

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AND WORKER
PROTECTION

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April 27, 2023
Start: 11:20 a.m.
Recess: 11:26 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Marjorie Velazquez, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu
Erik D. Bottcher
Gale A. Brewer
Amanda Farias
Shekar Krishnan
Julie Menin

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
3 check for the Committee on Consumer and Worker
4 Protection. Recorded on April 27, 2023, located in
5 Chambers, by Nazly Paytuvi.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and
7 welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the
8 Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

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

11 Chair Velazquez, we are ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON VELAZQUEZ: [GAVEL] Good
13 morning. My name is Marjorie Velazquez, and I am the
14 Chair of Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

15 Welcome to our Committee hearing and vote
16 on Proposed Intro. 891A related to allowing
17 charitable organizations to conduct games of chance
18 at professional sporting venues.

19 I'd like to recognize my fellow Committee
20 Members, Council Member Bottcher, Council Member
21 Farias, Council Member Menin, Council Member Abreu,
22 and Council Member Brewer.

23 Proposed Intro. 891A sponsored by Council
24 Member Salamanca would amend an outdated law to allow
25 sports venues to participate in games of chance for

2 charitable purposes. This bill would permit our
3 favorite stadiums and arenas like Yankee Stadium and
4 Citi Field to participate in 50/50 raffles and other
5 games of chance to raise money for local charitable
6 organizations in our communities.

7 At our hearing on the bill last month,
8 non-profits from throughout the five boroughs
9 testified that the revenue raised through these games
10 of chance will make a significant impact on their
11 ability to maintain and grow the important work they
12 do to serve our city's diverse population. I've been
13 heartened to see the overwhelming support for this
14 bill, and I urge my Council Colleagues to vote aye.

15 I now call on the Clerk to call the roll.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
17 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
18 vote Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection,
19 Proposed Introduction 891A. Chair Velazquez.

20 CHAIRPERSON VELAZQUEZ: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Abreu.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Brewer.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye, but,
3 just as I said at the hearing, I hope that the 50
4 percent that goes to charities, that's a good thing,
5 but I hope that the organizations will indicate on
6 the website or some other public transparent
7 indication as to whom the money is going, to which
8 non-profits. I think that's important for people to
9 know. Thank you very much.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
11 you. Farias.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye and
13 just want to publicly state I want to echo the
14 sentiments of Council Member Brewer about the
15 organizations selected, and I do want the record to
16 reflect that we need to be super conscious of
17 gambling in our communities, especially those that
18 are more impoverished and what that means to the
19 locality and how these organizations that are given
20 the ability to have these 50/50 raffles make deep
21 investments into the surrounding communities. Thank
22 you.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Menin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AND WORKER PROTECTION 5

2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote
3 of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
4 no abstentions, item is adopted, and the roll will be
5 held open at request of the Chair. Thank you.

6 Continuation roll call Committee on
7 Consumer and Worker Protection, Proposed Introduction
8 891A. Council Member Krishnan.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Final
11 vote is now seven in the affirmative, zero in the
12 negative, and no abstentions. Council Member
13 Velazquez to close.

14 CHAIRPERSON VELAZQUEZ: [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 May 2, 2023