

**Testimony of Commissioner Vilda Vera Mayuga  
New York City Department of Consumer and Worker Protection**

**Before the Committee on Civil Service and Labor  
Oversight Hearing on the Impact of Automation on the New York City Workforce and  
Introduction 1066**

**June 26, 2025**

***Introduction***

Good morning, Chair De La Rosa, and members of the Committee on Civil Service and Labor. I am Vilda Vera Mayuga, Commissioner of the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP). Thank you for the opportunity to testify on the impact of automation on the New York City workforce.

***Local Law 144 of 2021***

The Department of Consumer & Worker Protection enforces Local Law 144 of 2021, which regulates automated employment decision tools (“AEDT”) and prohibits employers and employment agencies from using an AEDT unless the tool has been subject to a bias audit within one year of the use of the tool. The law also requires that employers make information about the bias audit publicly available and provide certain notices to employees or job candidates.

Local Law 144 passed in the final month of the de Blasio administration. It has broad applicability to individuals and businesses across the city, especially with respect to the bias audit, itself a novel and, at the time, undefined concept. Local Law 144’s implementation presented a number of challenges for the agency, first among them that the agency is not a subject matter expert in artificial intelligence or discrimination issues. Furthermore, the de Blasio administration did not provide the agency with new resources to address this gap. Despite these obstacles, DCWP engaged in a robust process for rulemaking and implementation, including multiple public hearings, with a goal to achieve the appropriate regulatory balance between the needs of businesses and the rights of job applicants and candidates for promotion. In order to ensure an informed and education-oriented approach, in what was and remains an issue area outside the scope of the agency, we collaborated with the NYC Office of Technology and Innovation (OTI) to advise on our rules. We also hosted multiple educational and informative roundtables with various stakeholders, including the audit industry, business advocates, and civil rights advocates. Following the implementation of our rulemaking, we also endeavored to notify all agency partners, such as our community and faith-based organizations, business associations, elected officials, community boards, and sister agencies, of Local 144, including a FAQ for additional information and guidance. To date, DCWP has not received a significant number complaints regarding Local Law 144. We will continue to maintain a culture of compliance by taking an education-first approach with stakeholders and support our workers and businesses using all available resources.

***Introduction 1066***

Introduction 1066 would require the Department of City Administrative Services (DCAS) and DCWP to serve on an interagency task force to examine the impacts of artificial intelligence on civil service and civil service employees. DCWP defers to OTI’s testimony with respect to the

Administration's position on the bill. That said, as a municipal consumer and worker protection enforcement agency, DCWP is not a subject matter expert in artificial intelligence or labor management.

***Conclusion***

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before the committee on these issues.