

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AND WORKER PROTECTION  
CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AND WORKER  
PROTECTION

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December 18, 2025  
Start: 11:18 a.m.  
Recess: 11:31 a.m.

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

B E F O R E: Julie Menin, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu  
Gale A. Brewer  
Amanda Farías  
Shekar Krishnan  
Chi A. Ossé

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Pierina Ana Sanchez  
Rita C. Joseph

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone  
3 check for the Committee on Consumer and Worker  
4 Protection recorded on December 18, 2025, located in  
5 Hearing Room 1 by Nazly Paytuvi.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and  
7 welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the  
8 Committee on Consumer and Worker Protection.

9 At this time, please silence all  
10 electronic devices.

11 No one may approach the dais at any time.

12 Chair, we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: [GAVEL] Good morning.  
14 My name is Julie Menin, Chair of the Committee on  
15 Consumer and Worker Protection. I want to welcome  
16 everyone to today's vote on Proposed Introductions  
17 408-A, 431-B, 1251-A, 1332-A, 1391-A, and Resolution  
18 499.

19 First of all, let me recognize my  
20 Colleagues who are here, Council Member Ossé,  
21 Majority Leader Fariás, Council Member Joseph,  
22 Council Member Sanchez, Council Member Abreu, Council  
23 Member Brewer, and I'll recognize additional  
24 Colleagues as they come.  
25

The bills we are voting on today represent major steps forward for some of the most vulnerable workers in our city, street vendors, contracted delivery workers, and security guards. So we're very excited about today's vote, and I think it represents a tremendous step forward for workers in our city. Proposed Introduction Number 408, sponsored by the Public Advocate, would create a Division of Street Vendor Assistance within the Department of Small Business Services to offer training and education and to conduct outreach to street vendors.

Proposed Introduction Number 431-B by Council Member Sanchez would expand the number of licenses that are available to vend food and merchandise on the sidewalks of New York City, and let me just add this is the first expansion of licenses for general vendors since the 1970s. It would also expand street vendor training, increase the share of enforcement agents required to inspect street vendor setups, as well as increase civil penalties for violations of certain siting requirements. This bill would add a requirement that vendors keep the area around their cart free from garbage, as well as maintain proof of proper trash

2 disposal. It would also expand the Street Vendor  
3 Advisory Board and require the Board to examine and  
4 make recommendations pertaining to these new  
5 requirements.

6 Proposed Introduction 1251-A, sponsored  
7 by Majority Leader Farías, would clarify that DOHMH  
8 and DCWP can continue to issue street vending license  
9 applications until the number of licenses issued  
10 reaches the maximum set by law, provided that there  
11 is a demand for the licenses.

12 Proposed Introduction Number 1332-A,  
13 sponsored by Council Member Brannan, would prohibit  
14 delivery services from deactivating at-base  
15 contracted delivery workers unless the deactivation  
16 is for just cause or bona fide economic reasons.

17 Proposed Introduction Number 1391-A,  
18 sponsored by Speaker Adams, would direct security  
19 guard employers to provide their security guard  
20 employees with minimum wage, paid vacation time, and  
21 supplemental benefits that meet or exceed the minimum  
22 wage, paid vacation time, and supplemental benefits  
23 required for private sector security guards engaged  
24 on New York City public building service contracts in  
25 excess of 1,500 dollars.

2 Resolution Number 499, sponsored by  
3 Council Member Joseph, calls on the United States  
4 Congress to pass and the President to sign the  
5 Protecting Consumers from Deceptive AI Act, which  
6 attempts to mitigate the risks posed by AI-generated  
7 content by requiring disclosures.

8 The hearings on these bills garnered  
9 substantial turnout with hours and hours of public  
10 testimony. The versions we are voting on today truly  
11 reflect that testimony and public input, as well as  
12 many more hours of meetings with stakeholders.

13 I really want to congratulate and commend  
14 each of the sponsors for their incredibly hard work  
15 in getting these very important bills to the finish  
16 line, and now I'm going to pass it to bill sponsors  
17 to make statements.

