



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Julie Menin CHAIRPERSON | **Noah Pfefferblit** DISTRICT MANAGER

**The Council of the City of New York
Committees on Civil Service & Labor and Lower Manhattan Redevelopment**

**Oversight Hearing on
Resolution calling upon the U.S. Senate to vote for the James Zadroga 9/11 Health
Compensation Act of 2009**

**Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
250 Broadway, 16th Floor Hearing Room, New York, NY**

**Testimony of Julie Menin, Chair of Community Board One and
Catherine McVay Hughes, Vice Chair**

Thank you, Chairperson Chin and Chairperson Sanders, for convening this important hearing regarding a resolution calling upon the U.S. Senate to vote for the James Zadroga 9/11 Health Compensation Act of 2009.

As you well know, the World Trade Center (WTC) lies at the heart of Manhattan Community Board One (CB1) – and many of us who still live or work in the area were here when the towers were attacked. Some of us volunteered as first responders along with people from outside our district, and many of us lived and worked downtown through the aftermath of the September 11th attacks.

As the tenth anniversary of the terrorist attacks approaches, people who were down here during or after the attacks continue to get sick. All of us who remained in Lower Manhattan have neighbors, friends or co-workers who have been stricken by cancer, respiratory disease or other forms of illness at unusually young ages in the past 10 years, and there is strong suspicion and a growing amount of data to indicate that these cases are associated with 9/11 related exposure despite assurances from the government at the time that the air was fine and it was safe to return to the area.

CB1 has strongly supported the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act (H.R. 847) for many years. We were very glad when the House of Representatives passed the bill on September 29, 2010 by a large margin, thanks to the incredible efforts of our Congressman, Jerrold Nadler; the bill co-sponsors Carolyn Maloney, Peter King, and Michael McMahon; and all of the New York congressional delegation.

Now we call upon the Senate to expedite the passage of the bill in the coming congressional session. We appreciate the efforts of our Senators Gillibrand and Schumer, and President Obama's promises that he will sign the legislation if it passes both houses of Congress. We urge Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to add the legislation to the schedule for the

Senate's current session and to do everything possible to ensure that a vote is taken on this bill before the end of 2010.

We cannot overstate the tremendous importance this bill has for our community downtown, for those who survived the attacks, for those who returned to work, live, or attend school here afterwards, and for all of those who stepped forward in our darkest hour and assisted in the recovery and rebuilding of Lower Manhattan.

Thank you.

COMMUNITY BOARD #1 – MANHATTAN
RESOLUTION

DATE: OCTOBER 26, 2010

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: WTC REDEVELOPMENT

COMMITTEE VOTE: 7 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused
BOARD VOTE: 34 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

RE: Senate Passage of the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act

WHEREAS: Community Board 1 (CB#1) has supported the James Zadroga 9/11 Health & Compensation Act (H.R.847) for many years; and

WHEREAS: As documented by many scientific medical studies, people are sick and still getting sick, and some have died as a result of their 9/11 related exposure; and

WHEREAS: The House of Representatives passed H.R. 847 on September 29, 2010 by a vote of 268 to 160 is a major victory for our community; and

WHEREAS: Our New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has introduced the Senate version of the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act (S.1334) with co-sponsor Senator Charles Schumer; and

WHEREAS: Senator Gillibrand is working closely with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to bring the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act to a vote in the Senate during the current Congress; and

WHEREAS: CB#1 appreciates the promises made by Senate Democratic leadership to put the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act on the "fast track" in the coming congressional session; and

WHEREAS: President Barack Obama has promised that he will sign the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act if it passes both houses of Congress;

THEREFORE

BE IT

RESOLVED

THAT

CB#1 thanks Congressman Jerrold Nadler and his staff for their stalwart leadership and their determined efforts over the past nine years to ensure that first responders, survivors (affected residents, office workers and students from our and other communities), and volunteers suffering health problems as a result of the 9/11 attacks receive the specialized health care and compensation that they need and deserve; and

BE IT

FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT

CB#1 thanks H.R.847's co-sponsors Carolyn Maloney, Peter King, and Michael McMahon, all of the other members of the New York congressional delegation, including Representatives Anthony Weiner, Eliot Engel, Nydia Velazquez, Joseph Crowley, Charles Rangel, Jose Serrano and Gary Ackerman, and Representatives Frank Pallone (NJ) and Henry Waxman (CA), House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer for their leadership; and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT

CB#1 thanks every member of Congress who voted in support of H.R.847; and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT

CB#1 also thanks the many groups that rallied together to demand that the entire community made ill by the 9/11 attacks - responders and survivors alike - receive the health care they need and deserve, including the FealGood Foundation, the Uniformed Fire Fighters and Fire Officers Unions, the New York City Firefighter Brotherhood Foundation, the Patrolman's Benevolent Association, the New York State AFL-CIO, the various unions of the construction trades, the World Trade Center Environmental Health Center Community Advisory Committee, 9/11 Environmental Action, and Community Boards #2 and #3; and

BE IT
FURTHER
RESOLVED
THAT:

CB#1 calls on the Senate to build on the successful momentum of the passage of H.R. 847 in the House and strongly urges Senate Democrats and Republicans to work together to pass the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act as soon as they return for the final Senate session of the year.

COMMUNITY BOARD # 1 – MANHATTAN
RESOLUTION

DATE: NOVEMBER 23, 2010

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: WTC REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE VOTE: 5 In Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained 0 Recused

RE: Request for Senate to Schedule 9/11 Health and Compensation Act for Lame Duck Session

WHEREAS: Community Board 1 (CB#1) has supported the James Zadroga 9/11 Health & Compensation Act for many years and the House of Representatives passed HR 847 on September 29, 2010; and

WHEREAS: Our New York Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has introduced the Senate version of The 9/11 Health & Compensation Act with co-sponsor Senator Charles Schumer; and

WHEREAS: Senator Gillibrand is working closely with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to bring The 9/11 Health & Compensation Act to a vote in the Senate during the "lame duck" Congressional session between the general election on November 2nd and the end of the year; and

WHEREAS: CB#1 appreciates the promises made by Senate Democratic leadership to put The 9/11 Health & Compensation Act on the "fast track" in the coming congressional session; and

WHEREAS: President Barack Obama has promised that he will sign The 9/11 Health & Compensation Act if it passes both houses of Congress and reaches his desk; and

WHEREAS: As Peter King said in an interview on WABC yesterday, Majority Leader Harry Reid has not yet put The 9/11 Health and Compensation Act on the list of bills that will move in the "lame-duck" session; and

THEREFORE

BE IT

RESOLVED

THAT: CB#1 calls on the Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid to schedule the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act now and that we are urging a successful vote in the "lame duck" session.