



2021 ANNUAL
REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ISSUES



**SENATOR
JULIA SALAZAR**
CHAIR

CHAIR
WOMEN VICTIMS, CRIME & CORRECTION
WOMEN'S ISSUES

COMMITTEE MEMBER
BUDGET & REVENUE
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
FINANCE
HEALTH
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
LEGISLATIVE WOMEN'S CAUCUS



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December 2021

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Women's Issues for the 2021 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2021 session, this committee met two times in session and reported nine bills. An additional bill was discharged to Rules near the end of the legislative session. The Committee did not hold any hearings or roundtables this past year.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support of the work that was done in the committee this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the committee's operations.

Sincerely,
Julia C. Salazar

Senator, 18th District

**2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT
NEW YORK STATE SENATE**

STANDING COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ISSUES

Senator Julia C. Salazar

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Senator Samra G. Brouk Senator Daphne Jordan, *Ranking Member*
Senator Pete Harekham Senator Alexis Weik
Senator Anna M. Kaplan
Senator José M. Serrano

COMMITTEE STAFF

Veronica Cruz - Director
Carolyn Sheridan - Policy Advisor
Amanda Rodriguez - Committee Clerk

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Women's Issues has legislative responsibilities concerning the rights, health, and any issues pertaining to women in New York State. This includes legislation dealing with reproductive health, bodily autonomy, and women's rights.

During the 2021 Legislative Session, eighteen bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, nine were reported from the Committee and an additional that had been referred to the Committee was discharged to Rules near the end of the legislative session. Six bills were passed in both houses. Five of those bills were chaptered and one is awaiting action by the Governor. This work was conducted through a series of two committee meetings. A list of all bills that were reported from the committee is provided at the end of this report.

The New York State Standing Committee on Women's Issues did not hold any hearings or legislative roundtables.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

During the 2021 Session, the Women’s Issues Committee held two meetings. Six bills were passed by both houses, two of which pertain to services provided to pregnant people. S399A by Senator Biaggi provides additional rights to pregnant individuals who are incarcerated. These rights include allowing a person to be present in the delivery room, providing information on nursing, pregnancy counseling, and abortion services. This bill was signed into law as Chapter 621. S4827 by Senator Salazar requires the department of financial services to review the covered benefits for childbirth. This bill was signed into law as Chapter 787.

Four bills dealt with education on childbirth and health. S201B by Senator Persaud will require that information and pamphlets be made available for patients undergoing a pelvic exam. This bill passed both houses and was signed into law as Chapter 272. The second bill was S3209 by Senator Salazar. This requires education and outreach on the donation of postnatal tissues, such as the placenta, umbilical cord, and amniotic fluid. These are all tissues that have been used in cutting-edge medical procedures. This bill was signed into law as Chapter 284. The third bill, S3474 by Senator Cooney, enacts “Lian’s Law”. This requires that information be shared with pregnant people about preeclampsia. This bill was signed into law as Chapter 286. S6957 by Senator Brouk requires that reproductive health conditions that affect female fertility be included as part of healthcare and wellness education and outreach. This was signed into law as Chapter 248.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

During the 2021 Legislative Session, eighteen bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, nine were reported from the Committee. Five were passed in both houses, of which six were chaptered and one is awaiting action by the Governor.

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S210B	Persaud	Requires the department of health to develop an informational pamphlet for patients undergoing pelvic examinations and to make the informational pamphlet available	Signed as Chapter 272
S399A	Biaggi	Provides additional rights to pregnant inmates	Signed as Chapter 621
S3209	Salazar	Requires healthcare and wellness education and outreach on the donation of postnatal tissue and fluids	Signed as Chapter 284
S3474	Cooney	Enacts “Lian’s law”	Signed as Chapter 286
S4827	Salazar	Directs the department of financial services to review covered benefits related to childbirth	Signed as Chapter 787
S6957	Brouk	Requires that information on fertility issues be part of education and outreach	Signed as Chapter 248

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S210B	Persaud	Requires the department of health to develop an informational pamphlet for patients undergoing pelvic examinations and to make the informational pamphlet available	Signed as Chapter 272
S399A	Biaggi	Provides additional rights to pregnant inmates	Signed as Chapter 621
S401	Biaggi	Relates to women’s health in correctional facilities	Reported to Finance
S3209	Salazar	Requires healthcare and wellness education and outreach on the donation of postnatal tissue and fluids	Signed as Chapter 284
S3472	Biaggi	Requires feminine hygiene products to be offered for free in non-public schools	Reported to Education
S3474	Cooney	Enacts “Lian’s law”	Signed as Chapter 286
S4821	Salazar	Relates to prohibiting drug or alcohol testing and screening of pregnant women	Reported to Health
S4827	Salazar	Directs the department of financial services to review covered benefits related to childbirth	Signed as Chapter 787
S5633	Parker	Enacts the “public university emergency contraception education act”	Committed to Rules
S6957	Brouk	Requires that information on fertility issues be part of education and outreach	Signed as Chapter 248



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STANDING COMMITTEE**

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