

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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October 9, 2025
Start: 9:53 a.m.
Recess: 10:17 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - 8th fl. Hearing Rm. 2

B E F O R E: Lynn C. Schulman
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Oswald Feliz
James F. Gennaro
Kristy Marmorato
Julie Menin
Mercedes Narcisse
Susan Zhuang

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning and welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the Committee on Health. At this time, I would like to remind everyone to silence all electronic devices. Also, no one is to approach the dais. Chair Schulman, we are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Okay, thank you. Alright, I'm starting the meeting. I don't have a-- good morning. I am Council Member Lynn Schulman, Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Health. Thank you for joining us on today's vote on my bill, Introduction 1390 in relation to cooling tower inspection and testing. Before I begin, I'd like to recognize that we've been joined by Council Members Zhuang, Ariola, Marmorato, Menin, and on Zoom, Narcisse, Gennaro, and Feliz. Today, we will vote on a bill that strengthens New York City's requirements for testing and maintaining cooling towers, an important measure to protect public health and prevent future outbreaks of Legionnaire's disease. This legislation comes at a critical time, following the recent outbreak that reminded us how dangerous and fast-spreading Legionella bacteria can be when proper precautions are not taken or ignored

completely. This bill would require building owners to test their cooling towers for the presence of harmful microbes at least once a month during the months when the towers are in use. All testing must be done by or under the supervision of a qualified professional to ensure accuracy and compliance. The bill also mandates that building owner perform a biocide treatment, a process that kills harmful bacteria during warm weather when the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene determines that the risk of Legionella growth is highest. In addition, this legislation renews critical reporting requirements for the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. The Department will continue to report on cooling tower registrations, inspections, testing, and certifications, as well as on reported diagnoses of Legionnaire's disease. These reports help us track progress, identify risks early, and hold both the public and private sectors accountable for maintaining safe conditions. The recent Harlem outbreak underscores that our work to prevent Legionnaire's disease is not done. Every case is preventable and every delay in testing or treatment puts lives at risk. By updating regulations and

strengthening oversight, we're ensuring that building owners stay vigilant, that the City can act swiftly and that all New Yorkers no matter what borough they live in are protected from this deadly preventable illness. I would like to thank my staff, the administration, as well as committee staff for their hard work on this bill. Clerk, we are ready to begin the vote.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Health, Proposed Introduction 1390A. Chair Schulman?

CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: I vote aye, and I'd like to be added as a co-sponsor.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Feliz?

COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Good morning. I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. De La Rosa? Menin? Narcisse?

1 COMMITTEE ON HEALTH 6

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Good morning. I
3 vote aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Zhuang?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Marmorato?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Ariola?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

10 Congratulations, Chair.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: With a vote of 8 in the
12 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
13 item has been adopted by the Committee.

14 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: I'm going to keep
15 the Committee vote open for Council Member De La Rosa
16 who is on her way.

17 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Resuming back the
18 Committee on Health.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote, Committee
20 on Health is 8 in the affirmative, 0 negative, no
21 abstentions. Chair Schulman?

22 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: I now close out
23 the Committee of Health hearing. Thank you.

24 [gavel]

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COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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 October 20, 2025