

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON WOMEN AND GENDER EQUITY

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April 24, 2025

Start: 11:17 a.m.

Recess: 11:28 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Farrah N. Louis, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Tiffany Cabán  
Jennifer Gutiérrez  
Kevin C. Riley  
Inna Vernikov

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Yusef Salaam  
Lynn C. Schulman  
Erik D. Bottcher

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, good  
3 morning. This is a microphone check for the Committee  
4 on Women and Gender Equity. This recording is done on  
5 April 24, 2025. It's being done in the Committee  
6 Room, and this recording is done by Ginelle Yearwood.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning. Welcome  
8 to today's New York City Council hearing for the  
9 Committee on Women and Gender Equity.

10 Please silence all cell phones and  
11 electronic devices, and please do not approach the  
12 dais.

13 Chair, we're ready to begin.

14 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
15 everyone. My name is Farrah Louis, the Chair of the  
16 Committee on Women and Gender Equity.

17 Today, the Committee will vote on several  
18 pieces of legislation, all of which I am very proud  
19 to co-sponsor. They are Proposed Introduction to  
20 1200-A, sponsored by Council Member Cabán, a local  
21 law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of  
22 New York in relation to publicly available  
23 information regarding gender, identity-related rights  
24 and resources; Proposed Intro. 1201-A, sponsored by  
25 Council Member Hanif, a local law to amend the

Administrative Code of the City of New York in relation to a cause of action related to interference with reproductive gender-affirming healthcare; Proposed 1203-A by Council Member Ossé, a local law in relation to requiring the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs to conduct an assessment to support migrants who are transgender, gender non-conforming, non-binary, or intersex, and to develop a phase implementation plan to address gaps and supports; also sponsored by Council Member Ossé, Proposed Intro. 1204-A, a local law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York in relation to requiring the Commissioner of Health and Mental Hygiene to conduct an assessment and develop a health agenda regarding health inequities affecting transgender, gender non-conforming, non-binary individuals when compared to cisgender individuals and health inequities affecting intersex individuals.

Additionally, we will be voting for four resolutions today. They are Resolutions 0771 of 2025, sponsored by Council Member Bottcher, a resolution calling on the New York State Governor to sign S929-A2141, which having been passed by both the New York State Senate and the New York State Assembly would

extend protections over personal health information; Resolution 0774 of 2025, sponsored by Council Member Hudson, a resolution calling on the New York State Department of Health to implement regulations requiring hospitals in New York City to adhere to the World Professional Association for Transgender Health Standards of Care 8 to ensure medical professionals can provide high-quality and ethical treatment for individuals with gender dysphoria; and Resolution 0781 of 2025, sponsored by Council Member Schulman, a resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to introduce and pass and the Governor to sign legislation to prohibit out-of-state access to New York State prescription monitoring programs data for certain medications including abortion medication, hormone therapy, and pubic blockers; and finally, Resolution 0793 of 2025, also sponsored by Council Member Schulman, a resolution calling on the New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign S1633-A2613, which would provide additional protections for the sensitive health information of patients, including information related to abortion or gender-affirming care and require all health information networks, electronic health record

systems, and healthcare providers to provide patients with a right to restrict the disclosures of such patient's health information.

I would like to acknowledge my Colleagues, Council Members Cabán, Riley, Vernikov, and Gutiérrez. Welcome back.

Now I invite the sponsors of the legislation to give remarks. Council Member Bottcher.

COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Thank you so much, Chair Louis.

Today, I'm proud to be a Member of this Legislative Body, which is stepping up to fortify the rights of transgender and gender non-conforming people here in New York City. The right wing has been successful at politicizing the lives of trans people, and one of the reasons that they've been able to do that successfully is because, you know, unlike gays and lesbians, where most people know us in their lives, like, you know, almost anywhere in the country now, you either have a relative or a co-worker or someone in your community who's gay or lesbian, a lot of people don't know trans people just because there's so few in number numerically. But I truly believe that if more people knew transgender people

like, like we do, they would know that they are just people like you and me who just want to live their lives. They just want to live their lives and take care of themselves and their families and be happy and have healthcare and employment and a roof over their heads. The vicious discrimination that they encounter day in and day out makes it incredibly difficult for them to just do that, just live their lives. So that's why this legislation is important to help them just be who they are in the United States of America, which is supposed to be a country where you are allowed to be free and to be who you are. So that's why I'm proud that we're passing this package of legislation today.

