

COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH, DISABILITIES

AND ADDICTION

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON MENTAL HEALTH,  
DISABILITIES AND ADDICTION

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September 26, 2024  
Start: 10:37 a.m.  
Recess: 10:43 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Linda Lee, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu  
Tiffany Cabán  
Shahana Hanif  
Farrah N. Louis  
Kristy Marmorato

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Jennifer Gutiérrez

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone  
3 check for the Committee on Mental Health,  
4 Disabilities and Addiction. Today's date is September  
5 26, 2024, located in the Chambers. Recording is done  
6 by Rocco Mesiti.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and  
8 welcome to the New York City Council vote of the  
9 Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities and  
10 Addictions.

11 At this time and going forward, no one is  
12 to approach the dais. I repeat, no one is to approach  
13 the dais.

14 Chair, we are ready to begin.

15 CHAIRPERSON LEE: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
16 everyone. My name is Linda Lee and I'm the Chair of  
17 the Committee on Mental Health, Disabilities, and  
18 Addiction.

19 Today the Committee will vote on several  
20 pieces of legislation. First, Council Member Riley's  
21 Proposed Intro. 651-A, a local law to amend the  
22 Administrative Code of the City of New York in  
23 relation to requiring the Department of Health and  
24 Mental Hygiene to create and distribute materials  
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2 identifying mental health resources available to  
3 individuals who have experienced pregnancy loss.

4           Next, Council Member Gutiérrez's Proposed  
5 Intro. 869-A, a local law to amend the Administrative  
6 Code of the City of New York in relation to outreach  
7 and education regarding parental mental health  
8 resources, and Proposed Intro. 890-A, which I'm proud  
9 to co-sponsor, that is a local law in relation to  
10 implementing a pilot program to establish postpartum  
11 support groups.

12           Additionally, I'm proud to sponsor five  
13 Resolutions today. They are Reso. 402-2024, a  
14 Resolution calling on New York State Legislature to  
15 pass and the Governor to sign legislation to require  
16 health insurance plans to develop and implement a  
17 maternal mental health quality management program to  
18 promote access to affordable and comprehensive  
19 maternal mental health services; Reso. 403-2024, a  
20 Resolution calling upon the New York State  
21 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign  
22 legislation mandating all accredited psychiatry  
23 residency programs to offer a one-year post-residency  
24 fellowship program specifically focused on perinatal  
25 mental health; Reso. 404-2024, a Resolution calling

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2 on the New York State Legislature to pass and the  
3 Governor to sign legislation to require obstetricians  
4 and gynecologists to conduct maternal mental health  
5 screening during pregnancy and postpartum and to  
6 require Medicaid to cover such services; Reso. 405-  
7 2025, a Resolution calling upon New York State  
8 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign  
9 legislation mandating Medicaid managed care  
10 organizations to collect and report prenatal and  
11 postpartum depression screenings and follow-up data  
12 using HEDIS measures and, finally, Reso. 406-2024, a  
13 Resolution designating May annually as Maternal  
14 Mental Health Awareness Month in the City of New York  
15 and calling on New York State Legislature to pass and  
16 the Governor to sign S156/A6603, which would make the  
17 same designation statewide.

18 Now, I'd like to call upon Council Member  
19 Gutiérrez to make a statement on her bill.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you,  
21 Chair. I would like to first thank Speaker Adams and  
22 all of the co-sponsors of the bill who supported  
23 this. This Council, led by the first women majority,  
24 has done a tremendous amount of work to really create  
25 a safer and a more accessible atmosphere for parents,

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2 for new parents, and I think more importantly, to  
3 ensure that we're keeping women and women of color  
4 alive and safe during the pregnancy process and  
5 postpartum as well so I'm really, really proud to  
6 sponsor this bill, which would require the Mayor's  
7 Office of Community Mental Health to implement an  
8 education program to raise awareness about resources  
9 at every level of government addressing mental health  
10 challenges faced by parents so I'm super proud as,  
11 yes, a mom, but also as a representative, as someone  
12 who works really hard and diligently to raise  
13 awareness on the importance of healthy pregnancy,  
14 healthy postpartum, and to see and hear women and  
15 pregnant people and their unique experiences  
16 navigating pregnancy and the hospital process so I'm  
17 really thankful to the Speaker and all of my co-  
18 sponsors. I want to just shout out Anya Lehr, my  
19 Chief-of-Staff, and the whole team that went back and  
20 forth for a long time on this bill. I'm really  
21 grateful and thank you, Chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON LEE: Thank you so much,  
23 Council Member, and it definitely is exciting,  
24 especially as a women-led City Council and so many

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2 moms and young moms that are as part of the Council,  
3 so super excited for today's bills.

4 Finally, I'd like to thank my Staff and  
5 the Members of the Mental Health Disabilities and  
6 Addiction Committee staff who worked to prepare this  
7 hearing.

8 Clerk, we are ready to begin the vote.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
10 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.  
11 Roll call vote Committee on Mental Health,  
12 Disabilities and Addiction on Proposed Introductions  
13 651-A, 869-A, 890-A, and Resolutions 402, 403, 404,  
14 405, and 406. All items are coupled. Chair Lee.

15 CHAIRPERSON LEE: Aye on all.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Louis.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all and  
18 congratulations to all the bill sponsors.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Cabán.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CABÁN: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Abreu.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher.  
24 Hanif.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye on all and  
3 congratulations to my Colleagues.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.  
5 Marmorato.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MARMORATO: Aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
8 vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative,  
9 and no abstentions, all items have been adopted by  
10 the Committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON LEE: Yay. Wait, is anyone  
12 else coming? Okay.

13 And with that, we will close the vote.  
14 Thank you, everyone. [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 October 6, 2024