



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas F. O'Mara

## O'Mara: Senate 'one-house' budget an ongoing fiscal disaster for taxpayers (WATCH)

THOMAS F. O'MARA March 13, 2025

| ISSUE: **2025-2026 STATE BUDGET**



Senator O'Mara has served as the Ranking Member on the Senate Finance Committee since 2021.

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# News Release

## NYS SENATOR TOM O'MARA

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### O'MARA: SENATE 'ONE-HOUSE' BUDGET AN ONGOING FISCAL DISASTER FOR TAXPAYERS

**Albany, N.Y., March 13**—State Senator Tom O'Mara (R,C-Big Flats), Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee, today warned that a “one-house” budget resolution approved today by the Senate [REDACTED] majority proposes billions of dollars in new state spending that is “unaffordable and unsustainable” and will continue to threaten state and local economies, and drive more and more New Yorkers out of the state.

O'Mara, opening debate for the Senate [REDACTED] Minority Conference on the floor of the Senate, said that Senate [REDACTED] majority is calling for spending far beyond the approximately \$252-billion plan proposed by Governor Kathy Hochul in her 2025-2026 Executive Budget, which is already nearly \$9 billion higher than New York's current spending.

According to the Senate [REDACTED] majority finance staff, the Senate [REDACTED] majority budget proposes an approximately \$259-billion state budget this year or at least \$7 billion higher than Hochul's proposed budget and more than \$15 billion higher than current spending. If enacted, it would mark the highest-ever state budget. According to O'Mara, the Senate [REDACTED] majority also project that their proposed spending plan, if enacted, would lead to a string of state budget deficits over the next three fiscal years totaling \$6.5 billion in 2027, \$9.8 billion in 2028, and \$11 billion in 2029.

O'Mara said, “Is it affordable and is it sustainable for the citizens of New York State to continue down this road of spending? The Senate [REDACTED] minority warned that Governor Hochul's out-of-control state spending plan would only skyrocket once the Legislature's [REDACTED] majorities, the biggest spenders in state history, got their hands on it. That's exactly where we're headed again under all-[REDACTED] majority, one-party control. It remains irresponsible, unaffordable, unsustainable fiscal insanity. Governor Hochul's proposed Executive Budget is a plan of misguided and misplaced priorities, but the Senate [REDACTED] majority try to correct it with higher taxing and even higher spending. It doesn't respond to the issues of affordability for everyday New York families, taxpayers, and workers. It won't stop the exodus of New York taxpayers and employers to other states, and it risks further devastating already hard-hit state and local economies.”

The state Assembly [REDACTED] majority “one-house” budget resolution calls for increasing state spending by an estimated \$2 billion more than the Senate.

The Legislature's [REDACTED] majorities are approving their respective one-house resolutions in advance of final budget negotiations with Hochul. The one-house budgets traditionally stake out legislative priorities entering the negotiations on a final budget scheduled to be in place by April 1.

O'Mara stressed that the direction being pursued by Hochul and legislative leaders sets the stage for a final state budget this year that would significantly increase short- and long-term state government spending commitments, add billions of dollars to a state debt burden that is already one of the nation's highest, and risk additional long-term costs for already overburdened counties and local property taxpayers

[View Senator O'Mara's remarks on the floor of the Senate today [HERE](#).]