

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE FOR FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

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October 30, 2018
Start: 11:17 a.m.
Recess: 11:28

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

B E F O R E: RUBEN DIAZ, SR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Joseph C. Borelli
Costa G. Constantinides
Francisco P. Moya
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Paul A. Vallone

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

2 [sound check] [background comments,
3 pause]

4 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: One more time. [gavel]

5 Good morning ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the
6 hearing of the City Council For-Hire Vehicle
7 Committee. I am Ruben Diaz, Senior, the Chair of the
8 Committee. First, let me recognize my colleagues who
9 are here today. Give me that number. Here we have
10 Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member
11 Vallone, Council Member Borelli and Council Member
12 Williams. Today, we will be voting on an important
13 piece of legislation that will provide greater
14 enforcement of commuter vans. Proposed Introduction
15 No. 925-A sponsored by Council Member Jumaane
16 Williams would clarify that the Taxi and Limousine
17 Commission has enforcement authority over unlawfully
18 operated commuter van with at seating capacity of
19 greater than 20. Illegal and unlicensed behavior
20 creates a risk to the public, and this legislation
21 seeks-seeks to protect the public from unlawful
22 behavior. I would like to invite Council Member
23 Williams to deliver his position opening statement in
24 regard to this bill.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you,
3 Chair and I want to thank you for helping make sure
4 this bill comes for a vote today. This is about
5 commuter vans also know as dollar vans. I'm a big
6 supporter of that industry, and I'm thankful this
7 Council has done more than any other to make sure
8 that they have a place to operate within the
9 transportation system of the city of New York. We
10 also want to make sure we're doing that while making
11 sure the public is protected as reasonably as
12 possible. There is a loophole that did not allow the
13 TLC to enforce all the laws with vans over 20. That,
14 of course, does not provide the best safety for our
15 public. That is whether or not they had a license,
16 whether or not they had insurance. The TLC simply
17 could not do anything about it, and this is basically
18 an enforcement bill to provide a safe space for the
19 public while supporting the van industry. I want to
20 thank you again, Mr. Chair, the Speaker and everyone
21 who is co-cosigned on it. Particularly, I want to
22 thank Daneek Miller for working with me to make sure
23 that this got to this space, and I'm looking forward
24 to working with him on another bill that I know will
25 be coming shortly. Thank you

2 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Thank you, Mr.
3 Williams for such a wonderful piece of legislation,
4 and I would appreciate and thank all the members, the
5 members of the committee that are present today
6 showing their concern and their responsibility to
7 this committee, and the position of their—that they
8 are—that they are. Now, I will call for a vote on
9 Proposed Introduction 925-A. I as the Chairman of
10 the Committee recommend a yes vote and I ask the
11 Committee Clerk to please call the roll.

12 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk,
13 rollcall vote Committee For-Hire Vehicles,
14 Introduction 925-A, Chair Diaz.

15 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Aye.

16 CLERK: Rodriguez, Vallone.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Borelli.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

20 CLERK: Rodriguez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

22 CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the
23 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
24 the item has been adopted by the committee.

1 COMMITTEE ON FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

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2 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Thank you, ladies and
3 gentlemen and this meeting is [gavel] adjourned.
4 [background comments] [gavel] Oh, hold it, hold it.
5 Let me keep it open for--[background comments, pause]

6 CLERK: Continuation roll call, Committee
7 on For-Hire Vehicles, Council Member Rose.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I vote aye.

9 CLERK: The final vote on Introduction
10 925-A is now 5 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative
11 and no abstentions. Council Member Rose.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: And this vote is
13 now closed. Thank you.

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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 20, 2018