



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** Int 0784-2015 **Version:** A **Name:** Creation of an inmate bill of rights.  
**Type:** Introduction **Status:** Enacted  
**In control:** Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services

**On agenda:** 5/14/2015

**Enactment date:** 10/7/2015 **Enactment #:** 2015/091

**Title:** A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the creation of an inmate bill of rights.

**Sponsors:** Elizabeth S. Crowley, Daniel Dromm, Margaret S. Chin, Laurie A. Cumbo, Rafael L. Espinal, Jr., Brad S. Lander, Rosie Mendez, Carlos Menchaca, Helen K. Rosenthal, Jumaane D. Williams, Inez D. Barron, Daniel R. Garodnick, Mathieu Eugene, Ben Kallos, Ruben Wills

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**Attachments:** 1. Summary of Int. No. 784, 2. Int. No. 784 - 5/14/15, 3. Committee Report 5/6/15, 4. Hearing Testimony 5/6/15, 5. Hearing Transcript 5/6/15, 6. May 14, 2015 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 7. Committee Report 9/16/15, 8. Hearing Testimony 9/16/15, 9. Hearing Transcript 9/16/15, 10. September 17, 2015 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 11. Hearing Transcript of the Stated Meeting - September 17, 2015, 12. Fiscal Impact Statement, 13. Int. No. 784-A - 10/7/15, 14. Mayor's Letter, 15. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - September 17, 2015, 16. Local Law 91

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
5/6/2015	*	Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services	Hearing on P-C Item by Comm	
5/6/2015	*	Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services	P-C Item Laid Over by Comm	
5/14/2015	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
5/14/2015	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
9/16/2015	*	Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services	Hearing Held by Committee	
9/16/2015	*	Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services	Amendment Proposed by Comm	
9/16/2015	*	Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services	Amended by Committee	
9/16/2015	A	Committee on Fire and Criminal Justice Services	Approved by Committee	Pass
9/17/2015	A	City Council	Approved by Council	Pass
9/17/2015	A	City Council	Sent to Mayor by Council	
10/7/2015	A	Mayor	Hearing Held by Mayor	
10/7/2015	A	Mayor	Signed Into Law by Mayor	
10/7/2015	A	City Council	Recved from Mayor by Council	

Int. No. 784-A

By Council Members Crowley, Dromm, Chin, Cumbo, Espinal, Lander, Mendez, Menchaca, Rosenthal, Williams, Barron, Garodnick, Eugene, Kallos and Wills

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the creation of an inmate bill of rights.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 9 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 9-139 to read as follows:

§ 9-139 Inmate bill of rights. a. The department shall inform every inmate upon admission to the custody of the department, in writing, using plain and simple language, of their rights under department policy, which shall be consistent with federal, state, and local laws, and board of correction minimum standards, on the following topics: non-discriminatory treatment, personal hygiene, recreation, religion, attorney visits, access to legal reference materials, visitation, telephone calls and other correspondence, media access, due process in any disciplinary proceedings, health services, safety from violence, and the grievance system.

b. The department shall inform every inmate upon admission to the custody of the department, in writing, using plain and simple language, of their responsibilities under the department's rules governing inmate conduct.

c. The department shall inform every inmate upon admission to the custody of the department, in writing, using plain and simple language, of available services relating to education, vocational development, drug and alcohol treatment and counseling, and mental health treatment and counseling services.

d. The department shall publish on its website any documents created pursuant to this section. Such documents shall be available in English and Spanish.

e. Within 24 hours of admission to the custody of the department, the department shall provide to each inmate an oral summary of the rights and responsibilities enumerated in subdivisions a, b, and c of this section in the inmate's preferred language, if the language is accessible through the city's language access plan. The department shall make a good faith effort to provide an oral summary in languages that are not accessible through the city's language access plan as soon as practicable.

f. Upon admission to the custody of the department, each inmate shall also be offered the option of being provided the Connections guidebook for formerly incarcerated people, or any similar or successor book or handbook that describes resources available to those re-entering society after being incarcerated.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 90 days after it becomes law.

BC  
3992  
8/5/15, 9:08 P.M.