I want to thank my co-chair, Council Member Tiffany Cabán. I want to thank my Legislative and Budget Director, Hannah Moses, and everyone else who helped make this possible.

CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you, Council Member Bottcher. Council Member Cabán.

COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Thank you very much. I'm going to be brief because I know we'll be talking about this again at Pre-Stated and Stated, but I just, this is important legislation. You know,

it's very simply, at least my bill requires New York City to communicate with TGNCNBI New Yorkers about all of their rights and the resources that are available, highlighting every resource, every fund, every program. This bill is about transparency, it's accessibility and solidarity, but most importantly, it's about survival. The whole package is about survival because we're not just defending an ideology here, we're defending lives, period. That is what we are doing, defending lives in the face of a Trump Administration that's rolling back healthcare protections, that's targeting trans youth, that's attempting to erase trans people from public life. Those are reminders that our work is just beginning, and New York City must continue to be a national leader, not just in resisting harm, but in actively advancing the rights and safety of the trans community. We have to validate trans and gender non-conforming existence at every level of local government because we've got the federal government returning ripped up passports and documents. It is left up to us, and you know, I will say that while, and there are, it's true, in other parts of the country and the world, you may not know a trans and

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2 intersex and non-binary individual, and you know, as  
3 part of our, as being part of the queer community,  
4 and specifically being part of a queer community that  
5 is hell-bent on protecting the civil rights and  
6 dignity of all people, we have, I have, trans and  
7 gender non-conforming people to thank for that, who  
8 have shown me that way, and have shown me how to  
9 fight for everyone, not just themselves, so I'm  
10 really proud and grateful to be able to stand up and  
11 fight for them in this really concrete material way  
12 today, so thank you.

13 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you, Council  
14 Member. Council Member Schulman, and Council Member  
15 Schulman's remote today.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Can you hear me?

17 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Yes, we can hear you.  
18 You can start.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Thank you, Chair  
20 Louis, and thank you to all my Colleagues for your  
21 leadership and support on this important legislative  
22 package.

23 As Chair of the Health Committee and a  
24 proud member of the LGBTQ+ Caucus, I'm deeply honored  
25 to sponsor Resolutions 781 and 793. These bills are a



direct response to the growing threats across the country targeting reproductive freedom and gender-affirming care, threats that too often use healthcare data as a weapon. Reso. 781 calls on the State to prohibit out-of-state access to the New York State Prescription Monitoring Program's data for medications like abortion pills, hormone therapy, and puberty blockers. No one should have to fear that seeking basic healthcare in New York could expose them to legal risks elsewhere.

Reso. 793 goes even further, calling on the Legislature and Governor to strengthen protections around sensitive health information and give patients the right to restrict how that information is shared. At a time when trans rights and reproductive rights are under coordinated attack, New York must lead by example. We must ensure that our healthcare system is a sanctuary, not a surveillance tool. This is about bodily autonomy. It's about privacy and it's about justice.

I'm proud to stand with all of you today as we take a bold step toward protecting the most vulnerable among us and ensuring that everyone in New

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2 York can access the care they need with dignity and  
3 safety. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you, Council  
5 Member.

6 Finally, I would like to thank my own  
7 Staff and the Members of the Women and Gender Equity  
8 Committee Staff, Senior Committee Counsel Julia  
9 Goldsmith-Pinkham, and Senior Legislative Policy  
10 Analyst Christy Dwyer, who worked to prepare for this  
11 hearing.

12 Clerk, we are ready to vote.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good  
14 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call  
15 vote Committee on Women and Gender Equity. All items  
16 are coupled. Chair Louis.

17 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: I vote aye on all.  
18 Congratulations to all bill sponsors.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Riley.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Cabán.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Proudly vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:  
24 Gutiérrez.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vernikov.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: No on all.

4 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Council Member

5 Vernikov, can you say your vote again?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: No on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

8 you. Excuse me. With a vote of four in the

9 affirmative, one in the negative, and no abstentions,

10 all items have been adopted by the Committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Thank you, everyone.

12 [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 June 11, 2025