

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 15, 2019

## Legislature Announces Joint Budget Hearing Schedule

Senate Finance Committee Chair Liz Krueger and Assembly Ways and Means Committee Chair Helene E. Weinstein today announced the <u>Joint Legislative Hearing Schedule</u> on the 2019-2020 Executive Budget Proposal.

These hearings, each of which focuses on a programmatic area, are intended to provide the appropriate legislative committees with public input on the Executive Budget proposal.

The hearings will be available for viewing on the <u>Senate</u> and <u>Assembly</u> websites. The Legislative Channel (on <u>cable systems</u> throughout the state) also will carry the proceedings, which will be preempted when the houses are in session. At the conclusion of the legislative deliberations, the channel will resume televised coverage of the hearings.

In accordance with the schedule, the hearings will commence on Wednesday, January 23, and conclude on Tuesday, February 12, 2019. The respective state agency or department heads will begin testimony each day, followed by witnesses who have requested to testify on that area of the budget. Those scheduled to testify must limit comments to no more than 5 minutes.

Requests to testify must be made by contacting the appropriate person listed on the schedule no later than the close of business, two business days prior to the respective hearing.

Witnesses scheduled by the committees to testify in person are required to send a copy of their prepared testimony via email at least 48 hours in advance of the hearing to both <a href="mailto:financechair@nysenate.gov">financechair@nysenate.gov</a> and to <a href="mailto:wamchair@nyassembly.gov">wamchair@nyassembly.gov</a>, and must provide 50 copies of their testimony on the day of the hearing. Please indicate in the subject field of the email which hearing your testimony relates to. Witnesses may not be permitted to testify if the above time frames are not adhered to. Witnesses also are encouraged to summarize their key points and submit the rest of their testimony in writing only.

Due to time constraints related to provisions of the New York State Constitution concerning the approval of the state budget by April 1st, only a limited number of witnesses can be accommodated at any given hearing. However, any party may still provide written testimony to the committees at the above email addresses, at any time up until seven (7) days after the date of the hearing.

The agency and the departmental portion of the hearings are provided for in Article 7, Section 3 of the Constitution and Article 2, Section 31 of the Legislative Law. The state Legislature is also soliciting public comment on the proposed budget pursuant to Article 2, Section 32-a of the Legislative Law.

-30-

Note: Click here to view Hearing Schedule

## **2019 Joint Legislative Hearing Schedule**

(Hearings to be held in Hearing Room B, Legislative Office Building, Albany)

| January 23  | Wednesday | 9:30 AM  | Environmental Conservation                    | Mitzi Hart<br>455-2297      |
|-------------|-----------|----------|---|-----------------------------|
| January 24  | Thursday  | 9:30 AM  | Human Services                                | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
| January 28  | Monday    | 11:00 AM | Higher Education                              | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
| January 29  | Tuesday   | 9:30 AM  | Public Protection                             | Mitzi Hart<br>455-2297      |
| January 30  | Wednesday | 9:30 AM  | Transportation                                | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
| February 4  | Monday    | 11:00 AM | Housing                                       | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
|             |           | 3:00 PM  | Workforce Development                         | Mitzi Hart<br>455-2297      |
| February 5  | Tuesday   | 9:30 AM  | Health/Medicaid                               | Mitzi Hart<br>455-2297      |
| February 6  | Wednesday | 9:30 AM  | Elementary and Secondary Education            | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
| February 7  | Thursday  | 9:30 AM  | Mental Hygiene                                | Mitzi Hart<br>455-2297      |
| February 11 | Monday    | 11:00 AM | Local Government Officials/General Government | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
| February 12 | Tuesday   | 9 30 AM  | Economic Development                          | Mitzi Hart<br>455-2297      |
|             |           | 1:00 PM  | Taxes   | Clinton Freeman<br>455-5462 |
|             |           |          |   |                             |

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