18 I'm going to start with Majority Leader  
19 Farías.

20 MAJORITY LEADER FARÍAS: Good morning,  
21 Chair Menin, and thank you, and good morning to the  
22 Members of the Committee. Thanks for the opportunity  
23 to offer remarks on Introduction 1251.

24 As many of you know, the Council has  
25 enacted legislation governing the issuance of

supervisory licenses for mobile food vendors, specifically through Local Law 18 of 2021, which will soon be joined by Introduction 431 and the Street Vendor Package local laws when passed today. Local Law 18 of 2021 requires the Department to make a specified number of supervisory license applications available in each 12-month period and establish cumulative limits on the total number of supervisory licenses that may be issued, along with borough designations and preference categories. Intro. 431 increases the number of supervisory licenses that can be issued every year, along with the cumulative total from the level set by Local Law 18. Licenses are issued under the current structure only when applicants complete the requirements of the process, and not every application made available results in a license being issued. As a result, the number of licenses being issued is less than what Local Law 18 of 2021 originally intended for, which would persist even with increases made under Intro. 431. My bill, Introduction 1251, fixes this problem by allowing the Department in later years to make additional supervisory license applications available so that the cumulative number of supervisory licenses issued

matches the totals already set in law. This bill also provides the same authorization to DCWP for general vending license applications because the bottlenecking issue is prevalent in the general vendors' licensing structure as well. Intro. 431 will make 10,500 additional applications available to prospective general vendors in 2027. With 1251 in its current form, this bottlenecking will be eliminated, and the rollouts can proceed without issue and as the law intends. I hope this Committee hears how critical this bill is to maintaining the integrity of the supervisory licensing and general licensing framework that the Council has already enacted. Advancing this legislation provides the Department with the logistical means to implement that framework as intended, and ensures that street vendors, a piece of our local economy, may continue to function and thrive. For these reasons, it is important that this Committee advance Introduction 1251.

Thank you again to Chair Menin, Council Member Sanchez, my Colleagues on the Committee, all of our co-sponsors of this legislation, the Committee Staff, Street Vendor Project, and the Administration for their work and engagement on this legislation. I

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2 urge my Colleagues to vote in favor of Introduction  
3 1251 and our street vendor package companion bills.  
4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: Thank you.

6 I'm now going to call on Council Member  
7 Sanchez, and let me just say I really want to  
8 congratulate Council Member Sanchez for the  
9 incredibly hard and difficult work in getting this  
10 bill to the finish line. You had an idea several  
11 years ago, you said it was a big idea, and I really  
12 want to commend you on bringing the stakeholders  
13 together on this important topic.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Thank you. Thank  
15 you so much, Chair Menin, and to all the Colleagues  
16 who really stayed on the course with this very  
17 challenging piece of legislation.

18 We're at a pivotal moment for street  
19 vending reform in our city. I'm the daughter and  
20 granddaughter of street vendors, and I really could  
21 not be more proud of how far we've come. Just days  
22 ago, we had a rally with bodegas, restaurants,  
23 supermarkets, standing side by side calling for one  
24 thing, to finally fix our broken street vending  
25 system. And that moment matters because it shows how



much has changed. When we started this, we were a city governed by a decades-old license caps that made legal compliance nearly impossible for most vendors, general vendors, and food vendors. Enforcement was inconsistent, ineffective, and insufficient, and stakeholders were so polarized that we even got pushback about having folks sit at the same table. Vendors felt criminalized, brick-and-mortar businesses felt ignored, and reform was stalled. But today we're here with a bill that is stronger, clearer, and more balanced than where we began, with broader brick-and-mortar support than ever before. 431-B, which I'm proud to co-sponsor, to sponsor, and co-sponsor I guess, expands access to street vending licenses to address the root cause of the disorder we have on so many of our sidewalks, an artificial scarcity that leaves vendors without a legal pathway. At the same time, we're pairing that access with real enforcement, clearer suspension and revocation standards for repeat violations, stronger penalties for unlicensed vendors who bypass a fair opportunity to comply, and new requirements around cleanliness and waste disposal. This finally creates real incentives for compliance and a foundation for order

2 on our streets. We are here because my colleagues,  
3 super majority of us, stakeholders, stayed at the  
4 table throughout the difficult conversations, and I  
5 want to take a moment to thank Chair Menin for your  
6 support on this legislation moving through your  
7 Committee, not just the vending bills, but all of the  
8 worker protection substance that we're moving today,  
9 and of course to Speaker Adams for keeping this bill  
10 on the agenda.

