

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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January 29, 2024
Start: 11:07 a.m.
Recess: 11:12 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Farrah N. Louis, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Tiffany Cabán

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
3 check on the Committee of Women and Gender Equity
4 on the Council Chambers on January 29, 2024, by
5 Patrick Kurzyna.

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

9 Please silence all cell phones and
10 electronic devices.

11 Chair, we're ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: [GAVEL] Good morning
13 and welcome.

14 I want to start off by saying my name is
15 Council Member Farrah Louis. I represent the 45th
16 Council District. It's truly an honor for me to Chair
17 the Committee on Women and Gender Equity. It's truly
18 an honor to represent such a strong Committee where
19 we get to fight on behalf of this population of
20 people.

21 Before we start, I want to thank the
22 Lucero Elementary School for being here today from
23 Council Member Stevens' District. Usually, we don't
24 clap. We do this, so if you guys want to join me in
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1 doing this for being here today. All right. Thank you
2 for coming through today.

3
4 Today, we are here for a hearing on
5 legislation sponsored by my Colleague, Council Member
6 Shahana Hanif, related to establishing a program to
7 assist with changing door locks on the dwellings of
8 survivors of domestic and gender-based violence. This
9 legislation was heard last session in the Committee,
10 and all testimony from the hearing will be
11 incorporated into the recording for today's hearing.

12 Domestic and gender-based violence
13 continues to be a pervasive problem in this city, and
14 the work of this Committee has continuously focused
15 on considering legislation to combat domestic and
16 gender-based violence to provide resources to
17 survivors. This legislation continues in the
18 tradition as it requires the Mayor's Office to end
19 gender-based violence to establish a program that
20 would connect survivors with services to make repairs
21 to the doors of their households which could increase
22 a survivor's safety and well-being. This legislation
23 will also require reporting on the implementation of
24 this program so that we can measure the parameters of
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2 the program to see how it responds to the needs of
3 survivors.

4 In closing, I would like to thank my
5 Staff, Blake Shaw, Daniel Heredia, and my intern
6 (INAUDIBLE) for their support as well as Committee
7 Counsel Sahar Moazami and Senior Legislative Policy
8 Analyst Cristy Dwyer for their work on this hearing.

9 I would also like to acknowledge Council
10 Member extraordinaire Tiffany Cabán for joining us
11 this morning.

12 Now, I'll hand it back over to Sahar to
13 administer the oath.

14 COMMITTEE COUNSEL MOAZAMI: Thank you,
15 Chair. Good morning, everyone.

16 As a reminder, today is an in-person
17 hearing with the option of virtual testimony for the
18 public. The Committee will be accepting registrations
19 for testimony throughout the hearing.

20 For those wishing to testify in person,
21 please see the Sergeant-at-Arms in the back of the
22 hearing room to fill out a testimony card even if you
23 registered in advance online.

24 For those testifying via Zoom, your name
25 will be called and you will be prompted to unmute.

2 All those who wish to submit testimony,
3 you may do so at testimony@council.nyc.gov.

4 Today, the Administration will not be
5 testifying, but, as the Chair noted, their testimony
6 from the prior session will be incorporated into the
7 record for today's hearing.

8 From there, we will go to opening up
9 public testimony.

10 If there is anyone in the audience today
11 that would like to testify on this legislation,
12 please sign up a card and indicate so now.

13 I don't see anyone.

14 I also do not see any registrations on
15 Zoom.

16 I will note that we did have a
17 registration from a Jihay Fisher (phonetic). If they
18 are in attendance, if they would like to come up and
19 testify now.

20 If not, I don't see anyone present on the
21 Zoom or in the room who haven't had the opportunity
22 to testify.

23 I would like to note that written
24 testimony which will be reviewed in full by Committee
25 Staff may be submitted to the record up to 72 hours

2 after the close of this hearing by emailing it to
3 testimony@council.nyc.gov.

4 Chair, we have concluded public testimony
5 for this hearing.

6 CHAIRPERSON LOUIS: Being that there are
7 no members of the public here to testify, I want to
8 thank the Lucero Elementary School for coming back
9 again.

10 I also wanted to share my deep
11 condolences to the Vallone family on the passing of
12 Paul Vallone.

13 With that, this hearing is now adjourned.

14 [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 January 31, 2024