

COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

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November 25, 2025
Start: 11:53 a.m.
Recess: 11:59 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING
ROOM 2

B E F O R E: Jennifer Gutiérrez, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Robert F. Holden
Vickie Paladino
Julie Won

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Gale A. Brewer

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone check for the Committee on Technology, recorded on November 25th, 2025, in Hearing Room 2 by Nazly Paytuvi.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and welcome to the New York City Council vote of the Committee on Technology.

At this time, can everybody please silence your cell phones and nobody is to approach the dais.

Chair, you may begin.

CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Good morning. Good morning. I'm Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez, Chair of the Committee on Technology. Thank you all for joining us for today's vote on a package of bills that will finally put real guardrails, real standards, and real public accountability around the City's use of artificial intelligence and a very important transparency bill around FOILs. For over a decade, New York City has moved quickly on both automated decision-making systems and AI, but we've moved without the basic structures needed to ensure that speed does not come at the expense of fairness, accuracy, or public trust. In 2023, OTI released an

AI Action Plan, but its guidance is voluntary, unenforceable, and advisory by design. Words on a page. OTI has repeatedly described its role as limited and non-regulatory, and the oversight vacuum has consequences. Comptroller DiNapoli's audit found that agencies are using AI tools with inconsistent ad hoc practices that increase the risk of biased or inaccurate outcomes. Let that sink in. We are actively increasing the risk of bias. Most agencies do not even track how their tools are used or what impacts they produce. We would never treat any other critical government function this way, and we cannot treat AI this way now. When we are children, we learn right from wrong. We learn that our choices have impact, and we rely on families, teachers, and community to shape our sense of responsibility. As a City, we have an obligation to shape our systems the same way. AI does not learn right from wrong by accident. It learns from who builds it, from what we build, what we allow, and what we choose to ignore. This legislative package is about stepping into that responsibility. Intro. 199, the Guard Act, sponsored by myself, establishes the first Office of Algorithmic Accountability, the City's central home

for helping agencies adopt new technologies, evaluating risks, auditing performance after deployment, investigating complaints, and requiring corrective action; Intro. 926, sponsored by Council Member Julie Menin, requires citywide minimum standards for responsible AI use, updated annually as the technology evolves; Intro. 1024, also sponsored by myself, guarantees public transparency by requiring a public list of all AI systems reviewed by the City pre-deployment, we're almost there, oh, thumbs up. And switching gears, Intro. 1235, sponsored by Council Member Gale Brewer, modernizes government with a centralized, user-friendly FOIL portal, a much-needed transparency tool after that past four years of blatant disregard for best practices of good and open government. It's a great bill. Together, these bills move New York City from optional guidance to real accountability. They prepare the next administration with a foundation that is durable, enforceable, and grounded in equity.

I want to thank the Technology Committee staff, Policy Analyst Eric Brown; Legislative Counsel Irene Byhovsky, my Chief-of-Staff Anya Lehr; Legislative Associate Victoria Peters; and my

daughter, _____, say hi, for their dedication to building a strong and thoughtful framework for our City.

With that, I'll turn it over to Council Member Brewer for a statement about her bill. Intro 1235-A. Council Member Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Thank you very much, Madam Chair, for your support of this legislation.

As you indicated, it overhauls FOIL, which is a request system. People who file FOILs can wait months, sometimes years, for City agencies to provide the records requested. This bill, 1235-A, creates a single citywide portal to submit and track FOIL requests. There is such a portal, and I would do want to thank Pauline Toole, who's the Commissioner of DORIS, for putting together such a platform. However, it needs to be codified. Let's users, this is what it does, see every step of the request as it happens. Acknowledgement, deadlines, extensions, decisions, appeals, and record releases. This bill makes all release records searchable and publicly available. It requires the City of New York to create performance standards and publish statistics on FOIL

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2 requests, and many other provisions to make FOIL
3 simpler, more transparent, and more accessible.

4 I certainly want to thank Rachel Faust
5 from Reinvent Albany. I too want to thank Irene
6 Byhovsky, Audrey Sun, and Brad Reed from the City
7 Legislative Division, and from my office, the
8 fabulous Sam Goldsmith. Thank you very much.

9 CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you, Council
10 Member.

11 Thank you, and now I will turn it over to
12 the Clerk to call the roll.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
14 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
15 vote Committee on Technology, all items are coupled.

16 Chair Gutiérrez.

17 CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Holden.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
21 you.

22 Bottcher. Won.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Paladino.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
3 vote of four in the affirmative, zero in the
4 negative, and no abstentions, all items have been
5 adopted by the Committee.

6 CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Hit it three
7 times. [GAVEL] 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 December 14, 2025