

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
VOTE*

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Monday, July 14, 2025

Start: 9:22 a.m.

Recess: 10:04 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: HON. CRYSTAL HUDSON, CHAIR

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

CHRIS BANKS
LINDA LEE
DARLENE MEALY,
YUSEF SALAAM
LYNN C. SCHULMAN
SUSAN ZHUANG

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SERGEANT MARINO: This is a microphone check for the Committee on Aging. Recorded by James Marino on July 14, 2025, in the Committee Room.

SERGEANT AT ARMS: (INAUDIBLE) Aging. At this time, we ask that you please silence all electronics, and at no point is anyone to approach the dais. I repeat, please do not approach the dais.

Chair, you may begin.

CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you so much. Good morning, and welcome to today's Aging Committee Vote. I am Crystal Hudson, Committee Chair, and my pronouns are she/her.

Today we will be voting on an important bill and stop on The City Council's Mental Health Road Map, an initiative led by Speaker Adrienne Adams and Council Member Linda Lee to address the growing mental health challenges facing New Yorkers in the wake of the pandemic.

As a part of that effort, last month we convened a joint hearing with the Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and Addiction to examine both mental health and older New Yorkers, and my legislation, Introduction 1257.

The bill received broad support, along with helpful feedback to make it more operationally effective.

Proposed Introduction Number 1257-A, a Local Law in relation to a study and report on the provision of agency services to older adults with certain neurological and mental health conditions, would require the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to identify the 10 most common neurological conditions and the 10 most common mental health conditions among older adults and share that information with the New York City Department for the Aging.

The DFTA Commissioner, together with relevant City agencies and community groups, would then study and issue a one-time report on how agencies are currently serving this population and what improvements are needed. The report must also outline specific actions each agency will take in response to the findings.

Neurological conditions, like Parkinson's or stroke, and mental health conditions, such as depression, anxiety, and dementia, are often

underrecognized in older populations, leading to missed opportunities for care and support.

This legislation helps ensure a coordinated, multi-agency response rather than fragmented services delivery. It also emphasizes the importance of training, staffing, and outreach to ensure services are equitable and responsive to real-world needs.

As New York City's Aging population continues to grow, so too will the prevalence of these conditions. This bill is a critical step on the Mental Health Road Map. It not only addresses current service gaps, but also supports the Council's broader aging in place agenda, reinforcing a more holistic, dignified vision for elder care in our city. This bill holds personal significance for me. After nearly a decade of serving as my mother's primary caregiver while she lived with Alzheimer's disease, I began advocating for older adults, which ultimately led me to the City Council. I am proud of the work this Committee and the Council have accomplished together with advocates and providers championing the needs of older New Yorkers and tackling the city's mental health crisis with evidence-based solutions. I urge

my colleagues to vote aye on this important legislation.

And, finally, I want to thank the Aging Committee staff, Christopher Pepe, Chloë Rivera, and Saiyemul Hamid for their work on today's vote. And also my own team, Andrew Wright, Erika Ruintan, and Omar Richardson.

I will now turn it over to the Committee Clerk to take the vote.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Matthew DiStefano, Committee Clerk; Committee on Aging, roll call vote on Proposed Introduction Number 1257-A.

Chair Hudson?

CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Lee?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: (MEDICAL)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Banks?

COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Salaam?

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: (NO RESPONSE)

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 5 in the
5 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions,
6 the item has been adopted.

7 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: And we will leave the
8 vote open, thank you.

9 (PAUSE)

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation of the
11 Committee on Aging, roll call vote for Introduction
12 1257-A, Council Member Salaam?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye.

14 The vote now stands at 6 in the
15 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions.
16 Thank you.

17 (PAUSE)

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: That concluded today's
19 business. [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 no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date August 26, 2025