

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS, STATE  
AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL  
OPERATIONS, STATE AND FEDERAL  
LEGISLATION

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October 29, 2025  
Start: 10:47 a.m.  
Recess: 10:55 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING  
ROOM 1

B E F O R E: Lincoln Restler, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer  
David M. Carr  
James F. Gennaro  
Jennifer Gutiérrez  
Shahana Hanif  
Frank Morano  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Inna Vernikov

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Shekar Krishnan

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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mic check, mic check.

This is a mic check for the vote on Governmental  
Operations, State and Federal Legislation. Today's  
date is October 29, 2025, recorded by Walter Lewis in  
HR1.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet, please. Thank  
you. Good morning and welcome to the New York City  
vote on the Committee on Governmental Operations,  
State and Federal Legislation.

Please silent all electronic devices at  
this time.

Also, please do not approach the desk at  
no time.

Chair, we are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: [GAVEL] Good  
morning. My name is Lincoln Restler, and I have the  
privilege of Chairing the Committee on Governmental  
Operations, State and Federal Legislation, and we  
have a full house this morning for Council Member  
Krishnan's legislation. We have Council Member  
Brewer, we have Council Member Shulman, we have  
Council Member Hanif, we have Council Member  
Vernikov, we have the newest member of this  
Committee, Council Member Morano, and Brooklyn's own

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Council Member David Carr. Last but not least,  
Council Member Gennaro is on Zoom. I think that means  
we're only missing Jen. Is that right? She might even  
make it. We might have a full house. It would be a  
special day.

Today, we'll be voting on Intro. 1134-A,  
sponsored by Council Member Krishnan. This bill will  
require agencies that collect demographic information  
to include additional race and ethnicity options and  
to incorporate those options into existing forms.  
Having detailed demographic data is crucial to  
ensuring transparency, accountability, and equitable  
treatment of all communities. Intro. 1134 will help  
ensure every community in our diverse city receives  
the resources it needs and deserves. And I really  
appreciate Council Member Krishnan's leadership on  
this issue. I also want to recognize CACF. When I was  
appointed as Chair of this Committee, they were one  
of the first groups to reach out and said, you have  
to get this bill passed, it is critically important  
for our communities, and I have been strongly  
supportive ever since, and I'm really thrilled that  
we're getting it done today.

With that, I'll turn it over to Council  
Member Krishnan.

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you so  
much, Chair Restler, and good morning, everybody.

Intro. 1134 is a historic milestone for  
data equity in New York City, and especially for our  
immigrant and AAPI communities. For the first time,  
our City will require every major agency to collect  
and report disaggregated race and ethnicity data,  
making visibility a matter of law, not choice. For  
decades, too many New Yorkers have been invisible in  
the data, lumped into one box and written out of the  
story. This is the truest for Asian American  
communities, where whether it's the pandemic, whether  
it's the resources and services we receive from  
government, AAPIs are often lumped together with very  
little understanding of how City issues and City  
services affect them, or even things like COVID  
itself during those dark days. But this law will now  
change that and ensure that Asian Americans and every  
New Yorker are reported accurately, that we can track  
the data and ensure that we are all visible and seen.  
Intro. 1134 addresses that by expanding race and  
ethnicity data collection and reporting standards

across New York City agencies. This isn't just about numbers, it's about fairness. Disaggregated data ensures City dollars, programs, and policies reach everyone they're meant to serve. This law ensures the City government sees everyone and hears everyone. As the City Council Member representing the most diverse community in the world, this bill brings my community into City government in ways they've never been before. It's a commitment to inclusion and dignity for all. I'm proud today that we are cutting through the red tape of government and ensuring every New Yorker is truly represented in our data and our decision-making.

I want to give a special thank you to CACF, who's worked on this issue for years. CACF has led the fight for so long to make sure that we as Asian-American communities are invisible no more, that we are seen and heard by government, that government services and the data they collect reflect the importance and the vibrancy and the needs of our Asian-American communities. And in doing so, we are making sure all New Yorkers are included in and seen in data. Thank you, CACF.

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Thank you, all of the organizations  
allied in this fight. And a special thank you to  
former Council Member Danny Dromm, who started this  
work during his tenure in the Council. Thanks,  
everyone. I urge all my Colleagues to vote for this  
bill.

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: Thank you so much,  
Council Member Krishnan. And it's just worth noting  
on the record that we are proudly the most diverse  
Council in the history of New York City, with not  
one, but the first two South Asian representatives or  
representatives of South Asian descent, four  
representatives of East Asian descent, a majority  
female Council. We are reflective of the city that we  
represent, and that is a beautiful thing.

With that, I will ask the Clerk to call  
the roll.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.  
Roll call vote, Committee on Governmental Operations,  
State and Federal Legislation on Proposed  
Introduction 1134-A.

Chair Restler.

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Gennaro.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye. I  
wish to be added as a co-sponsor. And I vote yes on  
Lincoln as well, just for the heck of it.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
you, Council Member. Noted.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes. I don't know  
about yes on Lincoln, though.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:  
Gutiérrez.

Hanif.

COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Schulman.

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye, and I  
appreciate Lincoln.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Carr.

COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Brooklyn represents,  
I'm with Lincoln, so I vote aye. Congratulations,  
Council Member Krishnan.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vernikov.

COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Morano.

COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
vote of eight in the affirmative, zero in the  
negative, and no abstentions, item has been adopted  
by the Committee, and the roll will be held open at  
request of the Chair.

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: Thank you so much.  
Have a great day, everyone.

Again, congratulations to Council Member  
Krishnan.

Here she is. The ninth member of our  
Committee has joined us. Just so you know, four of  
the people said they're with me when voting.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: They're with  
you?

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: Yeah, Jim started  
it, and then David continued.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: What are you  
running for that I have to be with you?

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: You're not. It was  
just a moment of real solidarity, and kindness.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Well, I stand  
with Gale. I stand with Gale. Yes.



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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

Continuation roll call, Committee on Governmental  
Operations on proposed Introduction 1134-A.

Council Member Gutiérrez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: I vote aye, and  
I just want to say I don't know if I'm with Lincoln,  
but I vote aye. Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Final  
vote is now nine in the affirmative, zero in the  
negative, and no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON RESTLER: We're adjourned.

[GAVEL]

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