

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY
HI 82° LO 72°
Chance of T-storms

THURSDAY
HI 79° LO 70°
Chance of showers

FRIDAY
HI 79° LO 69°
Mostly cloudy

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THINGS TO DO



'SCHTICK A POLE IN IT'

Love pole dancing and comedy? See the live show hosted by Dan Goodman: amNY.com/thingstodo

DINING



DESSERT GOALS IS BACK

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Legal aid for tenants not enough: Bill

Levine to propose raising income bar

BY SARINA TRANGLE
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Councilman Mark Levine plans to introduce legislation Wednesday that would expand the scope of the nascent Right to Counsel measure.

Last August, Mayor Bill de Blasio signed the Right to Counsel, which gives the government five years to begin providing free, legal representation to anyone facing an eviction in housing court and earning no more than 200 percent of the federal poverty level; those who earn more are entitled to a legal consultation.

About a year into the Right to Counsel's implementation, Levine said several updates are needed to

ensure the measure is truly universal.

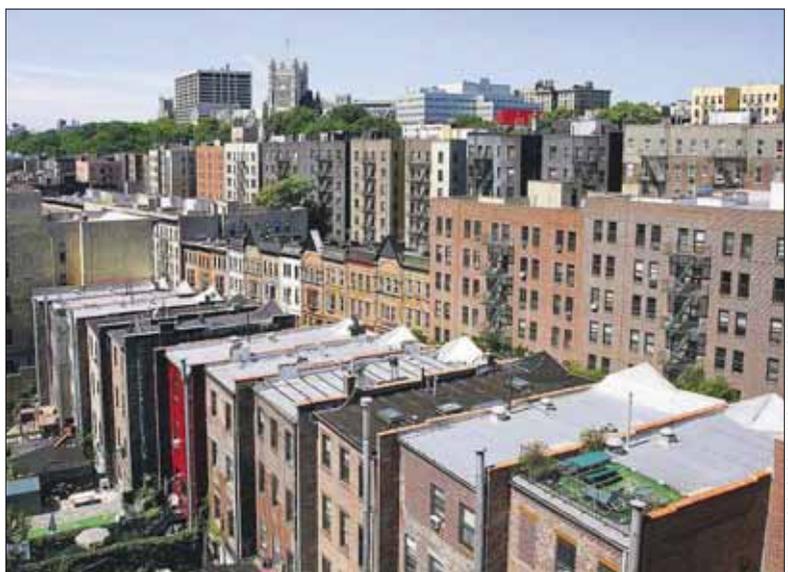
"We're really excited to be introducing a 2.0 legislation that we think will further expand and strengthen what has already been game-changing legislation," said Levine, who co-sponsored the original Right to Counsel measure with City Councilwoman Vanessa Gibson. "It's pretty clear that people who are unquestionably struggling economically today aren't eligible for representation because of how low the cut-

200%
Proposed increase of income eligibility requirement

off is."

The new legislation would increase the income cap from 200 to 400 percent of the federal poverty level, which would ensure that a person working 40 hours a week for \$15 an hour — which minimum wage is slated to reach in 2019 — could access the service.

The bill would also add



The measure gives tenants facing eviction, depending on their income, free legal representation.

representation at several non-housing court venues, including during administrative hearings at the city's Department of Housing Preservation and Development and the state's Homes and Community Renewal agency — as well as for cases that are appealed and a portion that land in state supreme court.

Some of the administrative hearings in question relate to subsidies that recipients need to maintain their home, according to Marika Dias, director of the Tenant Rights Coalition at Legal Services NYC.

"The expansion of the

types of cases covered is really intended to get at the fact that it's not just in housing court that tenants are set on the path to eviction," Dias said.

Finally, the measure would require the city to finance efforts by various community organizations to educate renters about when they are entitled to legal representation.

So far, Right to Counsel has assigned attorneys to tenants in housing court who live in 15 ZIP codes and meet the income requirements, Dias said.

The government is close to providing representation

to those in New York City Housing Authority administrative hearings, according to Dias. Initially, the de Blasio administration said that service would be available in October 2017.

The Right to Counsel law required the city to hold a public hearing on the phase-in within a year, but that has not yet happened either.

The City Hall press office did not respond to questions about the delays in holding a hearing or getting into NYCHA administrative proceedings, but said it would consider Levine's suggestions.



De la Renta draws fashion royalty

From left: Nicki Minaj, Kate Beckinsale, Rosie Huntington-Whiteley, Dianna Agron and Nicky Hilton Rothschild attend the Oscar de la Renta NYFW show on Tuesday.

Nathan Lane, Andrea Martin to star in 'Andronicus' sequel

Tony Award winners Nathan Lane and Andrea Martin are play servants tasked with cleaning up the bodies —

coming back to Broadway. They'll star in "Gary: A Sequel to Titus Andronicus," the highly anticipated Broadway debut of Pulitzer Prize finalist and MacArthur Fellow Taylor Mac (best known for his ambitious "24-Decade History of Popular Music").

Five-time Tony winner George C. Wolfe will direct the comedy, which is set immediately after the bloody conclusion of Shakespeare's tragedy. Lane and



Lane



Martin

leave it to this duo to find the humor in that.

"It's a very, very funny and very, very political new play," producer Scott Rudin told The Hollywood Reporter. "And it's that rare thing that's almost impossible to find, something genuinely disruptive that is also simply a blast."

The play is set to begin previews on March 5, opening April 11 at the Booth Theatre. (BARBARA SCHULER)