

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON AGING

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February 8, 2024  
Start: 11:05 a.m.  
Recess: 11:09 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Crystal Hudson, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chris Banks  
Linda Lee  
Darlene Mealy  
Yusef Salaam  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Susan Zhuang

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Eric Dinowitz  
Nantasha M. Williams  
Althea V. Stevens

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning. This is a  
3 microphone check for the Committee on Aging. Today's  
4 date is February 8, 2024, located in the Committee  
5 Room, recording done by Pedro Lugo.

6 Can everybody settle down? We're getting  
7 ready to begin.

8 Good morning and welcome to the Committee  
9 on Aging.

10 At this time, can everybody please  
11 silence your cell phones?

12 Chair, we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: [GAVEL] Thank you so  
14 much and good morning and welcome to today's Aging  
15 Committee vote.

16 I'm Council Member Crystal Hudson,  
17 Committee Chair, and my pronouns are she/her.

18 Shortly, the Committee will vote on a  
19 proposed Preconsidered Introduction sponsored by  
20 Council Member Eric Dinowitz which would require the  
21 Department of Housing Preservation and Development or  
22 HPD to provide application forms prepopulated with  
23 applicant information for the Senior Citizen Rent  
24 Increase Exemption program, also known as SCRIE, to  
25 potentially eligible Mitchell-Lama residents.

2           The Committee last held a hearing on this  
3 Introduction two weeks ago. I appreciate the  
4 Administration's input on this important piece of  
5 legislation that can close the SCRIE enrollment gap  
6 and allow more older New Yorkers to age in place with  
7 dignity.

8           Thank you to my Colleagues and Aging  
9 Committee Members. I would also like to thank my  
10 Staff, Casie Addison and Andrew Wright, and Aging  
11 Committee Staff, Christopher Pepe, Chloe Rivera,  
12 Julia Haramis, and Saiyemul Hamid.

13           I'd like to acknowledge that we've been  
14 joined by Council Members Zhuang, Lee, Salaam,  
15 Stevens, Williams, Schulman, Dinowitz, and Banks.

16           I'll now turn it over to Council Member  
17 Dinowitz for brief remarks.

18           COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Is it that kind  
19 of morning?

20           CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: It's that kind of  
21 morning. I apologize.

22           COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Good morning.  
23 Thank you, Chair. Thank you for, of course, bringing  
24 this to a vote and to all the Committee Members here.

2 I'm really proud to be here today as this  
3 Committee votes on my bill, Introduction 25-A, which  
4 was introduced last term. As the Chair said, aging in  
5 place with dignity is a critical value that we live  
6 by and act by in this Council. This bill will require  
7 HPD to provide eligible New Yorkers living in  
8 Mitchell-Lama apartment buildings with prefilled  
9 SCRIE applications.

10 Affordable housing and support for older  
11 adults are two causes of significant value, both to  
12 myself and my District. The SCRIE program is crucial  
13 to supporting both, but it is not being utilized as  
14 much as it could. Our City agencies have access to  
15 the information that deems a Mitchell-Lama resident  
16 eligible for the SCRIE program. Why sit around and  
17 wait for our older adults to apply when we can take a  
18 proactive approach now? We must make a greater effort  
19 to understand the needs of the aging population and  
20 support their well-being. No person should be forced  
21 out of their home while in retirement due to a lack  
22 of affordability, and this bill brings us one step  
23 closer to eliminating this in New York City.

1 COMMITTEE ON AGING

5

2 I, again, want to thank Chair Hudson for  
3 the opportunity to speak today and encourage all of  
4 my Colleagues to sign on to this legislation.

5 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you so much,  
6 Council Member Dinowitz.

7 I'm now going to turn it over to Council  
8 Member Williams.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you so  
10 much. I just would like to be put as a co-sponsor of  
11 the bill. Thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you. I'll now  
13 turn it over to the Clerk to call the roll.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
15 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.  
16 Roll call vote Committee on Aging. Chair Hudson.

17 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.  
21 Schulman.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Banks.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Salaam.

1 COMMITTEE ON AGING

6

2 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Zhuang.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
6 vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative,  
7 and no abstentions, item is adopted by the Committee.

8 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you so much,  
9 and thank you, again, to Council Member Dinowitz.  
10 This is a great bill that will allow older adults to  
11 stay in their homes with affordable housing so thank  
12 you for your leadership.

13 This Committee hearing is adjourned.

14 [GAVEL]

15 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: [GAVEL] My name is  
16 Council Member Crystal Hudson. I am Committee Chair  
17 for today's Aging Committee vote.

18 We're going to reopen the vote, and I'll  
19 turn it over to the Clerk to call the roll.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
21 you. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Proposed  
22 Preconsidered Introduction A, Council Member Mealy.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye on this  
24 great legislation. Congratulations, Council Member  
25 Dinowitz. Great legislation. Thank you.

1 COMMITTEE ON AGING

7

2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: The final  
3 vote now is seven in the affirmative, zero in the  
4 negative, and no abstentions. Madam Chair, that is  
5 now a full Committee.

6 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you so much,  
7 and we will adjourn. [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 February 13, 2024