



## Legislation Text

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**File #:** Res 0013-2002, **Version:** \*

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Res. No. 13

Resolution calling upon the appropriate committee of the Council of the City of New York to conduct an oversight hearing on the New York City Department of Public Health's rat abatement efforts in and around the World Trade Center site.

By Council Members Perkins and Comrie; also Council Members Gerson and Clarke

Whereas, The September 11, 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center caused the collapse of the twin towers and widespread physical damage to surrounding areas; and

Whereas, The rescue, recovery and subsequent demolition efforts in and around the World Trade Center site have been constant since the attacks occurred on September 11; and

Whereas, Demolition and construction are known to unsettle rats from their habitats, forcing them above-ground and therefore making them more visible; and

Whereas, Litter in and around the World Trade Center site area, including food waste, is providing a source of harborage and nourishment for these rats; and

Whereas, A January 19, 2002 New York Newsday article entitled "Rats On the Run: Rodents Displaced by the World Trade Center Disaster" reported an increase in pest-control related complaints from neighborhood residents and business owners since the attacks on the World Trade Center occurred; and

Whereas, Rats are known to carry a number of bacterial diseases and disease-carrying pests that pose severe health risks to humans and other animals; and

Whereas, Since the work in and around the World Trade Center site creates an environment conducive to rat infestation, the demolition and reconstruction of the World Trade Center site must be conducted while observing rat abatement practices; and

Whereas, The New York City Department of Public Health has primary enforcement responsibility with respect to rodent control and collaborates with other City agencies to that end; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the appropriate committee of the Council of the City of New York conduct an oversight hearing on the New York City Department of Public Health's rat abatement efforts in and around the World Trade Center site.

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