

COMMITTEE ON AGING

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON AGING

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October 29, 2025

Start: 9:45 a.m.

Recess: 10:39 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING
ROOM 3

B E F O R E: Crystal Hudson, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chris Banks
Linda Lee
Yusef Salaam
Lynn C. Schulman
Susan Zhuang

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Testing one, two, one
3 two. Today's date is October 29, 2025, Committee on
4 Aging, being recorded in HR3 by Keith Polite.

5 Chair, we are ready to begin.

6 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: [GAVEL] Good morning,
7 everyone. I'm Council Member Crystal Hudson, Chair of
8 the Committee on Aging, and my pronouns are she/her.

9 Today, the Committee will consider
10 Proposed Resolution No. 852-A, sponsored by Council
11 Member Shekhar Krishnan, calling on the United States
12 Congress and the President of the United States to
13 take steps to protect Social Security.

14 We are joined today by Council Members
15 Banks, Lee, and Schulman.

16 Nearly 9 out of 10 individuals age 65 and
17 older nationally receive Social Security benefits as
18 of December 31st, 2024. In New York City, about 1.3
19 million residents rely on Social Security, with more
20 than 40 percent using those payments to meet basic
21 needs. Social Security benefits are among the most
22 essential safety net benefits for our city's older
23 adults. After decades in the workforce, retirees and
24 older New Yorkers must be able to count on receiving
25 their Social Security income so that they can live

with dignity. However, earlier this year, the Social Security Administration announced in a press release that it was undergoing staffing reductions at the direction of President Trump and Elon Musk. And in alignment with executive orders from the White House, the Social Security Administration set a staffing target of 50,000 employees, down from the then-current level of approximately 57,000 employees. The White House also directed the General Services Administration, or GSA, to terminate leases on approximately 7,500 federal offices, including SSA offices.

Instead of dismantling Social Security and making it harder for older adults to receive their benefits, President Trump and Congress should focus their energy on strengthening Social Security and ensuring that benefits are efficiently dispersed to retirees. Proposed Resolution 852A calls for just that by urging federal officials to secure long-term funding for the Social Security to ensure that the Social Security Administration can continue providing benefits without disruption to the millions of Americans and the 1.3 million New Yorkers who rely on

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2 it. Thank you to Council Member Krishnan for his
3 advocacy on this issue.

4 And I would like to close by thanking
5 Committee Staff, Christopher Pepe, Chloë Rivera, and
6 Saiyemul Hamid.

7 I'd also like to thank my staff, Andrew
8 Wright and Erika Ruintan.

9 And now I'd like to turn it over to the
10 Clerk to call the roll.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
12 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
13 vote, Committee on Aging. Proposed Resolution 852-A.

14 Chair Hudson.

15 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.
19 Schulman.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Banks.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye, and
23 congratulations.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Salaam.
25 Zhuang.

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2 With a vote of four in the affirmative,
3 zero in the negative, and no abstentions, item has
4 been adopted by the Committee.

5 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you so much. We
6 are adjourned. [GAVEL]

7 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: I'm Chair Crystal
8 Hudson reopening today's Aging Committee vote, and I
9 will call on the Clerk to call the roll.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
11 you. Proposed Resolution 852A.

12 Council Member Won.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: The vote
15 is now five in the affirmative, zero in the negative,
16 and no abstentions.

17 Chair Hudson to close.

18 Disregard. One moment.

19 Council Member Salaam.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: The vote
22 is now six in the affirmative, zero in the negative,
23 and no abstentions.

24 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: The hearing is
25 adjourned. Thank you.

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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 November 3, 2025