

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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March 19, 2024
Start: 11:20 a.m.
Recess: 11:32 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Rita C. Joseph, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Eric Dinowitz
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Kamillah Hanks
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farrah N. Louis
Mercedes Narcisse
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sound check for the
3 Committee on Education. Today's date is March 19,
4 2024, being recorded by Danny Huang in the Chambers.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and
6 welcome to the New York City Council's vote on the
7 Committee for Education.

8 At this time, we ask that you silence all
9 electronic devices.

10 At no time is anyone to approach the
11 dais.

12 Chair, we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Good morning. Thank
14 you. [GAVEL] Good morning and welcome, everyone, to
15 today's Committee on Education vote on Introduction
16 45-A sponsored by myself, a Local Law to amend the
17 New York City and Administrative Code of the City of
18 New York in relation to requiring the New York City
19 Department of Education to report actual sizes and
20 expand reports on number of students in special
21 programs in New York City Public Schools.

22 I am proud to have sponsored this bill
23 along with 27 of my Colleagues. The Committee
24 previously heard testimony on the bill on February
25 29, 2024. In 2022, the New York State Legislature

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2 passed legislation mandating DOE limit the number of
3 students in class across all of its K-12 schools
4 through a five-year phase-in process beginning in the
5 fall of 2023. Though New York City Public Schools
6 currently provides a report on the average class size
7 of all DOE schools and programs, reporting on actual
8 size would provide increased transparency that will
9 allow the public to assess New York City Public
10 School's progress towards compliance with the law.

11 I would like to thank my Staff and
12 Committee Staff.

13 I'll now turn to the Clerk for the roll
14 call.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
16 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
17 vote Committee on Education, Proposed Introduction
18 45-A. Chair Joseph.

19 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Louis.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Gennaro.
23 Dinowitz.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

3 Gutiérrez.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanif.

6 We'll come back. Hanks.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Krishnan.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Narcisse.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Schulman.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Permission to

18 explain my vote.

19 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Go ahead, please do.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Our kids only

21 get one chance at a good education, and this bill, I

22 want to commend the Chair for introducing this bill

23 that's going to bring transparency to class size and

24 make sure that our kids do get a good education. I

25 also want to commend our Chair for the marathon

2 hearing that she had yesterday, Executive Budget
3 hearing, and I wanted to thank her profusely.

4 With that, I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Stevens.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanif.

8 With a vote of 11 in the affirmative, zero in the
9 negative, and no abstentions, item has been adopted
10 by the Committee.

11 The roll will be held open at the request
12 of the Chair.

13 Members, please remain. Thank you.

14 Thank you, Members, for waiting.

15 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Closing out the vote.

16 [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 March 30, 2024