

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CONTRACTS

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October 26, 2017
Start: 11:59 a.m.
Recess: 12:06 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.
14th Fl

B E F O R E: HELEN K. ROSENTHAL
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Peter A. Koo
Costa G. Constantinides
Chaim M. Deutsch
Corey D. Johnson
I. Daneek Miller

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

2 [sound check, pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON ROSENTHAL: [off mic] Good

4 morning. [on mic] Do that that again. Good morning

5 [gavel] and welcome to the Contracts Committee of the

6 New York City Council. Today is October 26, 2017.

7 My name is Helen Rosenthal, and I have the privilege

8 of chairing this committee. Today's hearing provides

9 this committee with an opportunity to vote in favor

10 of a critical piece of legislation that closes the

11 loophole, which could inadvertently result in a city

12 agency to deny a person a public contracting

13 opportunity based on their inclusion in a protected

14 class. Introduction 1379-A sponsored by Council

15 Member Ritchie Torres would make it unlawful for a

16 city agency to deny a contract based on actual or

17 perceived race, creed, color, national origin, age,

18 gender, disability, sexual orientation, or alien

19 nature or citizenship status of the owners of the

20 bidder or a proposer. The bill would also enable a

21 bidder or proposal who believes they have been

22 discriminated against by a city agency to protest the

23 agency's determination by rules established by the

24 Procurement Policy Board. I commend Council Member

25 Torres on his leadership in making sure that there is

2 no place for place for discrimination of this kind
3 our city's procurement process. For these reasons, I
4 am voting in favor of the bill before the committee
5 today, and I urge my fellow committee members to do
6 so as well. Before we begin, I'd like to thank my
7 committee staff, Committee Counsel Alex Paulenoff;
8 Policy Analyst Casey Addison; Financial Analyst
9 Andrew Wilber; and Finance Unit Head John Russell,
10 and I'd like to with that call for a short recess.
11 Thank you. [recess] So, now we're going to begin the
12 vote.

13 CLERK: Today is October 26, 2017. This
14 is the Committee on Contracts. We're voting on Intro
15 No. 1379-A. We'll begin with Chair Rosenthal.

16 CHAIRPERSON ROSENTHAL: Aye.

17 CLERK: Council Member Constantinides.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Aye

19 CLERK: Council Member Johnson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I have to vote?

21 [laughter] Aye.

22 CLERK: Council Member Miller.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

24

25

2 CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the
3 affirmative, 0 in negative and 0 abstentions, Intro
4 1379-A is passed. [background comment]

5 CHAIRPERSON ROSENTHAL: I just want to
6 put on the record that it was Council Member Johnson
7 who saved the day for the rest of us. This hearing
8 closed. [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 15, 2017