

**LOCAL LAWS
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
FOR THE YEAR 2025**

No. 163

Introduced by Council Members Gutiérrez, Cabán, Hanif, Menin, Brannan, Riley, Ossé, Nurse, Joseph, Hudson, De La Rosa, Sanchez, Krishnan, Banks, Feliz, Louis and Zhuang.

A LOCAL LAW

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to creating an automated text messaging system to provide participants with guidance and reminders regarding children's health and development

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Subchapter 1 of chapter 1 of title 3 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 3-119.8.1 to read as follows:

§ 3-119.8.1 Automated text messaging system. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Child. The term "child" means a person under the age of 18.

Doula. The term "doula" has the same meaning as set forth in section 17-199.10.

Healthcare provider. The term "healthcare provider" means an individual duly licensed or otherwise authorized to practice a health profession pursuant to applicable law, such as a physician, registered professional nurse, nurse practitioner, and physician assistant.

Midwife. The term "midwife" has the same meaning as set forth in section 17-199.17.

Participant. The term "participant" means a parent or legal guardian responsible for a child, who has consented to receive text messages from the system established pursuant to subdivision b of this section.

b. System established. An office or agency designated by the mayor shall establish an automated text messaging system to send participants certain child health and development guidance and reminders including, but not limited to, medical checkups and vaccination schedules as recommended by the commissioner of health and mental hygiene, early childhood education program registration deadlines, and public school registration deadlines. Such system shall allow enrollment with a telephone number without requiring additional information, and shall provide participants the option to receive messages in one or more designated citywide languages, as defined in section 23-1101.

c. Outreach. The office or agency designated by the mayor, pursuant to subdivision b of this section, shall conduct an outreach campaign to inform the public, healthcare providers, doulas, and midwives of the availability of the system established pursuant to such subdivision. Materials used for such outreach shall be available in the designated citywide languages, as defined in section 23-1101, and any additional languages as determined by the agency or office designated by the mayor.

d. Personal identifying information. In carrying out the requirements of this section the office or agency designated by the mayor shall comply with all applicable provisions of federal, state, or local law relating to the protection of personal identifying information.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 1 year after it becomes law.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on October 29, 2025 and returned unsigned by the Mayor on December 1, 2025.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

I hereby certify that the form of the enclosed local law (Local Law No. 163 of 2025, Council Int. No. 1001-A of 2024) to be filed with the Secretary of State contains the correct text of the local law passed by the New York City Council, presented to the Mayor, and neither approved nor disapproved within thirty days thereafter.

SPENCER FISHER, Acting Corporation Counsel.