



2020 ANNUAL
REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ISSUES



**SENATOR
JULIA SALAZAR**
CHAIR

CHAIR
WOMEN'S ISSUES
COMMITTEE MEMBER
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
ELECTIONS
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
HEALTH
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
SOCIAL SERVICES



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December 21, 2020

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 2020 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to lead our efforts in addressing important matters facing women throughout the state.

During the 2020 session, this Committee met twice and reported five bills. The Committee also held two roundtables. The first addressed the egregious rates of Maternal & Child Health Mortality in upstate NY. The second covered Technology and its ever-growing relationship to Domestic Violence.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee and you, Senate Leader Cousins, for your continued support of the Committee's operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Salazar". The signature is stylized and fluid, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Senator Julia Salazar
Chair, Women's Issues Committee

2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ISSUES

Senator Julia Salazar, Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Majority

Senator Gaughran

Senator Kaplan

Senator Mayer

Senator Metzger

Minority

Senator Little

Senator Ritchie

COMMITTEE STAFF

Veronica Cruz, PhD, Director of the Women's Issues Committee

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Women's Issues has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning women's rights, equality, equity, protection, and health.

During the 2020 Legislative Session, fifteen bills were referred to the Committee for review. Of these bills, five were reported from the Committee. One bill passed both the Senate and Assembly and was enacted.

The Women's Issues Committee met twice in 2020. Additional planned meetings were not held due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A list of all bills reported from the Committee is provided at the end of this report.

The Women's Issues Committee also held two Roundtables. The first addressed the egregious rates of Maternal & Child Health Mortality in upstate NY. The second covered Technology and its ever-growing relationship to Domestic Violence. Both Roundtables convened over Zoom and included the participation of advocates and experts from throughout New York State as well as other Senators and Committee Chairs.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the Committee in 2020

Major Bills Chosen By The Committee Chair To Highlight

Bill	Summary
S3126	Relates to women's health in correctional facilities.
S4947	Requires healthcare and wellness education and outreach on the donation of postnatal tissue and fluids.
S5089	Enacts the "public university emergency contraception education act."
S6707	Requires the department of health of the state of New York to conduct a study of the effects of racial and ethnic disparities on breastfeeding rates and prepare and submit a report.
S7544	Requires the department of health to develop an informational pamphlet for patients undergoing pelvic examinations and to make the informational pamphlet available.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2020, one of the bills referred to the Standing Committee on Women's Issues passed both houses of the Legislature and was enacted.

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S6707	Benjamin	Requires the Department of Health of the state of New York to conduct a study of the effects of racial and ethnic disparities on breastfeeding rates and prepare and submit a report.	Chapter 308 of the laws of 2020.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

List of All Bills Reported from the Women's Issues Committee

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action
S3126	Biaggi	Relates to women's health in correctional facilities.	Reported out of Committee 3/2/20
S4947	Rivera	Requires healthcare and wellness education and outreach on the donation of postnatal tissue and fluids	Reported out of Committee 2/10/20
S5089	Parker	Enacts the "public university emergency contraception education act"	Reported out of Committee 3/2/20
S6707	Benjamin	Requires the department of health of the state of New York to conduct a study of the effects of racial and ethnic disparities on breastfeeding rates and prepare and submit a report.	Chapter 308 of the laws of 2020.
S7544	Persaud	Requires the Department of Health to develop an informational pamphlet for patients undergoing pelvic examinations and to make the informational pamphlet available.	Reported out of Committee 2/10/20



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STANDING COMMITTEE**

WOMEN'S ISSUES