 Introduction 327-B, sponsored by Council Member  
20 Narcisse, in relation to reimbursing non-public  
21 schools for the cost of video surveillance cameras.

22 New York City is the home to over 1  
23 million students that attend all types of schools  
24 across the five boroughs. Regardless of what school a  
25 student attends, all of our children deserve to feel

2 safe while seeking an education. This also includes  
3 our smallest of schools that may not have the means  
4 to support the security measures they need for their  
5 buildings, such as security cameras. Many incidents,  
6 including those resulting in physical harm to our  
7 students, our staff, or our visitors can often go  
8 unresolved or be repeated due to the lack of  
9 witnesses or evidence. Surveillance footage could go  
10 a long way in addressing this issue. This bill would  
11 expand the options available to schools under an  
12 existing successful program that helps qualifying  
13 non-public schools to afford the cost of security  
14 guards. Increasing access to these tools for  
15 non-public schools will serve to ease some of the  
16 burdens and allow them to focus on their main job,  
17 that of educating our children.

18 I'd also like to note that a previous  
19 version of this bill was heard by this Committee in  
20 February of this year and the testimony, the  
21 feedback, and all of that which we heard during the  
hearing helped to guide the amendments made to this  
bill.

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3 I'll now like to turn it over to Council  
4 Member Narcisse for her remarks on this bill.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Thank you, Chair  
6 Salaam.

7 Intro. 327 is simple. Non-public schools  
8 across our city serve hundreds of thousands of  
9 students, and many of them are operating with limited  
10 security resources. Intro. 327 creates a  
11 reimbursement program so these schools can install  
12 video surveillance cameras at their entrances and  
13 exits without bearing the full cost alone. We already  
14 reimburse non-public schools for security guards.  
15 This extends that same principle to surveillance  
16 cameras, which are one of the most basic tools a  
17 school can have to protect its students and staff.  
18 There are reporting requirements built in so we  
19 maintain accountability. No school should have to  
20 choose between its educational mission and building  
21 security. Every child deserves to feel safe in the  
classroom, in the school building, and it is our  
responsibility to ensure that. We want to thank my  
co-sponsors, of course, the Speaker, and this  
Committee for moving this bill forward, and I urge my

1 COMMITTEE TO COMBAT HATE

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colleagues to support it and keep in mind, based on  
3 economic situation where if you have a lot of money  
4 you will not be getting the support. Let's be clear  
5 about that and thank you.

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Thank you. And I encourage all of you to  
vote aye.

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CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: Thank you Council  
Member.

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I'd now like to ask the Clerk to call the  
10 vote.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank you.  
Good afternoon. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll  
12 call vote, Committee to Combat Hate. Proposed  
13 Introduction 327-B.

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Chair Salaam.

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CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: I vote aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.

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COUNCIL MEMBER WON: I vote no.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Krishnan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: May I explain my  
vote?

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Thank you, Chair, and thank you, my  
Colleague, for this great legislation. I am honored  
to be voting yes on this bill. Everyone needs  
security, no matter if you rich or poor so I vote aye  
on this and thank you, my Colleague, for this  
legislation. Thank you.

COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: No.

COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Schulman.

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye, and  
congratulations to the bill sponsor.

COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a vote  
of four in the affirmative, two in the negative, and  
no abstentions, item has been adopted by the  
Committee.

Mr. Chair, that is a full Committee.

CHAIRPERSON SALAAM: Thank you. This  
matter is now concluded. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing

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transcript is a true and accurate record of the

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proceedings. We further certify that there is no

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relation to any of the parties to this action by blood

or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome

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of this matter.

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Date June 15, 2026

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