

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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March 25, 2026  
Start: 11:14 a.m.  
Recess: 11:22 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING  
ROOM 1

B E F O R E: Amanda Farías, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shirley Aldebol  
Jennifer Gutiérrez  
Kayla Santosuosso  
Lynn C. Schulman

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Virginia Maloney

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This  
3 is a microphone check on the Committee on Women and  
4 Gender Equity, recorded by Simone Eno (phonetic) in  
5 Hearing Room 1 on March 25, 2026.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning. Welcome  
6 to the New York City hybrid hearing on the Committee  
7 on Women and Gender Equity.

7 At this time, please silence all  
8 electronics and do not approach the dais.

9 Thank you for your cooperation.

10 Chair, you may begin.

11 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
12 everyone. I'm Council Member Amanda Fariás, and I'm  
13 the Chair of the Committee on Women and Gender  
14 Equity. Welcome to today's vote.

14 First, I'd like to acknowledge my  
15 Colleagues who are present, Council Members Schulman  
16 and Aldebol in person and Santosuosso virtually.  
17 Thank you all for being here.

17 Today, the Committee will consider two  
18 pieces of legislation: Proposed Resolution 359,  
19 sponsored by Council Member Louis, declaring March  
20 24th annually as Women of Color in Tech Day in the  
21 City of New York to recognize the contributions of

women of color to the technology industry and to acknowledge the challenges they still face; and Proposed Resolution 360, sponsored by Council Member Maloney, who just joined us, calling upon the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign H.J. Resolution 80 and S.J. Resolution 38, establishing the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

As we near the end of Women's History Month, we have the opportunity to advance two pieces of legislation that recognize and promote the advancement of women in New York City. Proposed Resolution 359 specifically was designed to promote the importance of respect, dignity, fairness, and equity in supporting Black and Latina women as they pursue tech careers. NPower, an organization headquartered in Brooklyn, celebrated the first Women of Color in Tech Day on March 12, 2020, and March 24 is currently designated as National Women of Color in Tech Day. Designating a Women of Color in Tech Day in New York City celebrates women of color in New York City excelling in the tech sector of the workforce, helping to address discrimination and inequality of

2 opportunity in the tech sector, and serving as a role  
3 model for younger girls of color.

4 I'd now like to read a statement from  
5 Council Member Louis on proposed Resolution 359, and  
6 as follows:

7 Good morning. Thank you, Chair Farías,  
8 for your leadership and for advancing this important  
9 resolution through the Committee on Women and Gender  
10 Equity. Today, I'm proud to bring forward Resolution  
11 359, which designates March 24 annually as Women of  
12 Color in Tech Day in the City of New York. This  
13 Resolution recognizes both the extraordinary  
14 contributions of women of color in the technology  
15 sector and the persistent barriers that continue to  
16 limit access to opportunity in one of the  
17 fastest-growing and most influential industries of  
18 our economy. Despite representing a significant share  
19 of our population, women of color remain drastically  
20 underrepresented in tech education and careers, often  
21 due to structural inequities, lack of access to  
mentorship, and limited pathways into the field. By  
establishing this day of recognition, we're not only  
celebrating achievement but also creating space for  
education, recruitment, and engagement. This is about

2 building visibility, strengthening pipelines, and  
3 ensuring that the next generation of innovators  
4 reflects the diversity and talent of our city. New  
5 York City has long been a leader in advancing equity  
6 and opportunity. This Resolution affirms our  
7 commitment to uplifting women of color, investing in  
8 their futures, and ensuring that they are not  
9 excluded from industries that shape our economic  
10 landscape. I urge my Colleagues to support Resolution  
11 359. Thank you.

12 I appreciate the received statement from  
13 Council Member Louis.

14 Furthermore, Proposed Resolution 360  
15 calls for the passage of a bipartisan, bicameral  
16 resolution intending to pave the way for the Equal  
17 Rights Amendment to become the 28th Amendment of the  
18 United States Constitution, guaranteeing equal rights  
19 for all people regardless of sex. With the passage of  
20 the Equal Rights Amendment, our country has the  
21 potential to create a framework to formally  
acknowledge systemic biases that permeate and often  
limit women's daily experiences. As women and people  
across the gender spectrum around the country are  
increasingly facing mounting attacks on their rights

2 and autonomy, the Equal Rights Amendment is an  
3 important tool in establishing gender equality, a  
4 tool that the New York City Council should promote  
5 and advocate for through the passage of Proposed  
6 Resolution 360.

7 I'll now turn it over to our sponsor of  
8 Proposed Resolution 360, Council Member Maloney, for  
9 her remarks.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MALONEY: Thank you so  
11 much, Chair Fariás. I'm Council Member Maloney and  
12 proud to be here as a co-sponsor of Reso. 359 and the  
13 lead sponsor on Reso. 360. For more than a century,  
14 women have organized, marched, and legislated to  
15 expand opportunity in this country. Yet, as we  
16 prepare for our 250th anniversary this summer,  
17 women's rights remain vulnerable to shifting  
18 political winds and are still not permanently  
19 enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. Only an Equal  
20 Rights Amendment will ensure that women's rights to  
21 healthcare, to financial security, to safety, and to  
equal legal protection are not temporary policies but  
permanent constitutional guarantees. So today I urge  
my Colleagues and the Members of the Women and Gender  
Equity Committee to support this Resolution that New

2 York City Council would like to see the federal  
3 government recognize the ERA as the 28th Amendment to  
4 the Constitution. New York has always led in the  
5 fight for women's equality, and today is no  
6 exception. The Council adds to a growing voice of New  
7 Yorkers demanding across a national movement that  
8 Congress finally recognize the will of the people.  
9 This is a 110-year fight that has spanned  
10 generations. So let us be clear, equality delayed is  
11 equality denied. The Equal Rights Amendment has  
12 already been ratified by 38 states, and now is time  
13 for Congress to act to remove the ratification  
14 deadline and recognize the ERA as an official  
15 amendment. Thank you very much.

16 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: Hear, hear, Council  
17 Member Maloney. Thank you.

18 Finally, I would like to thank my own  
19 Staff and the Members of the Women and Gender Equity  
20 Committee Staff, Senior Committee Counsel Julia  
21 Goldsmith-Pinkham, and Legislative Policy Analyst  
Katie Salina, who worked to prepare this meeting.

Clerk, we are ready to begin the vote.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.

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2 Roll call vote, Committee on Women and Gender Equity  
3 on Resolutions 359-A and 360. Items are coupled.

4 Chair Farías.

5 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

7 Gutiérrez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: I vote aye.

9 Congrats.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

11 you.

12 Schulman.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: I vote aye.

14 Congratulations to all.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Aldebol.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ALDEBOL: I vote aye, and

17 congratulations.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

19 Santosuosso.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SANTOSUOSSO: I vote aye

21 and want to thank Council Member Maloney in

particular for putting forward this important

Resolution. Thank you all.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

you.

21

2           With a vote of five in the affirmative,  
3 zero in the negative, and no abstentions, both items  
4 have been adopted by the Committee.

5           Madam Chair, that is a full Committee.

6           CHAIRPERSON FARÍAS: Thank you, Clerk.

7           This Committee is now happily adjourned.

8           Congratulations. [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 April 30, 2026