

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

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December 09, 2013
Start: 10:25 a.m.
Recess: 10:49 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm,
14th Fl.

B E F O R E:
GALE A. BREWER
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
INEZ E. DICKENS
ERIK MARTIN DILAN
DOMENIC M. RECCHIA, JR.
PETER F. VALLONE, JR.

2 [pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON BREWER: Good morning. My
4 name is Gale Brewer and I am chair of Governmental
5 Operations. I'm here with Council Member Vallone,
6 council Member Dickens, and with David Seitzer
7 who's counsel to the committee and Tim Medisoft
8 who's a policy analyst and certainly the great
9 council Jim Karis[phonetic]. And I, we are meeting
10 this morning to vote on a bill proposing to a
11 number 1722-A. This would implement many of the
12 recommendations of the joint manorial council
13 appointed lobby commission which was chaired by
14 former Council Member Ruby Burma. The commission
15 was formed in 2011 and worked for two years to
16 develop a detailed set of recommendations on ways
17 to improve the city's lobbying laws. The final
18 report was issued earlier this year. I thank the
19 commission members for all of their hard work and I
20 am happy to be cosponsoring with Speaker to
21 legislation implementing their recommendations. We
22 heard this bill previously in the committee on
23 November 7. Legislative us, before us today
24 endeavors to one expand and clarify the definition
25 of lobbying while increasing the dollar threshold

2 so that small organizations and businesses will
3 have their obligations reduced or eliminated. That
4 was at the result of many discussions. Two enhance
5 education and outreach and expand enforcement
6 efforts by the clerk, the city clerk to bring
7 unregistered lobbyists into the system. Three,
8 continue making technological upgrades to the
9 system so that it's transparent for the public and
10 user friendly for lobbyists. I think that's going
11 to take a little bit more time which is what we
12 learned on November 7th. The resolution recommended
13 by the commission will be voted on in this
14 committee next week. So unless there are any
15 questions I would like to call the vote. Oh we're
16 going to read a statement also first from counsel
17 to the committee David Seitzer.

18 DAVID SEITZER: This is David Seitzer
19 counsel to the committee. There was a recent city
20 clerk opinion that indicated under a certain fact
21 pattern that communications with the Mayor's Office
22 of Environmental Coordination over seer would not
23 constitute lobbying. While not opining for the
24 clerk we would expect that given the same facts a
25 representative speaking to the Mayor's Office of

2 Environmental Coordination on seeker would receive
3 a seminal response. And I'd also like to strike all
4 references to Reso 1988 from the committee report.
5 Thank you.

6 CHAIRPERSON BREWER: Thank you. Please
7 call the vote.

8 KEVIN FINN: Kevin Finn, Committee
9 Clerk. Roll call on the Committee on Governmental
10 Operations Intro 1172-A. Council Member Brewer.

11 CHAIRPERSON BREWER: I vote aye.

12 KEVIN FINN: Vallone.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

14 KEVIN FINN: Dickens.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

16 KEVIN FINN: By a vote of three in the
17 affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
18 abstentions. The item has been adopted. Members
19 please sign the committee report.

20 [pause]

21 KEVIN FINN: Council Member Dilan.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DILAN: I vote aye.

23 KEVIN FINN: Finaly vote in the
24 committee on governmental operation is four in the
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COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON CROWLEY: Thank you very
much. This committee hearing is finished.

[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 _____ December 12, 2013 _____