

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON AGING

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August 15, 2016
Start: 10:43 a.m.
Recess: 10:50 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.
16th Fl.

B E F O R E: MARGARET S. CHIN
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Karen Koslowitz
Deborah L. Rose
Chaim M. Deutsch
Mark Treyger
Paul A. Vallone
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

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

2 CHAIRPERSON CHIN: Good morning. I'm
3 Council Member Margaret Chin Chair of the Committee
4 on Aging. Today, we are voting on important
5 legislation I introduced with Council Member Debbie
6 Rose and Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito. Intro 1081-A
7 will require the Department for the Aging to survey
8 the estimated 1.3 million unpaid caregivers in New
9 York City. Unpaid caregivers are adult family
10 members or other adults providing unpaid care to a
11 person 60 years of age or older, a person with
12 Alzheimer's Disease or other dementia, and
13 individuals with a disability between the age of 18
14 to 59. This also includes grandparents or other non-
15 parent relatives 65 years of age or older providing
16 unpaid care to a child under the age of 18. This
17 will also require Department for the Aging to collect
18 data and work with other city agencies and outside
19 experts to pass a comprehensive plan to further study
20 and support unpaid caregivers, many of whom are women
21 who struggle to manage work and family
22 responsibilities. I want to thank the Speaker for
23 her vision and leadership in advocating for our
24 seniors. I also want to thank Anna Ferguson (sic),
25 Laura Popa, Emily Rumi, Brittany Morrissey and our

2 Aging Committee counsel Alex Paulenoff for their work
3 on this bill, and now I will pass the mic over to
4 Council Member Debbie Rose, my partner on Intro 1081.
5 Thank you.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you so much
7 Council Member Chin. It was really a privilege
8 working with you on this bill. This legislation
9 would requiring planning to address the long-term
10 needs of millions of informal caregivers. This is a
11 bill that is very personal for me because from the
12 statistics and my own personal experience, I know
13 that more and more New Yorkers are caring for
14 children and elderly parents while juggling other
15 family and professional responsibilities. That is
16 why I sponsored the Caregiver Discrimination Act
17 signed into law earlier this year, which prohibits
18 employment discrimination based on an individual's
19 actual or perceived status as a caregiver. This
20 legislation was an important first step in addressing
21 an issue of increasingly critical needs for thousands
22 of New Yorkers, that is that they are caring for sick
23 children, parents or other loved ones while
24 struggling to maintain their homes and their jobs.
25 This issues looms large in New York City's future.

2 The majority of parents including mothers of young
3 children are in the workforce. The population of
4 this aging elderly adults is projected to grow
5 significantly in the next 20 years, and the
6 responsibility for their care [off mic]. Thus, with
7 Council Member, Councilwoman Margaret Chin, the Chair
8 of the Aging Committee and Speaker Melissa Mark-
9 Viverito I sponsored Intro 1081, which calls on the
10 City to develop a comprehensive plan to address the
11 needs of informal caregivers. I see this legislation
12 as the next logical and important step to take, that
13 is to develop a comprehensive plan to help address
14 the needs of tens of thousands unpaid informal
15 caregivers in New York City. I am excited to be able
16 to vote on Intro 1081 in today's committee hearing so
17 that it can move forward to a vote in the full
18 Council, and I hope that all of my fellow committee
19 members will join me, Chair Chin and Speaker Melissa
20 Mark-Viverito in supporting this important
21 legislation. Thank you. Thank you, Margaret.

22 CHAIRPERSON CHIN: Thank you. Anyone
23 else want to speak before we vote? Council Member
24 Vallone.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: I just wanted to
3 thank both of you for this tremendous bill. I...I
4 think this is the first step on a very long road, and
5 I think if Council Member Rose and our Chair Chin did
6 not take this step, we wouldn't have started on the
7 road. So, thank you for this. So many of our
8 hearings address this forgotten generation, and the
9 people that are taking care of just about everyone
10 everywhere. I don't know anyone who is not
11 struggling, suffering, juggling everything in their
12 life to take care of--be it a loved one, a parent, a
13 child, cousin and not being paid.(sic). We have
14 lived to see in our [off mic] and there some--with
15 the burdens with the guardianships. So thank you
16 again and I'm happy to vote today.

17 CHAIRPERSON CHIN: You were talking?
18 Were you talking? (sic)

19 CLERK: Good morning this is the roll
20 call vote for the Committee on Aging on August 15,
21 2016. Chairperson Chin.

22 CHAIRPERSON CHIN: I vote aye.

23 CLERK: Council Member Koslowitz.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: May I be
3 excused to explain my vote? I want to be added to
4 this wonderful bill, and I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Council Member Rose.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I vote aye.

7 CLERK: Council Member Deutsch.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: I want to
9 congratulate Chair Chin and my colleague Council
10 Member Debbie Rose, and I vote aye.

11 CLERK: Council Member Vallone.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

13 CLERK: By a vote of 5 in the
14 affirmative, 0 in the negative and 0 abstentions,
15 Into 1081-A has been adopted.

16 [gavel]

17 CHAIRPERSON CHIN: We are done. Thank
18 you.

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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 August 18, 2018