

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE OF HEALTH

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February 11, 2021

Start: 9:40 AM

Recess: 9:44 AM

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: MARK LEVINE, CHAIR

COUNCIL MEMBERS: ALICKA AMPRY-SAMUEL
INEZ D. BARRON
DARMA V. DIAZ
MATHIEU EUGENE
ROBERT F. HOLDEN
KEITH POWERS

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

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TECHNICIAN 1: Please start the recordings.

TECHNICIAN 2: PC recording done.

TECHNICIAN 1: According to the Cloud all set.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: (GAVEL) Good morning and welcome to today's remote New York City Council hearing vote on the Committee of Health. At this time would all panelists please turn on their video, and to minimize disruption please place all electronic devices on vibrate or silent mode. Thank you for your cooperation. Chair Levine, we're ready to begin.

CHAIR LEVINE: Thank you Sergeant. Good morning everyone. I'm Mark Levine, Chair of the City Council Health Committee. I want to acknowledge we are joined by colleagues Council Member Diaz, Council Member Powers, Council Member Barron, Council Member Yeger, Council Member Perkins, Council Member Holden, Council Member Levin, and forgive me if I've missed any of our colleagues. Council Member Ampry-Samuel and Council Member Diaz (sic) Right. Did is catch everybody? Excellent. Thank you all for joining us.

COUNCIL MEMBER: Thank you.

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2 CHAIR LEVINE: Wonderful. Today we'll be voting
3 on Proposed Introduction 2064-A whose lead sponsor
4 is Council Member Helen Rosenthal. This bill would
5 require the creation of an advisory board to report
6 on issues relating to gender and racial equity and
7 the provision of healthcare services and in
8 employment decisions made in hospitals and other,
9 or other covered healthcare services in New York
10 City. The board would consist of a multi-
11 disciplinary panel of representatives that span a
12 wide array of backgrounds and expertise including
13 labor unions, medical professionals, trade groups,
14 residents and interns, and experts in gender and
15 racial equity. This body would be charged with
16 analyzing factors that contribute to racial and
17 gender equity, and excuse me, racial and gender
18 inequity in hospitals and other healthcare
19 environments and make recommendations on an annual
20 basis. The COVID Pandemic has highlighted the deep
21 disparities that exist within our healthcare
22 system. America's health care institutions have a
23 long and ugly history of race-based medical
24 experimentation, structural racism, gender and race
25 based employment discrimination and abuse, and

1
2 deeply disparate health outcomes on the basis of
3 race and gender. These last eleven months have
4 shown us the danger of ignoring these disparities.
5 To address these problems we must name them, study
6 their causes and effects and then change our
7 behaviors accordingly this legislation is one step
8 in a very long process that our healthcare system
9 desperately needs to undergo. I want to thank and
10 congratulate again the sponsor of this legislation
11 Council Member Helen Rosenthal, and I very much
12 look forward to voting and passing this important
13 bill out of our Health Committee, and I thank you
14 all for being here today. Back to you Sergeant or
15 to Committee Counsel. Forgive me. I'm not sure
16 whose next. Committee Counsel.

17 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Thank you and I turn to
18 the clerk.

19 CLERK: (pause) Matthew Distefano,
20 Committee Clerk, Committee on Health roll call
21 vote (background noise) on Intro No. 2064-A. Chair
22 Levine.

23 CHAIR LEVINE: I vote aye.

24 CLERK: Eugene.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: I vote aye.

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CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye on all.

CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I Vote aye.

CLERK: Holden.

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

CLERK: Powers.

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: Aye.

CLERK: Council Member Darma Diaz.

COUNCIL MEMBER DARMA DIAZ: Aye on all.

CLERK: By a vote of 7 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions, the bill has been adopted. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LEVINE: Excellent. So, I thin we Can conclude this hearing. Is that correct? Thank you all very much for joining us, and this does now indeed conclude our hearing of the Health Committee.

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 March 2, 2020