

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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November 2, 2023  
Start: 11:13 a.m.  
Recess: 11:18 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Shahana Hanif, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Carmen N. De La Rosa  
Shekar Krishnan  
Francisco P. Moya  
Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Sandra Ung

1 COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Check one, two. This is  
3 a prerecorded sound test for the Committee on  
4 Immigration. Today's date is November 2, 2023. It's  
5 being recorded by Michael Leonardo in the Council  
6 Chambers.

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

10 At this time, we ask that you silence  
11 cell phones and electronic devices to minimize  
12 disruptions throughout the hearing.

13 We thank you for your cooperation.

14 Chair, we are ready to begin.

15 CHAIRPERSON HANIF: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
16 everyone. I'm Council Member Shahana Hanif, Chair of  
17 the Committee on Immigration.

18 I'd like to begin my thanking my  
19 Committee Colleagues who have joined us here today,  
20 Council Members Carmen De La Rosa, Shekar Krishnan,  
21 Pierina Sanchez, and Fransisco Moya on the Zoom and  
22 Council Member Sandra Ung.

23 At today's hearing, the Committee will be  
24 voting on my bill, Intro. 569-B, in relation to a  
25 workers' bill of rights and outreach to immigration

2 workers. This bill was previously heard in a joint  
3 hearing with the Committee on Governmental  
4 Operations.

5           New York City is a city of immigrants.  
6 More than a third of the residents of this city are  
7 immigrants, and the city continues to attract folks  
8 from across the globe. This past year in particular  
9 we've seen New York City emphasized as a safe  
10 destination for migrants. We're grateful that our  
11 city continues to exist as a beacon for immigrants  
12 across the globe as an area of new beginnings and  
13 want to ensure that we are facilitating these  
14 possibilities. The bill we are voting on today would  
15 benefit newly arrived asylum-seekers and immigrants  
16 who have been living and working in New York. Intro.  
17 569 seeks to empower New York immigrant workers  
18 through the creation and publication of a workers'  
19 bill of rights. Immigrant workers are often  
20 vulnerable to employment abuses like wage theft or  
21 threats of deportation, all of which are heinous and  
22 illegal, but often don't understand their rights in  
23 the workplace. This bill specifies that the workers'  
24 bill of rights must include information under  
25 relevant federal, state, and local laws that apply to

2 employees in the city and would indicate which rights  
3 apply to workers regardless of immigration status  
4 including the right to organize a union. The bill  
5 would require employers to post this information  
6 conspicuously in the workplace and provide a copy to  
7 employees including online or on mobile applications  
8 for workers who operate through these mediums only.  
9 This bill would also require the Mayor's Office of  
10 Immigrant Affairs and the Department of Consumer and  
11 Worker Protection to perform outreach to immigrant  
12 workers to raise awareness of the workers' bill of  
13 rights, contact information for the City's legal  
14 service resources, information on what to expect if  
15 immigration enforcement authorities come to an  
16 individuals' workplace, and information regarding  
17 federal eligibility requirements of TPS following  
18 designations, extensions, and redesignations of such  
19 status.

20           Immigrant workers are an integral part of  
21 the New York City worker landscape but are often  
22 uniquely vulnerable to labor exploitation and  
23 confusion regarding their workplace rights. Intro.  
24 569 would support the protection and empowerment of

2 our city's immigrant workers, and I'm looking forward  
3 to a vote on this bill today.

4 I want to thank all of the Committee  
5 Staff for their work on this issue including Nicole  
6 Catá, Legislative Counsel; Rebecca Barilla, Policy  
7 Analyst; Florentine Kabore, Unit Head; Nia Hyatt,  
8 Finance Analyst. I would also like to thank my Staff,  
9 Chief-of-Staff Nora Brickner; Legislative and Budget  
10 Director Alex Liao; Communications Director Michael  
11 Whitesides; and everyone working in the background to  
12 make this joint hearing run smoothly.

13 I would also like to thank the New York  
14 City Central Labor Council and Legal Aid for their  
15 critical support and collaboration on this bill.

16 I will now turn it over to the Clerk to  
17 call the roll.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
19 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.  
20 Roll call vote Committee on Immigration on Proposed  
21 Introduction 569-B. Chair Hanif.

22 CHAIRPERSON HANIF: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Moya.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
3 you. De La Rosa.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: I vote aye and  
5 I want to congratulate the Colleagues on this  
6 important legislation.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Joseph.  
8 Krishnan.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ung.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
15 vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative,  
16 and no abstentions, item has been adopted by the  
17 Committee.

18 CHAIRPERSON HANIF: Thank you. [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 November 7, 2023