

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS

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May 28, 2019

Start: 3:02 p.m.

Recess: 3:08 p.m.

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

B E F O R E: CHAIM M. DEUTSCH
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Mathieu Eugene
Alan N. Maisel
Paul A. Vallone

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

1 COMMITTEE ON VETERANS

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2 [sound check] [pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON DEUTSCH: Good afternoon.

4 I'm Council Member Chaim Deutsch, Chair of the
5 Committee on Veterans. Thank you all for joining us
6 here today. As always, I'd like to thank the members
7 of the armed forces who protect our way living and
8 all the freedoms we are afforded. I would also like
9 to take—thank all the veterans and military family
10 members who have protect the military community and
11 our country. Today we'll be voting on two pieces of
12 legislation, Proposed—Proposed Intro No. 1047-A,
13 which relates to veterans and access to higher
14 education and Reso No. 844, which recognizes the 71st
15 Anniversary of D-Day. This past December, the
16 committee held an oversight hearing on veterans and
17 their access to higher education. The hearing shed
18 light on the importance of higher education for
19 veterans and how some veterans often financially
20 struggle to pay for their schooling. Although the
21 military offers educational benefits as an incentive
22 to those whose serve the federal government, offers
23 programs to help veterans pay for their education,
24 our student veterans often still find themselves in
25 financial trouble. Student veterans are also highly

2 targeted by predatory for-profit schools and
3 fraudulent-fraudulent trade schools. Advocates at
4 our December hearing expressed a need for the city to
5 help student veterans connect with information and
6 resources to help them make informed and responsible
7 financial decisions regarding higher education
8 opportunities. Proposed Intro No. 1047-A sponsored
9 by my good friend and close partner--I actually live
10 with him--Council Member Chaim Deutsch, it would
11 provide veterans with outreach and engagement on
12 issues that are related to higher education. The
13 bill would require the Department of Veteran Services
14 to provide veterans with information and resources
15 they need to raise their higher education including
16 government programs that are available to veterans,
17 effective ways in which to minimize student debt,
18 student loan repayment options and lower cost
19 alternative for two-for higher-for-profit higher
20 education. DVS would also be required to make any
21 related educational materials available on its
22 website at each veterans resource center, and in
23 printed form upon request. In addition to this bill,
24 we'll also be hearing resolution--Reso No. 844, which
25 is sponsored by Council Member Cabrera. Reso 844

2 recognizes the 75th Anniversary of D-Day. Seventy-
3 five years ago on June 6, 1944 more than 156,000
4 American, British and Canadian soldiers landed on the
5 beaches of Normandy in an allied effort to help
6 liberate Western Europe from the Nazis during World
7 War II. On that day alone 4,400 allied personnel
8 gave their lives for the liberation efforts. This
9 day known since as D-Day marked the beginning of the
10 final phase of World War II. It should be recognized
11 as a day in which the world was changed forever.

12 Since Memorial Day was just yesterday, today we honor
13 those who have served and those feel and especially
14 those we lost on D-Day. I would like to now urge my
15 colleague—my colleagues to vote yes on these
16 important pieces of legislation. I would also like
17 to thank Committee Counsel Nuzhat Chowdhury, Policy
18 Analyst Kevin Kapowski (sp?), Finance Analyst Andrew
19 Wilbur and my Deputy Chief of Staff Toba Chasenoff
20 (sp?) Rosenfeld in bringing the vote together. So,
21 let's call a roll.

22 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk.

23 Roll call vote Committee on Veterans. Introductions
24 10—Introduction 1047-A and Resolution 844, Chair
25 Deutsch.

2 CHAIRPERSON DEUTSCH: Aye.

3 CLERK: Eugene.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

5 CLERK: Maisel.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Yes.

7 CLERK: Vallone.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye

9 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY SAMUEL: Aye.

11 CLERK: By a vote of 5 in the affirmative,
12 0 in the negative and no abstentions, both items have
13 been adopted by the committee.

14 CHAIRPERSON DEUTSCH: I thank all my
15 colleagues. We're keeping it open.

16 FEMALE SPEAKER: And I'm here.

17 CHAIRPERSON DEUTSCH: Yep, well done. So
18 this vote and hearing is now adjourned. [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 June 15, 2019