

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON GENERAL WELFARE

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October 16, 2017  
Start: 10:56 a.m.  
Recess: 11:19 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm,  
16th Fl.

B E F O R E:  
STEPHEN T. LEVIN  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Annabel Palma  
Fernando Cabrera  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Corey D. Johnson  
Ritchie J. Torres  
Barry S. Grodenchik  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
Elizabeth S. Crowley

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

[background comments]

[sound check]

[pause]

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Good morning everyone. Today I am joined by Council Member Salamanca from the Bronx, Council Member Grodenchik from Queens, Council Member Vanessa Gibson from the Bronx, and Council Member Corey Johnson from Manhattan. I am here today filling in for my colleague, Council Member Levin, who is out of state and unable to chair today's hearing.

This morning the General Welfare Committee will be voting on two pieces of legislation related to homelessness policy -- Proposed Intro 622-A, sponsored by Council Member Crowley, in relation to requiring the Department of Homeless Services to educate homeless persons on domestic violence; Proposed Intro 1460-A, sponsored by Council Member Levin, in relation to creating a continuum of care steering committee to advise the Department of Homeless Services and for the responsibilities of the interagency coordinating council and to repeal Section 21-306 of the Administrative Code of the City

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2 of New York relating to the homeless services  
3 advisory board.

4 We don't have Council Member Crowley  
5 joining us; she was supposed to be here to give us  
6 some opening remarks, but if no one else has anything  
7 to add in regards to today's bills that we're voting  
8 on, I will now ask the clerk to call the roll.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Williams Martin,  
10 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on General  
11 Welfare, items are coupled. Council Member Palma.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: I vote aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Grodenchik.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Salamanca.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 5 in the  
22 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,  
23 both items have been adopted by the Committee.

24 [background comment, laugh, pause,  
25 background comment]

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: I'm gonna keep the  
3 vote open for five minutes; I know Council Member  
4 Crowley's on her way up and wants to get her  
5 statement on the record. Thank you.

6 [pause]

7 [background comments]

8 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: We've been joined  
9 by Council Member Fernando Cabrera.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call  
11 Committee on General Welfare, Introductions 622-A and  
12 1460-A. Council Member Cabrera.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote currently  
15 stands at 6 in the affirmative.

16 [pause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Good morning.  
18 We've been joined by Council Member Elizabeth Crowley  
19 from Queens who has a statement for the record on  
20 Intro 622-A.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you,  
22 Acting Chair Palma. Good morning everybody. I want  
23 to thank the Chair and the Committee for bringing  
24 Intro 622-A to a vote and for all my colleagues who  
25 have signed on as co-sponsors.

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2 This bill will require the Department of  
3 Homeless Services to provide individuals at shelter  
4 intake facilities with written or electronic  
5 education materials on domestic violence. These  
6 materials will inform people on how to report  
7 domestic violence and how to access relevant services  
8 to help individuals end abusive relationships.

9 Far too often people go homeless because  
10 they abruptly leave a relationship in which they are  
11 subject to domestic violence and this often means  
12 that someone has to give up their home and enter a  
13 shelter. Providing these educational materials will  
14 serve as one further step to help a significant  
15 portion of the shelter population manage such  
16 circumstances and lead them on a path to regain their  
17 independence. Thank you.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote Committee on  
19 General Welfare, both items have been adopted by a  
20 vote of 6 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and  
21 no abstentions.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Thank you to my  
23 colleagues; this meeting is now adjourned.

24 [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 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 October 23, 2017