

Legislation Text

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Res. No. 1124

Resolution calling upon the appropriate committee on the Council to hold oversight hearings on the proliferation of cellular telephone towers and base stations throughout New York City.

By Council Members Vallone, Addabbo, Avella, Gennaro, Gentile, Gerson, Jackson, Nelson, Sanders, Yassky, Quinn and Gallagher

Whereas, The use of wireless telecommunications devices, especially cellular telephones with their associated equipment, has expanded enormously over the past several years; and

Whereas, Base stations, antennas attached to towers and other equipment are necessary for cellular telephone service providers to offer adequate service to the public within a given geographic area; and

Whereas, The technology through which cellular telephone service is provided requires a series of transmitters and signal boosters which are mounted on antennas and are usually placed on the roofs or superstructures of buildings; and

Whereas, This equipment has usually been located with little or no notification to the occupants of the buildings on which they are placed or other members of the affected communities; and

Whereas, The number of companies providing service and the technologies they employ has resulted in the proliferation of cellular telephone towers leading to substantially more of them and competition for the superior locations; and

Whereas, The only local governmental intervention in the placement of these cellular telephone towers is the need to obtain an alteration permit from the Department of Buildings; and

Whereas, The Council of the City of New York is concerned that the proliferation and concentration of cellular telephone equipment is not only aesthetically displeasing, but the proximity to those cellular telephone towers, especially when clustered in a small area, may impose adverse health effects on those who reside or work in the buildings which accommodate them; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That Council of the City of New York calls upon the appropriate committee on the Council to hold oversight hearings on the proliferation of cellular base stations throughout New York City.

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