



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** Int 1209-2018 **Version:** A **Name:** Requiring the department of correction to utilize doula services.

**Type:** Introduction **Status:** Enacted  
**In control:** Committee on Criminal Justice

**On agenda:** 10/31/2018

**Enactment date:** 9/26/2021 **Enactment #:** 2021/095

**Title:** A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of correction to utilize doula services

**Sponsors:** Helen K. Rosenthal, Alicka Ampry-Samuel, Robert E. Cornegy, Jr., Diana I. Ayala, Kalman Yeger, Brad S. Lander, James F. Gennaro, Vanessa L. Gibson, Laurie A. Cumbo, Karen Koslowitz, Carlina Rivera, Selvena N. Brooks-Powers, Kevin C. Riley, Farah N. Louis, Inez D. Barron

**Indexes:** Council Appointment Required, Report Required

**Attachments:** 1. Summary of Int. No. 1209-A, 2. Summary of Int. No. 1209, 3. Int. No. 1209, 4. October 31, 2018 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 5. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 10-31-2018, 6. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - October 31, 2018, 7. Committee Report 4/27/21, 8. Hearing Testimony 4/27/21, 9. Hearing Transcript 4/27/21, 10. Proposed Int. No. 1209-A - 8/25/21, 11. Committee Report 8/26/21, 12. Hearing Transcript 8/26/21, 13. Committee Report - Stated Meeting, 14. August 26, 2021 - Stated Meeting Agenda with Links to Files, 15. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting 8-26-21, 16. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - August 26, 2021, 17. Int. No. 1209-A (FINAL), 18. Fiscal Impact Statement, 19. Legislative Documents - Letter to the Mayor, 20. Local Law 95

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/31/2018	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
10/31/2018	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
4/27/2021	*	Committee on Criminal Justice	Hearing Held by Committee	
4/27/2021	*	Committee on Criminal Justice	Laid Over by Committee	
4/27/2021	*	Committee on Women and Gender Equity	Hearing Held by Committee	
4/27/2021	*	Committee on Women and Gender Equity	Laid Over by Committee	
8/26/2021	*	Committee on Criminal Justice	Hearing Held by Committee	
8/26/2021	*	Committee on Criminal Justice	Amendment Proposed by Comm	
8/26/2021	*	Committee on Criminal Justice	Amended by Committee	
8/26/2021	A	Committee on Criminal Justice	Approved by Committee	Pass
8/26/2021	A	City Council	Approved by Council	Pass
8/26/2021	A	City Council	Sent to Mayor by Council	
9/26/2021	A	Administration	City Charter Rule Adopted	
9/27/2021	A	City Council	Returned Unsigned by Mayor	

Int. No. 1209-A

By Council Members Rosenthal, Ampry-Samuel, Cornegy, Ayala, Yeger, Lander, Gennaro, Gibson, Cumbo, Koslowitz, Rivera, Brooks-Powers, Riley, Louis and Barron

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of correction to utilize doula services

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 9 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 9-161 to read as follows:

§ 9-161 Doula services. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the term “doula” means a trained person who provides continuous physical, emotional and informational support to a pregnant person and the family before, during or shortly after childbirth, for the purpose of assisting a pregnant person through the birth experience; or a trained person who supports the family of a newborn during the first days and weeks after childbirth, providing evidence-based information, practical help and advice to the family on newborn care, self-care and nurturing of the new family unit.

b. The department shall retain an organization to make at least two doulas at any given time available to provide doula services twice a week, for four hours, at all department facilities that house incarcerated persons who identify as female, as well as to provide doula services during labor and delivery, upon request.

c. The department shall ensure that doula services are available at a frequency to be determined by factors including available department resources and exigent circumstances. The department shall permit doulas to access the nursery, as defined in section 9-142, to access areas where programming is typically provided and to accompany incarcerated individuals to medical appointments, upon request. All known pregnant individuals in the custody of the department are permitted to utilize doula services in labor, delivery and postpartum rooms. Prior to their entry into a departmental facility, doulas shall be subject to the department’s service provider processing security clearance protocol.

d. No later than January 15, 2023 and every six months thereafter, the department shall provide to the speaker of the council and publish on its website, in a machine readable format, a report on the number of doula service hours provided, the types of services provided, and the number of incarcerated individuals served in the

previous six month period.

e. No later than January 31, 2023, the commissioner of correction shall convene a working group composed of the speaker of the city council or the speaker's designee; commissioner of correction or the commissioner's designee; representatives from the department of health and mental hygiene; representatives from the organization providing doula services pursuant to subdivision b of this section; and department staff who regularly work on programming for incarcerated persons who identify as female. Until August 31, 2029, the working group shall meet every six months to review the reports required by subdivision d of this section, review relevant reports issued by the organization providing doula services, consider any reports issued by city agencies regarding maternal health and discuss improving communication, collaboration and efficiency related to pregnant individuals in custody. After September 1, 2029, the working group shall meet at least once a year to review relevant the reports required by subdivision d of this section, review relevant reports issued by the organization providing doula services, consider any reports issued by city agencies regarding maternal health and discuss improving communication, collaboration and efficiency related to pregnant individuals in custody.

§ 2. This local law takes effect 120 days after it becomes law.

RQ/BM/AM  
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