



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

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CONTACT: pressoffice@cityhall.nyc.gov, (212) 788-2958

RUSH TRANSCRIPT: MAYOR DE BLASIO HOLDS PUBLIC HEARING AND SIGNS INTRO 489-B

Mayor Bill de Blasio: Okay. Welcome, everyone. We are having a hearing now on Intro 489-B, which will require the city to report annually to the City Council on outstanding Environmental Control Board judgments – sponsored by the finance committee chair, Julissa Ferreras, and Council Member Ben Kallos. The report will be made publicly available by the Department of Finance and will include a number of outstanding Environmental Control Board judgments and the total amount of money owed. It will include enforcement efforts used to collect the judgments and the success of those collection attempts.

The Environmental Control Board adjudicates fines issued by over a dozen city agencies, including the police department and the parks department. And violations range from dirty sidewalks to construction work without a permit – a whole range of challenges we face every day all over the five boroughs. Currently, the city is owed almost \$1.5 billion dollars in outstanding judgments and it's essential to all New Yorkers that the city get the money it is owed. These changes in this legislation will allow the city and the council to better monitor the debt owed to the city; and, for the public, this information will be available in a transparent manner. The bill also creates a new method for collecting debt owed to the Environmental Control Board for Department of Sanitation violations. And the city marshals will now be able to enforce those violations and achieve more in terms of collection due to the city.

I want to thank from the administration, Jacques Jiha, our commissioner of finance, and his whole team. I want to thank Fidel del Valle, our commissioner and chief administrative law judge at the city's Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings – otherwise known as OATH. And of course, we'd like to thank Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

[...]

Mayor: Just a moment en Español.

[Mayor de Blasio speaks in Spanish]

Mayor: Which is something we all believe in – the money we are owed. With that, we will now sign the legislation.

[Mayor de Blasio signs Intro 489-B]

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