

COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES AND ADDICTION 1  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH,  
DISABILITIES AND ADDICTION

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May 16, 2024  
Start: 10:40 a.m.  
Recess: 10:43 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Linda Lee, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu  
Erik D. Bottcher  
Tiffany Cabán  
Shahana Hanif  
Farrah N. Louis  
Kristy Marmorato  
Darlene Mealy

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Julie Menin

1 COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES AND  
ADDICTION

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone  
3 check for the Committee on Mental Health,  
4 Disabilities and Addiction recorded by Layla Lynch in  
5 the Council Chambers on May 16, 2024.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and  
7 welcome to the New York City hybrid vote on the  
8 Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities and  
9 Addiction.

10 Please silence all electronic devices.

11 Chair, we are ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON LEE: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
13 everyone, my name is Linda Lee, Chair of the  
14 Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities and  
15 Addiction.

16 Today, the Committee will vote on Council  
17 Member Menin's Resolution number 15, which calls upon  
18 New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor  
19 to sign the New York Child Data Privacy and  
20 Protection Act, S3281/A4967, and the Stop Addictive  
21 Feeds Exploitation, SAFE, For Kids Act, S7694/A8148.  
22 I am proud to sponsor this important legislation, and  
23 now I will turn it over to Council Member Menin to  
24 make remarks on her legislation.

25

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Thank you so much,  
Chair Lee, for holding today's vote.

Social media has transformed our society,  
particularly for youth. A poll last year found that  
51 percent of teenagers spent at least four hours a  
day, I'm just going to say that again as a mom, four  
hours a day on social media platforms. Consequently,  
it is having a negative impact on their mental  
health. A study of teens between ages 12 to 15 found  
that social media use of over three hours a day can  
result in increased likelihood of depression and  
anxiety symptoms. That is why I introduced Resolution  
15 which calls on the New York State Legislature and  
the Governor to pass both the New York Child Data  
Privacy and Protection Act and the Stop Addictive  
Feeds Exploitation, or SAFE, for Kids Act.

The New York Child Data Privacy and  
Protection Act would prohibit social media platforms  
from using targeted advertisements to children  
without parental consent as well as establishing  
guidelines around the data for children. The SAFE for  
Kids Act addresses addictive feeds to children under  
18 and requires that companies obtain parental  
consent for notifications between 12 a.m. to 6 a.m. I

1  
2 thank the Chair and many of my Colleagues for joining  
3 me to call on the State to pass such critical  
4 legislation. Children are exposed to content that can  
5 be damaging to their mental health and upbringing. As  
6 a parent of four children, I am incredibly disturbed  
7 by this data. There is nothing stopping children from  
8 watching inappropriate videos for hours on end. The  
9 State can and must act on addictive social media use.  
10 I want to thank Charles Kim for drafting the  
11 Resolution and from my team, my Chief of Staff,  
12 Jonathan Szott, and my Legislative Director, Brandon  
13 Jordan, and thank you so much to the Chair for  
14 letting me speak today.

15 CHAIRPERSON LEE: Thank you. Finally, I'd  
16 like to thank our Staff, Members of the Mental  
17 Health, Disabilities, and Addictions Committee Staff  
18 who worked in preparing this hearing, and thank you  
19 to our awesome Committee Members who are all here and  
20 we were all on time so thank you.

21 Clerk, we are ready to begin the vote.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good  
23 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call  
24 vote Mental Health, Disabilities and Addiction on  
25 Resolution 15. Chair Lee.

1 COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES AND  
ADDICTION

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CHAIRPERSON LEE: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Louis.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Cabán.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Abreu.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: I vote aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanif.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

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Marmorato.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote

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of eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative,

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and no abstentions, the resolution has been adopted

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by the Committee. Madam Chair, that is a full

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Committee.

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CHAIRPERSON LEE: Great. Thank you,

24

everyone. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date May 31, 2024