

O'Mara on state budget: 'Another late, bloated, unaffordable spending spree'

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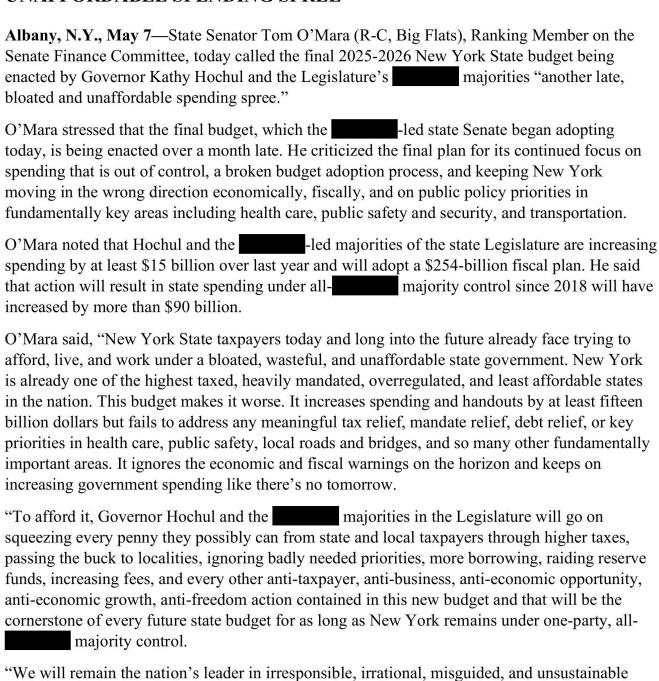


During debates on the floor of the state Senate, Senator O'Mara, Ranking Member on the Senate Finance Committee, has helped lead the Senate Minority Conference's opposition to the state's budget adoption process and New York's final 2025-2026 budget.

New York State taxpayers today and long into the future already face trying to afford, live, and work under a bloated, wasteful, and unaffordable state government.

News Release

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spending that will overburden and make this state unlivable for taxpayers, families, workers,

small businesses, manufacturers, farmers, and every segment of our local communities and economies."

O'Mara also strongly criticized the state's budget adoption process that has produced a string of late state budgets and continues to allow the use of "messages of necessity" to rush through votes on final budget legislation. He said the existing process prevents individual legislators, and the public, from having adequate time to review and debate budget legislation before it's voted on and enacted.

"It's time to bring this state's budget adoption process into the modern day, especially at this time when one-party control keeps on producing skyrocketing state spending plans that are increasingly chock-full of policy initiatives that should, for accountability's sake, be given standalone consideration," O'Mara said. "Fundamental checks and balances have effectively been thrown out in this state government. Governor Hochul and the Legislature's majorities go on working behind closed doors to allocate state taxpayer dollars and set in motion farreaching public policies impacting our local citizens, communities, and economies in consequential ways.

"The state budget demands a full public airing and the appropriate time for review and debate, but that's never what we get. It's a broken process that blindfolds the public and keeps producing bloated state budgets that taxpayers will never be able to afford."