

COMMITTEE ON HOSPITALS

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON HOSPITALS
VOTE*

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Wednesday, June 11, 2025
Start: 10:55 A.M.
Recess: 11:01 A.M.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Hon. Mercedes Narcisse, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Kristy Marmorato
Francisco P. Moya
Vickie Paladino
Carlina Rivera

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SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning, good morning, welcome to the New York City Council Vote on the Committee on Hospitals. At this time, please silence your electronic devices and do not approach the dais.

You may begin, Chair.

CHAIRPERSON NARCISSE: [GAVEL] Good morning. I'm Council Member Mercedes Narcisse, Chair of the Committee on Hospitals. Welcome to today's vote, where we will be voting on Proposed Resolution 339-B, sponsored by Council Member Carlina Rivera.

This resolution is in support of State Bill S.1226/A.6004, also known as the Local Input in Community Health Care Act or L I C H, LICH ACT.

I want to give my full-hearted support to this resolution. Hospitals, as providers of a public service, cannot be allowed to decide to unilaterally close locations. Transparency and community engagement are crucial to ensuring that the community members' health needs are considered and that the most vulnerable are not left behind by a wealthy hospital system's bottom line.

At our hearing in October of last year regarding hospital closures, we heard extensive,

compelling testimony about the impacts of hospital closures on neighborhood patient populations and the unfortunate lack of community engagement in the hospital closure process.

With the recent closure of Mount Sinai Beth Israel, this Council and our community members have become more acutely aware of the procedural issues that limit community engagement, which continues to expand existing healthcare deserts and exacerbate the negative outcomes that result from poor social determinants of health.

I can tell you that, as a nurse for over three decades, it is hard in our community. So, hospitals must work in tandem with their communities to ensure that existing health inequities are addressed and do not continue to grow. My Committee and this Council are committed to this fight.

Before I (INAUDIBLE) myself, I would like to make sure that all of my colleagues are here, all together, to fight this. And we have been talking about it, and it's about time that it happens. And I have to say, thank you, to my colleague, Council Member Rivera. I would like to thank Committee staff, Rie Ogasawara, Senior Legislative Counsel, and Joshua

Newman, Policy Analyst, for their diligent work in preparing for this vote. I would also like to thank my staff, Saye Joseph, Frank Shea, and Stephanie Laine, for their work as we continue to serve this City Council and our constituents.

Now, I would like to turn it over to my colleague, (UNINTELLIGIBLE) Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: (UN-MIC'D)
(INAUDIBLE) (LAUGHS)

ALL: (LAUGHTER)

UNKNOWN: Right? I'm like, who?

ALL: (LAUGHTER)

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: We all feel very honored when Chair Narcisse looks our way. Thank you for your opening remarks and for the time.

This is an important resolution. It forms a framework in terms of oversight when we are shutting down hospitals and closing areas of hospital that are critical to our communities, whether it's for mental health and addiction services, childbirth, emergency room services, all of the things that many of us have seen over the last 20 or so years be eliminated, specifically in low-income communities and communities of color.

In my district, where you saw Beth Israel--Mount Sinai Beth Israel closed, this has already had an impact on Bellevue Hospital in the area. We want to ensure that no one else's district is next. This bill would do that.

I would also like to thank Assembly Member Jo Anne Simon and State Senator Gustavo Rivera for putting this legislation forward. It has passed the Legislature, and we are hoping that Governor Hochul will sign it right away. Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON NARCISSE: Thank you. I now turn it over to the Clerk to call the vote.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin, Committee Clerk; roll call vote Committee on Hospitals on Proposed Introduction Number 339-B

(*Transcription Note: Resolution 339-B)

Chair Narcisse?

CHAIRPERSON NARCISSE: I vote aye.
Congratulations.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Correction, Resolution 339-B, my apologies, thank you, Chair Narcisse.

CHAIRPERSON NARCISSE: (LAUGHS) I vote aye, congratulations.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, thank you.

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Council Member Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Council Member Rivera?

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Brooks-
Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye,
congrats to my colleagues for passing this resolution
today.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
Gutiérrez?

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Paladino?

COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
Marmorato?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: I vote aye,
congratulations.

COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of seven in
the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
abstentions, the item is adopted by the Committee.
Madam Chair, that is a full committee.

CHAIRPERSON NARCISSE: Thank you.

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(PAUSE)
I will close the vote now. Thank you.

[GAVEL]

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 July 17, 2025