

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 16, 2020

Start: 9:41 A.M.

Recess: 9:47 A.M.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING

B E F O R E: MATHIEU EUGENE, CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS: INEZ D. BARRON
DANIEL DROMM
BRAD S. LANDER
BILL PERKINS

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

2 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: At this time
3 will Sargeant Biando and Sargeant Hope please start
4 their recordings.

5 SARGEANT BIANDO: DC recording started.

6 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: Thank you.

7 SARGEANT HOPE: Full recording started.

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: Thank you and
9 at this time Sargeant Biando would you start with
10 your opening statement?

11 SARGEANT BIANDO: Good morning everyone
12 and welcome to today's remote New York City Council
13 Hearing on the Committee of Civil and Human Rights.
14 At this time, we ask everyone to please put on their
15 videos for verification. Once again, if you could
16 please turn on your video for verification. To
17 minimize interruptions, please place all electronic
18 devices on silent or vibrate. Chairs, we are ready
19 to begin.

20 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: Thank you
21 very much. (gavel pounding). Good morning, I'm
22 Council Member Mathieu Eugene, the Chair of the Civil
23 and Human Rights Committee. Thank you for joining
24 our virtual vote today on proposed introduction 1603-
25 A sponsored by Council Member Levine. Before we

2 begin I would like to accolade my colleagues on the
3 committee. I would like to accolade Council Member
4 Barron who is here, Council Member Lander, and also
5 Council Member Dromm and Perkins but I don't know if
6 they are here for now. Over the past few years,
7 personal debt in American has ballooned. According
8 to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York USA household
9 debt increased to 13.86 trillion in the second
10 quarter of 2019 _____ consecutive quarter with an
11 increase. US Household debt increased 155 billion or
12 1.1% to reach 14.3 trillion in the first quarter of
13 2020. The rise in personal debt continues to affect
14 the credit scores of individuals depending upon their
15 effort to secure affordable housing when they are
16 rejected for tendency due to their credit.

17 Introduction 1603-A to expend housing discrimination
18 protections, credit scores strongly interferes
19 whether a person can access housing. Numerous
20 studies have shown that racial discrepancies continue
21 to negatively impact people of color when these
22 scores are calculated. To address the dieses'
23 introduction 1603-A a buyer, landlord who are leasing
24 affordable units that receives city financial
25 assistance from considering credit scores, consumer

2 debt judgment, collection accounts, medical debt or
3 student loan debt from either the applicant or a
4 member of the household. The bill also requires
5 landlord to disclose the process and criteria by
6 which the consumer credit history of an applicant
7 will be evaluated. With the ongoing COVID-19
8 pandemic, many New Yorkers are finding themselves in
9 dire financial stress and potentially out of the
10 housing when more ____ of eviction expires. Intro
11 1603-A serves as a protection for vulnerable tenant
12 by increasing the ability to obtain affordable
13 housing. I would like to thank Committee Staff, Valky
14 Murine (SP?) senior consultant to the committee,
15 Weimer Juvi(SP?) Policy Analyst and Nevin Singh (SP?)
16 Financial Analyst as well as housing and building
17 committee consultant, Audrey Sun (SP?). I would like
18 also to thank my staff Melissa Winsel (SP?) and also
19 the wonderful people of staff who work hard to make
20 this happen especially also the clerk and all the
21 members of the staff who make this virtual hearing
22 possible and to all my colleagues also thank you for
23 organizing this hearing. I don't know if Council
24 Member Levine is here? Council Member Levine is
25 here? So now I would like to ask the clerk to call

2 the roll. I will note call the vote. Please clerk
3 could you please call the roll?

4 CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Yes sir, good
5 morning William Martin Committee Clerk, roll call
6 vote Committee on Civil and Human Rights.
7 Introduction 1603-A, Chair Eugene?

8 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: I vote aye.

9 CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron?

10 INEZ BARRON: I vote aye.

11 CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Dromm?

12 DANIEL DROMM: I vote aye.

13 CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lander?

14 BRAD LANDER: Yes.

15 CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of 4 in
16 the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions
17 the item is adopted by the committee.

18 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: Thank you
19 very much. This meeting is adjourned.

20 ALDRICH: Mr. Chairman, I would like to
21 vote.

22 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: I'm sorry.

23 Okay Mr. Clerk could you please open the vote for my
24 colleague?

25

2 CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: I'm sorry who is
3 this?

4 ALDRICH: Aldrich.

5 INEZ BARRON: No Aldrich you are not
6 voting on this vote. Sorry.

7 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: We are still
8 in Humans Rights Committee.

9 INEZ BARRON: Human Rights.

10 ALDRICH: Okay.

11 CHAIRPERSON MATHIEU EUGENE: No worries.
12 Thank you very much. Now the meeting is adjourned
13 (gavel pounding).

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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 24, 2020