

NYC Department of Health and Mental
Hygiene

Public Hearing on Proposed Amendment
Article 203 recorded on
December 19, 2025

Time: 09:05 a.m.

Transcript of proceedings

By Omar Riberia

1 **CHARI ANHOUSE:**

2 Good morning, it's Friday, December 19th,
3 2025. The time is 9:05 a.m. I am Chari
4 Anhouse, Associate General Counsel of the
5 New York City Department of Health and
6 Mental Hygiene. Today here with me is
7 Gretchen Van Wye, Registrar from the Vital
8 Records Office, Svetlana Burdeynik, an
9 Assistant to the Secretary to the Board of
10 Health, and Joseph Russo, Paralegal in the
11 General Counsel's office. The purpose of
12 today's hearing is to elicit comments to
13 assist the Board of Health in its
14 consideration of the department's proposal
15 to amend Article 203 of the New York City
16 Health Code regarding termination of
17 pregnancy reporting. A notice of intention
18 to amend these rules was published in the
19 city record on Wednesday, November 19th,
20 2025. A copy of the first page of the
21 notice of intention will be provided to
22 the transcriber to include in the record.
23 Persons wishing to speak at this hearing
24 were asked to pre-register today, and they
25 will have a limit of three minutes to
26 speak. We have, I believe, three people
27 registered to speak today. If anybody is
28 present and would like to speak, please
29 raise your hand... if you are able. I see
30 T. Johnson. Did that person want to speak?
31 Could you turn... I see if you would
like... Oh, Linda Prine. Ms.

1 Prine, I see that you have your hand
2 raised. Please introduce yourself for the
3 record and go ahead.

4 **DR. PRINE:**

5 Hi, there. I'm Dr. Linda Prine. I've been a
6 primary care physician in New York State
7 for about 35 years. Most of those years I
8 worked at the Institute for Family Health,
9 which is a 17 health centers network, FQHC
10 that does provide medication abortions in
11 its primary care offices, and it is to the
12 primary care issue of this reporting that I
13 would like to speak to. Since the fall of
14 Roe, there's been pressure on primary care,
15 clinicians to step up and offer abortions
16 so as to improve access and also to free up
17 abortion clinics so that they can take the
18 influx of people from out of state who need
19 services. Having to do this reporting if
20 you're a primary care clinician is
21 extremely onerous. It's an extra 15 minutes
22 of logging into a fairly antiquated system
23 and inputting a big load of data. It makes
24 about as much sense to us as having to log
25 every knee injection we do, or every -- you
26 know, in primary care, we do a lot of
27 procedures, especially in family medicine
28 and needing to report on one particular
29 procedure just makes it so onerous that
30 people don't want to have to do the
31 procedure because it's an extra load of

1 work. Getting trained to do this, you have
2 to be credentialed to do this reporting.
3 There's this special device you have to use
4 and it's only on certain computers. It's
5 really a big pain in the rear for primary
6 care people to need to do this reporting.
7 And we actually do report to the Guttmacher
8 Institute in a fairly simple way. We use an
9 electronic health record called Epic, and
10 you can pull out of it how many of any
11 given procedure you've done and what... you
12 know, the ages of the patient, that
13 gestational age, the zip code, pretty much
14 all of the data that is requested on these
15 forms, we do already report to Guttmacher
16 who collects the data around the country
17 and publishes it. And that's done
18 seamlessly and easily because this
19 electronic health record allows for that
20 type of data pull. So, we would really like
21 you to stop requiring this reporting for
22 us. It's a deterrent for providing abortion
23 care. Thank you.

24 **CHARI ANHOUSE:**

25 Thank you, Ms. Prine. Is there anyone else
26 who would like to speak at this time? I
27 don't see... raise your hand if you would
28 like to speak. I'm not seeing any hands
29 raised. Okay. So we're going to adjourn
30 this meeting until 9:58 am. If anyone joins
31 in the interim and would like to speak, I

1 will... Linda Prine, we're waiting for your
2 colleague to join the meeting. Is there
3 anybody who's in the waiting room? Ms.
4 Burdeynik or Mr. Russo?

5 **JOSEPH RUSSO:** Not at the moment.

6 **CHARI ANHOUSE:** Okay. Ms. Prine, nobody's in
7 the waiting room. Nobody's in right now
8 trying to testify. So why don't we come
9 back and... it is now. What time is it now?
10 It is now 9:11 am. I'll come back at 9:15
11 am if she's in, she can testify and we'll
12 check in. Okay. So let's give... let's just
13 hold on for... we'll check out for about
14 five minutes. Okay?

15 **CHARI ANHOUSE:** It's 9:15.

16 If anybody is in the
17 meeting who would like to testify, please
18 raise your hand. Apparently there are some
19 issues getting into the meeting. I'm not
20 clear what the problem is. Ms. Prine just
21 indicated that... I'm looking at the chat.
22 Ms. Carpenter wanted to testify, but she
23 can't get into the meeting. We will
24 adjourn until 9:50 am ... till 10 of 10 am
25 and if she's able to get in before then we
26 will come back in and if not, we will then
27 adjourn till 10 o'clock. Okay. So, we
28 stand adjourned until 9:50. Thank you. Is
29 there's anyone else who wants to speak? If
30 not, I don't see any hands raised. Okay,
31 we will adjourn until 9:58. Thank you.

1 **CHARI ANHOUSE:**

2 We are back on the record.

3 It is now 9:58 a.m. The purpose of today's
4 hearing is to elicit comments to assist the
5 Board of Health in its consideration of the
6 department's proposal to amend Article 203
7 of the New York City Health Code regarding
8 termination of reporting. All comments must
9 be received by five o'clock today, 5:00
10 p.m. today. There being no other persons
11 joining online or calling us who wish to
12 speak, this hearing is now concluded. Thank
you so much.



Certificate of Translation Accuracy

I, Omar Riberia Muchunga competent to transcribe from English to English. I certify that the transcription of the video titled Proposal to Amend Article 203 Public Hearing is true and accurate to the best of my ability.

Through this letter, I certify the correctness of the transcription only. I do not guarantee that the original recording is genuine or that the statements contained within it are true.

Along with this certification, I include a copy of the original material presented to me and the completed transcription.

Sworn to be a true and accurate transcription of the original recording presented to me on

(Date) 1/15/2026.

Sincerely,

O. Muchunga

Signature

Name of the Translator: Omar Riberia Muchunga