11 I thank my Colleagues for help getting us  
12 to this point, and I have to shout out the Staff who  
13 were up with us until well into 1, 2 a.m., I don't  
14 know what time it was. Rachel Cordero, Sarah Swaine,  
15 Natalie Meltzer, and my team, of course, Ben Ratner,  
16 Kim Castellanos, Gerard Fernandez, and the office  
17 team.

18 Implementation will not be easy, but I  
19 have to say this publicly. I am fully committed to  
20 staying the course, continuing to engage all  
21 stakeholders, and working with the next  
22 Administration, both in the Council and the Mayor's  
23 Office, to get this right for vendors, for brick and  
24 mortar businesses, and for all stakeholders, for all  
25 New Yorkers. Thank you.

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2 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: Great. Thank you, and  
3 let me just mention we've also been joined by Council  
4 Member Krishnan.

5 Council Member Joseph is going to make a  
6 statement on her Resolution.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Wonderful. Thank  
8 you, Chair Menin and Members of the Committee on  
9 Consumer and Worker Protection.

10 I'm pleased that my Resolution No. 499,  
11 which was introduced in 2024, is finally before the  
12 Committee for a vote today. Resolution 499 calls on  
13 the United States Congress to pass and the President  
14 to sign the Protecting Consumers from Deceptive AI  
15 Act. Colleagues, as you may know now, we are living  
16 in an era in which generative artificial intelligence  
17 can generate images, sounds, and videos that appear  
18 authentic, even when they're not. While these tools  
19 are often used for creative and functional purposes,  
20 they can also be misused to cause harm in targeting  
21 individuals, former friends, opponents, and even  
22 loved ones. By adopting this resolution, you're  
23 supporting my formal call for the federal  
24 government's action to require that these images,  
25 sounds, and videos generated by AI be clearly coded

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2 and identified as such. This transparency is  
3 essential to protecting consumers, maintaining public  
4 trust. Thank you for your collaboration in supporting  
5 and voting yes on this Resolution.

6 I am grateful to the team, Central Staff,  
7 and Colleagues who helped bring this resolution to a  
8 vote today. Thank you. Thank you, Chair Menin.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: Thank you so much.

10 And now we are going to ask the Clerk to  
11 call the roll.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:

13 Matthew DiStefano, Committee Clerk. Committee on  
14 Consumer and Worker Protection, roll call vote. All  
15 items are coupled.

16 Chair Menin.

17 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: Aye on all, and I want  
18 to congratulate all my Colleagues on these terrific  
19 bills.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: Abreu.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Congratulations to  
22 all my Colleagues. Pierina, I just want to say that  
23 I'm very, very proud of you. A lot of people are very  
24 proud of you. You worked your butt off to get this  
25 across the finish line, and you are a good listener

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2 and a great policymaker. I know this is important to  
3 your legacy and everything else that you're going to  
4 accomplish. I'm very proud of you. I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:  
6 Brewer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye. I,  
8 too, want to congratulate Council Member Sanchez,  
9 also Mohamed Atiyah from the Workers' Street Vendor  
10 Project. He is a hero in my book. And I want to just  
11 say to all non-profits, take a look at his  
12 leadership, because he does it right. I also want to  
13 thank the Workers' Justice Project Council, Member  
14 Brannan, and Lydia Glupa, because that, too, is a  
15 leader in terms of non-profit work. How you get  
16 legislation across has a lot to do with the  
17 advocates. I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:  
19 Farías.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO:  
22 Krishnan.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: I vote aye on  
24 all, and congratulations, Council Member Sanchez, for  
25 all your work to get to this place. Proud to be a

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2 partner with you in this effort and to fight by your  
3 side. Thank you, Chair.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: Ossé.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: I vote aye on all.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK MATTHEW DISTEFANO: By a  
7 vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative,  
8 and no abstentions, the items have been adopted.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENIN: [GAVEL] Thank you.

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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 December 28, 2025