

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES  
  
Of the  
  
COMMITTEE ON YOUTH SERVICES

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March 21, 2016  
Start: 2:36 p.m.  
Recess: 2:45 p.m.

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

B E F O R E:  
  
MATHIEU EUGENE  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
  
Annabel Palma  
Darlene Mealy  
Margaret S. Chin  
David G. Greenfield  
Andy L. King  
Laurie A. Cumbo

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

CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Alright.

[gavel]

Good afternoon. My name is Mathieu Eugene and I'm the Chair of the Council's Committee on Youth Services. Today the Committee is voting on two very important bills to amend the Administration Code concerning runaway and homeless youth and sexually exploited children.

As we know, runaway and homeless youth encounter life-threatening situations on the streets of New York City. When young people interact with the City agencies that are serving them, those agencies must be able to properly identify them and know where to send them for appropriate services. The two bills that are before the committee today represent ongoing effort to address these concerns and issues.

I introduce Proposed Int. 0554-A, a Local Law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York in relation to training on runaway, homeless and sexually exploited youth.

This law will require the establishment of a training coordinator who shall provide coordination, direction and guidance with respect to

1 training on the best practice for identifying  
2 runaway, homeless or sexually exploited youth and  
3 connecting these young people to the appropriate  
4 services. This training must be held annually for  
5 individuals whose position involve regular contact  
6 with young people at the Administration for  
7 Children's Services, Department of Parks and  
8 Recreation, Department of Homeless Services, and the  
9 Human Resources Administration/Department of Social  
10 Services.  
11

12 Also, as a condition of contracting with  
13 those agencies, contractors and service providers  
14 shall provide the same training to their own  
15 employees whose position involve regular contact with  
16 young people. The coordinator will also be  
17 responsible for outreach to other entities, such as  
18 the Department of Education, the Police Department,  
19 the Department of Probation, health clinics,  
20 libraries, and hospitals, including emergency rooms.  
21 The coordinator will encourage **[inaudible]** entity to  
22 consider holding training when it would be  
23 appropriate for their personnel.

24 The second bill was introduced by Council  
25 Member Levin and I, Proposed Int. 0993-A, to amend

1  
2 the Administrative Code of the City of New York in  
3 relation to changing the date of an annual report  
4 related to sexually exploited children.

5 This law will require the annual report  
6 required by Local Law 23 of 2013 prepared by the  
7 Administration for Children's Services and the  
8 Department of Youth and Community Development to be  
9 submitted no later than April 30th of this year and  
10 then annually therefore no later than April 1st  
11 instead of January 1st and to be posted on the  
12 website of both city agencies. The report documents  
13 the number of youth in contact with both agencies  
14 while referred as **[inaudible]** report as the  
15 department ACS later determined to be sexually  
16 exploited children. The bill was also drafted to  
17 address administration concern about age aggregation.

18 I am proud to be a co-sponsor on this  
19 bill and I would like to encourage my colleagues to  
20 support them both and I'd like to thank all the  
21 members of the Youth Services Committee and  
22 especially Council Member Levin for his dedication to  
23 this community.

24 Before we begin, I would like to  
25 introduce the members of the committee who have

1  
2 joined us; we have Council Member Palma, Council  
3 member Mealy and Council Member Cumbo. Thank you  
4 very much for your patience and thank you for being  
5 here. And I would like also to take the opportunity  
6 to thank the Youth Services committee staff, Nicole  
7 Bien [sp?], thank you, thank you very much, our  
8 Counsel [sic]; Benjamin... Michael Benjamin, thank you  
9 very much, our Policy Analyst, and Jessica Ackerman,  
10 our Financial Analyst. And I would like also to  
11 thank my staff, David Suarez and Vanessa Ogle for  
12 their hard work. To all of you, thank you for your  
13 patience and especially Jessica, Michael and again,  
14 thank you very much, you have been so patient; we  
15 were supposed to start at one, but honestly, I am  
16 **[inaudible]** for that. Thank you very much.

17 Now I would like the clerk to call the..

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,  
19 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Youth  
20 Services, Introductions 0554-A and 0993-A. Chair  
21 Eugene.

22 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Palma.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: I vote aye and I  
25 request that my name be added to the bills.

1 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Thank you.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I would like to be  
4 added to the bill also and I vote aye on all this  
5 great legislation.  
6

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cumbo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I also vote aye  
9 and would also like to be added to both pieces of  
10 legislation and I would like to congratulate Council  
11 Member Mathieu Eugene for your incredible leadership  
12 on this, as well as Council Member Levin. I vote  
13 aye.

14 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Thank you very much.  
15 Before we end this meeting, I just want to thank each  
16 one of you and all the wonderful people who have  
17 worked to make this possible. But I just want to  
18 mention also our young people, our children, that  
19 these are the best that we can provide them with and  
20 we as a society, as a powering source [sic] many of  
21 us we **[inaudible]** and we of the City Council, we've  
22 got to do everything possible to protect them, to  
23 prevent them to face such situation and because we  
24 know that they are traumatized and that will affect  
25 them forever. When they are facing such situations,

1  
2 they're not only traumatized physically, mentally and  
3 remember that they will be the leaders of the adult  
4 in a tomorrow, so that means they will carry inside  
5 themselves the pain, the suffering and it's going to  
6 be very, very difficult for them to have a proper  
7 life, a good life and I thank all of you, all the  
8 partners for everything that you are doing for the  
9 children and for our youth. Thank you very much.  
10 Having said that, now the meeting -- [background  
11 comment] I'm sorry.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the  
13 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,  
14 both items are adopted.

15 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Thank you and thank  
16 you Mr. Clerk, thank you very much; the meeting is  
17 adjourned.

18 [gavel]

19 Thank you.

20 [background comments]

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COMMITTEE ON YOUTH SERVICES

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 April 9, 2016