

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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November 14, 2013  
Start: 10:58 p.m.  
Recess: 11:37 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E: ERIK MARTIN DILAN  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Lewis A. Fidler  
Melissa Mark-Viverito  
Eric Ulrich  
Gale A. Brewer  
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Robert Jackson  
Letitia James  
Jumaane D. Williams  
James S. Oddo

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COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS

CHAIRPERSON DILAN: [off mic] Well,  
we're still waiting for a quorum. Do we have a  
quorum? 'Kay, [gavel] if I could ask the chambers  
to come to order. If the chambers could come to  
order, please. [background voices] Alright,  
Sergeant, are we ready? Alright, I'd like to call  
this hearing [gavel] to order, and good morning,  
everyone and welcome. My name is Erik Martin Dilan  
and I'm the chairperson of the City Council's  
Committee on Housing and Buildings, and today I'm  
joined by council members Fidler, Viverito, Ulrich,  
Brewer, Comrie, Jackson and James, and today the  
committee will be conducting a hearing for the  
purposes of a vote on five legislative items.

The first item before us today is  
Proposed Introduction 1092-A, which would require  
that health care facilities in flood prone areas  
have back up electrical power heating and cooling  
systems. The second item before us is Proposed  
Intro 1093-A, which allow for the use of temporary  
flood shields, stairs and ramps in flood prone  
areas. The third item is 1094-A, which would  
require certain residential buildings to provide  
fixtures to supply drinking water in common areas

1 in case the building's water pumps fail, and the  
2 fourth item is Proposed Introduction 1109-A, which  
3 would allow for natural gas to be used as a fuel  
4 supply for certain secondary power systems and  
5 would provide minimum load requirements for  
6 voluntarily installed power systems. And the last  
7 item before us is 1111-A, which would require that  
8 smoke alarms be periodically be replaced and would  
9 impose new standards on smoke alarms.  
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11 Each of these bills was heard by this  
12 committee earlier this year, and each has been  
13 amended based upon comments and feedback that we've  
14 received from stakeholders, as well as the  
15 administration. A good deal has been said about  
16 these bills already, so I will briefly say that the  
17 resiliency bills before us today will go a long way  
18 toward making the city's buildings and critical  
19 facilities safer and more robust... excuse me, and  
20 more robust to future disasters and Intro 1111-A  
21 will help to protect the city's residents from the  
22 risk of fire by making sure that smoke alarms are  
23 more reliable and last longer.  
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2 At this time, I'd like to ask the clerk  
3 to couple all legislative items together and to  
4 call the roll.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kevin Pin, [phonetic]  
6 Committee Clerk; roll call on the Committee on  
7 Housing and Buildings Intros 1092-A, 1094-A, 1111-  
8 A, 1093-A and 1101-A. Council Member Dilan.

9 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Comrie.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Fidler.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Jackson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: James.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye on all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mark-Viverito.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: [off mic] Excuse me a  
25 second. Just give me one second. By a vote of

2 eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative and  
3 no abstentions all items have been adopted, and  
4 members, please sign the committee reports.

5 CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Okay, now, I'll say  
6 in closing that we also heard another item  
7 alongside with the smoke alarm bill. It's a  
8 legislative item sponsored by Council Member  
9 Crowley on photovoltaic fire alarms. I would think  
10 that this item is worth exploring by the next  
11 council, and I know Council Member Crowley will be  
12 here. Unfortunately, not enough research has been  
13 done to pass that item today, but I firmly believe  
14 that that research needs to be done and considered  
15 by either this council before December or the next  
16 council come January. With that, we will allow the  
17 committee to be open for as long as the rules  
18 allow, and at that time, this hearing will be  
19 adjourned.

20 [Pause]

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote stands at  
24 nine in the affirmative.

25 [Pause]

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COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND BUILDINGS

COMMITTEE CLERK: Oddo.

COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote stands at 10  
in the affirmative.

[Pause]

CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Housing and  
Buildings Committee... [off mic] my bad,  
everyone...

[Pause]

CHAIRPERSON DILAN: Housing and  
Buildings Committee stands 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. 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.



Date: 11/25/2013