

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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September 24, 2019

Start: 2:06 p.m.

Recess: 2:10 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.  
16<sup>th</sup> Fl.

B E F O R E: MATHIEU EUGENE  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Daniel Dromm  
Brad S. Lander  
Bill Perkins  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez

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

2 [sound check] [pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: [gavel] Good

4 afternoon. My name is Mathieu Eugene, and I'm the  
5 Chair of the Civil and Human Rights Committee. Today  
6 the committee will be voting on Proposed Introduction  
7 being No. 1682-A sponsored by Speaker Johnson, which  
8 seeks to repeal the city's Conversion Therapy Law. In  
9 2017, this committee heard a number of bills about  
10 protecting and improving the life of New York City  
11 LGBTQ people. At the hearing multiple witnesses  
12 testified about the--the process known as conversion  
13 therapy. This therapy involves a range of practices  
14 that aim to change a person's sexual orientation so  
15 that their fit strictly into the norm of  
16 heterosexuality. However, the American Medical  
17 Association has reported that leading professional,  
18 medical and mental health associations reject  
19 conversion therapy as a legitimate medical treatment.  
20 As a result, the city enacted Local Law 22 of 2019 to  
21 ban conversion therapy services offered for a fee.  
22 Shortly after its enactment, a lawsuit was filed  
23 challenging the city's ban as constitutional, and the  
24 Supreme Court and Federal have become more  
25 conservative--LGBTQ advocates have become

2 increasingly concerned that their rights would be  
3 dismantled by the court and that to avoid relatively  
4 legal precedent, the Speaker has made the very  
5 difficult decision to introduce Proposed Introductory  
6 Bill No. 1682-A repealing Local Law 27. Before we  
7 begin I'd like to acknowledge the members of this  
8 committee who have joined us. We have with us  
9 Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, Council Member Bill  
10 Perkins. Now, I would like to take committee staff  
11 Becky Meera Reed (sic) Senior Counsel to the  
12 committee, Louis Culpeck(sp?) Policy Analyst, and  
13 Nevan Sing (sp?), Financial Analyst as well as my  
14 staff David Charles, and Jim Fagan. Now I would like  
15 to as the clerk to call the vote.

16 CLERK: Matthew DiStefano, Committee  
17 Clerk, Committee on Civil and Human Rights. We'll  
18 call a vote on proposed Intro No. 1682-A. Chair  
19 Eugene.

20 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: I vote aye.

21 CLERK: Rodriguez.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

23 CLERK: Perkins.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER PERKINS: Aye.

25 CLERK: Lander.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

3 CLERK: by a vote of 4 in the affirmative,  
4 0 in the negative and no abstentions, the item has  
5 been adopted.

6 CHAIRPERSON EUGENE: Thank you very much.  
7 With that the meeting is adjourned. [gavel]  
8 [background comments/pause]

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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 September 27, 2019