

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

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August 14, 2025
Start: 10:26 a.m.
Recess: 10:35 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

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

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Christopher Marte
Pierina Ana Sanchez

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet down please, keep
3 it down. Thank you. Good morning, and welcome to the
4 New York City Hybrid Hearing on the Committee on
5 Health.

6 At this time, please silent all
7 electronic devices.

8 Please do not approach this at any time.

9 Chair, we are ready to begin.

10 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: [GAVEL] Good
11 morning. I am Council Member Lynn Schulman, Chair of
12 the New York City Council's Committee on Health.
13 Thank all of you for joining us at today's Committee
14 vote where we will be voting on the following
15 introductions: Intros 628-A and 629-A, both sponsored
16 by the Public Advocate; Intro. 998-A, sponsored by
17 Council Member Powers; Intros 1041-A and 1042-A, both
18 sponsored by Council Member Sanchez; and Intro. 1056-
19 A, sponsored by Council Member Hudson; and the
20 following resolution, Proposed Resolution 563-B,
21 sponsored by Council Member Sanchez.

22 Before we begin, I would like to
23 recognize the following Council Members that are
24 present. Feliz, Menin, Ariola, Narcisse, De La Rosa,

2 Marmorato, Sanchez, and Marte, and Council Member
3 Gennaro, virtually.

4 The legislation the Committee on Health
5 is voting on today covers a number of very important
6 topics, and I am proud that this Committee is
7 tackling these issues head on. First, we will be
8 voting on legislation relating to healthcare for
9 LGBTQIA plus and TGNCNBI folks in our city.
10 Introduction 628-A and 629-A, both sponsored by the
11 Public Advocate, will require signage at City
12 hospitals to inform patients on both the rights of
13 and services available to transgender patients and
14 for DOHMH to report on the training providers receive
15 regarding medical care for transgender and gender
16 non-conforming people.

17 Introduction 1056-A, sponsored by Council
18 Member Hudson, will require DOHMH in collaboration
19 with DOE and community-based organizations to conduct
20 annual LGBTQIA plus competency trainings for public
21 school medical personnel. This Committee and the
22 Council is committed to defending our vibrant LGBTQIA
23 plus community. We will ensure that the City remains
24 a beacon for those who need gender-affirming care and
25 we will not allow the attacks on transgender

2 communities nationwide to scare us away from our
3 values.

4 We will also vote on Introduction 988-A,
5 sponsored by Council Member Powers. This would codify
6 the City's Cooling Center Program and require the
7 Commissioner of the New York City Office of Emergency
8 Management to designate the locations of cooling
9 centers when there is a heat-related emergency. The
10 bill also includes regulations relating to the number
11 of cooling centers and the locations of cooling
12 centers. As climate change continues to accelerate
13 and worsen, it is imperative that we create spaces
14 for those who are at increased risk of health
15 complications due to extreme heat. No New Yorker's
16 health should be put unduly in danger when the City
17 has the capability to act.

18 Finally, we will vote on a package of
19 legislation relating to childcare. This includes
20 Introductions 1041-A and 1042-A and proposed
21 Resolution 563-B by Council Member Sanchez. Following
22 the tragic death of Nicholas Feliz-Dominici at a
23 childcare facility in the Bronx, it became clear that
24 the city's growing opioid crisis has continued to
25 worsen and that regulations surrounding child daycare

2 homes are wholly inadequate. These pieces of
3 legislation will seek to address this by urging the
4 state to tighten regulations and improve inspections
5 at child daycare facilities and by requiring the City
6 to increase transparency around the training
7 childcare inspectors receive and the rights of
8 parents whose children are cared for in these
9 facilities.

10 I want to conclude by thanking all the
11 bill sponsors for their hard work and leadership. I
12 also want to thank my Staff as well as the Committee
13 Staff for their preparation for this vote.

14 Council Member Sanchez, do you want to
15 make a brief statement?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Yeah. Thank you,
17 Chair.

18 Nearly two years have passed since the
19 heartbreaking loss of one-year-old Nicholas Feliz-
20 Dominici, a radiant, joyful child whose life was
21 stolen by fentanyl exposure in a licensed daycare.
22 Nicholas should be here today. His parents, Zoila and
23 Otoniel, did everything right. They placed their
24 trust in a system meant to protect their son, but
25 depraved criminals exploited its weakness and their

2 family's world was shattered. The depth of their pain
3 is unimaginable. And today, we honor Nicholas' memory
4 through action. Intros 1041 and 1042, shaped by his
5 family's courage, will help keep other children safe.
6 1041 will inform parents of their rights in daycare
7 facilities, and 1042 will require public reporting on
8 inspector training, strengthening oversight and
9 transparency. Because there is more to do, we're also
10 passing Resolutions 563 of 2024, which calls on the
11 State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
12 A3899 and S6225 by Assemblymembers George Alvarez and
13 Senator Gustavo Rivera, my counterparts at the State
14 level, to further strengthen inspections, improve
15 training, and enhance transparency. Thank you, Chair
16 Schulman. Thanks to Speaker Adams. And also, of
17 course, the prosecutors, whose work has already
18 secured over 100 years of prison time for those
19 responsible. Nicholas' light will never fade. In his
20 memory and in solidarity with his family, we will
21 keep working until every child is safe and no parent
22 has to bear this kind of pain. Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Does anybody else
24 want to make a statement or we're good?

25 Okay.

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2 Clerk, we are ready to begin the vote.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
4 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
5 vote, Committee on Health. All items are coupled.
6 Chair Schulman.

7 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Gennaro.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
11 you. Feliz.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: De La
14 Rosa.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Menin.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Narcisse.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Zhuang.
21 Marmorato.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye ON
23 all, with the exception of Intros 1056 and 628-A, I
24 vote no.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ariola.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote no on
3 Intros 1056 and 628-A and aye on all the rest.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
5 vote of eight in the affirmative, zero on the
6 negative, no abstentions, all items are adopted with
7 Introductions 1056-A and 628-A are adopted by the
8 committee with six in the affirmative, two in the
9 negative, and no abstentions.

10 CHAIRPERSON SCHULMAN: Okay. With that,
11 I'm going to close this hearing. Thank you to
12 everyone. [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 interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date September 2, 2025