

# 2017 Legislative Report

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS AND  
RECREATION

SENATOR RICH FUNKE, CHAIRMAN





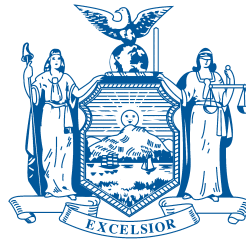


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COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
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CONSUMER PROTECTION  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION  
HIGHER EDUCATION

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



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Dear Leader Flanagan:

It is my pleasure to submit the Annual Report of the New York State Senate Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism and Recreation for the 2017 Legislative Session. The Annual Report details the Committees activity from January 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. In that time, 69 bills were assigned to the Committee with 12 bills signed into law and none vetoed by the Governor. I am proud of our committee's commitment to support our state's fourth largest industry.

The committee reviewed a number of important topics in the budgetary and legislative process such as Tourism Matching Grants, recycling at state parks, and promoting senior friendly tourism attractions. I was proud to work with my colleagues in the legislature to achieve positive outcomes and advance the tourism industry of New York State.

As we all know, travel and tourism are vital to our economy. In 2016, tourism generated \$8.2 billion in state and local taxes. Some 780,000 jobs were sustained by tourism activity last year with a total income of \$34.6 billion – that's 1 in 12 of all state jobs sustained by tourism, either directly or indirectly. With the Committee's support, the Enacted 2017-18 Budget included an increase of \$700,000 for Tourism Matching Grants that go directly to our local municipalities and serve as a revenue source.

I want to extend a personal thank you to the members of the Committee for their hard work and well thought-out opinions. Our Committee will continue to support the world-class arts and culture, sports and recreation, entertainment and nightlife and agritourism sectors that make New York State a premiere destination for individuals across the country and around the world to visit. I look forward to continuing to work together to improve New York State in my capacity as Chair of the Cultural Affairs, Tourism and Recreation Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rich Funke".

Rich Funke  
Chair, Cultural Affairs, Tourism and Recreation Committee





**2017 Legislative Report**  
**New York State Senate**  
**Standing Committee on**  
**Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation**

**Senator Rich Funke, Chairman**

**Committee Members**

**Senator Marisol Alcántara**

**Senator Tony Avella**

**Senator Pamela Helming**

**Senator Betty Little**

**Senator Carl Marcellino**

**Senator Kathleen Marchione**

**Senator Patty Ritchie**

**Senator Sue Serino**

**Senator José Serrano,  
Ranking Minority Member**

**Senator Brad Hoylman**

**Senator Tim Kennedy**

**Senator Roxanne Persaud**

**Committee Staff**

**Laura Manley, Director**

**Trevor Bender, Clerk**

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## Dutchess County Tourism Trip

This year, Senator Funke was able to travel to Dutchess County to attend a series of meetings and site visits hosted by Senator Sue Serino. The two Senators were able to visit historic sites at Mills Mansion, Franklin D. Roosevelt Library and Museum and Val Kill - experiencing firsthand all the positive impact that local partnerships and comprehensive integration of various local, state and federal programs have had on promoting tourism in the area.

Afterward, the group was able to stop by the Walk Way Over the Hudson, a state owned and operated bridge that stands 212 feet over the Hudson River and hosts over 500,000 visitors every year to hear about all the amazing things that are able to take place there through the state partnership Walkway Over The Hudson organization.

Lastly, the group visited private businesses to hear more about what the State Legislature can do to help promote all that New York has to offer in the private world. Stops included: The Round House in Beacon; a tour of Bard Colleges Fisher Center, a world-class theatre facility; the oldest operating inn in the country at Beekman Arms; The Gallery @ Rhinebeck; Samuel's Sweet Shop; Oliver Kita, which was named one of the Top Ten Chocolatiers in North America by *Dessert Professional Magazine*; the Rhinebeck Department Store; and Paper Trail.

A special thank you to Senator Serino and her staff, Mary Kay Vrba with Dutchess Tourism, Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro, and all of the groups listed above that were gracious enough to host us on this trip.

## Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation Bills signed into Law:

Chapter	Bill No.	Title
341	A1584C	<b>Woerner</b> -- Amends the definition of "snowmobile" to exclude certain other vehicles with aftermarket ski and track configurations
115	A6867	<b>Dickens</b> -- Authorizes the formation of the Heights heritage area; repealer
68	A7701	<b>Williams</b> -- Extends certain provisions of law relating to the resale of tickets to places of entertainment through June 30, 2018
460	A8161A	<b>Lupardo (MS)</b> -- Relates to developing a senior tourism program
16	S975	<b>LANZA</b> -- Requires organizations applying for arts and cultural grants from the state council on the arts to demonstrate that their principal place of business is within New York state
276	S3019	<b>RITCHIE</b> -- Directs the commissioners of health and environmental conservation to study and develop a long term strategy to encourage outdoor environmental education and recreation
312	S4084A	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Requires the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to collect discarded recyclable materials at parks, historic sites and recreational facilities
386	S5533B	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Adds the United States sailing association to those allowed to give boating safety courses
150	S5943	<b>JACOBS</b> -- Amends chapter 595 of the laws of 2007 relating to establishing the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor commission in Buffalo, in relation to the effectiveness thereof
390	S6091A	<b>SAVINO</b> -- Relates to the base pilotage tariffs at Sandy Hook, Sands Point and Execution Rocks
392	S6470B	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Relates to pilotage fees on vessels transiting the New York state waters of Long Island Sound or Block Island Sound east of Execution Rocks or Sands Point
158	S6524A	<b>SERINO</b> -- Authorizes the city of Poughkeepsie, in the county of Dutchess, to discontinue the use of certain lands as parklands and to sell and convey such lands, which are to be replaced by different parklands

## Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation bills Reported from Committee:

<b>S136</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Authorizes persons under the age of eighteen to participate in certain organized racing and competitive events involving snowmobiles
<b>S205</b>	<b>MARCHIONE</b> -- Directs the commissioner of parks, recreation and historic preservation to cooperate with municipalities in establishing adopt-a-park programs
<b>S371</b>	<b>ORTT</b> -- Enacts the "Niagara parks reinvestment act"
<b>S401</b>	<b>ORTT</b> -- Provides free use of state parks and campsites for volunteer firefighters and members of a volunteer ambulance service
<b>S893</b>	<b>AMEDORE</b> -- Establishes a geoparks task force to survey and formulate a plan for identifying sites for a system of geoparks, and a management and development strategy
<b>S909A</b>	<b>ORTT</b> -- Relates to increasing the authorized reimbursement rate paid to governmental entities for enforcement of navigation laws
<b>S1044A</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Relates to identification badges for access to recreational facilities
<b>S1185</b>	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Exempts operators of law enforcement and fire department vessels from laws which regulate vessels on the navigable waters of the state while responding to emergencies
<b>S1383</b>	<b>GALLIVAN</b> -- Relates to police staffing at certain parks
<b>S1470</b>	<b>RITCHIE</b> -- Relates to directing the commissioner of the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to report on the feasibility of restarting the barn grant program
<b>S1650</b>	<b>CARLUCCI</b> -- Directs the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to fund and conduct the empire state games on an annual basis
<b>S1674</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Authorizes towing a person on water skis with a vessel without an observer under certain circumstances
<b>S1915</b>	<b>RITCHIE</b> -- Relates to the free use of campsites
<b>S1974</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Relates to the authenticity, attribution and authorship of fine works of art
<b>S2773</b>	<b>RITCHIE</b> -- Directs the commissioner of parks, recreation and preservation to establish the Safe Haven Holocaust Refugee Shelter in the city of Oswego as a state historic site
<b>S2807</b>	<b>PARKER</b> -- Relates to establishing the women's rights history trail
<b>S2863</b>	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Relates to the payment of fines for certain violations, the reduction of certain insurance rates and establishes the boating safety education fund
<b>S2985</b>	<b>LAVALLE</b> -- Relates to liability insurance rate reductions upon completion of a boating safety course or an advanced boating safety course
<b>S3019</b>	<b>RITCHIE</b> -- Directs the commissioners of health and environmental conservation to study and develop a long term strategy to encourage outdoor environmental education and recreation
<b>S3051A</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Relates to the reporting of alienation of municipal parkland
<b>S3053</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Prohibits littering on state park lands



<b>S3108</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Relates to developing criteria and guidelines for state designated arts and cultural districts
<b>S3532</b>	<b>FLANAGAN</b> -- Establishes the Nissequogue River state park
<b>S3724A</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Authorizes the New York council on the arts to award certificates of merit to artists in selected disciplines
<b>S3890</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Relates to providing free use of state parks for certified first responders who participated in the rescue effort at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001
<b>S3891</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Requires all goods, except food, sold at retail in state parks, recreational facilities and historic sites to be produced in the United States
<b>S3892A</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Designates historic maritime communities
<b>S3988</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Creates the New York state amateur sports development advisory council
<b>S4084A</b>	<b>FUNKE</b> -- Requires the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to collect discarded recyclable materials at parks, historic sites and recreational facilities
<b>S4542B</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Amends the definition of "snowmobile" to exclude certain other vehicles with aftermarket ski and track configurations
<b>S4626</b>	<b>RANZENHOFER</b> -- Creates a legislative task force on outdoor environmental education and recreation
<b>S5009</b>	<b>JACOBS</b> -- Relates to the free use of campsites by the immediate family of a member of the armed forces killed in active duty
<b>S5533B</b>	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Adds the United States sailing association to those allowed to give boating safety courses
<b>S5943</b>	<b>JACOBS</b> -- Amends chapter 595 of the laws of 2007 relating to establishing the Michigan Street African American Heritage Corridor commission in Buffalo, in relation to the effectiveness thereof
<b>S6032A</b>	<b>SAVINO</b> -- Relates to the placement of navigational aids adjacent to real property designated as Coney Island
<b>S6091A</b>	<b>SAVINO</b> -- Relates to the base pilotage tariffs at Sandy Hook, Sands Point and Execution Rocks
<b>S6323</b>	<b>HAMILTON</b> -- Relates to the Amistad Commission
<b>S6470B</b>	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Relates to pilotage fees on vessels transiting the New York state waters of Long Island Sound or Block Island Sound east of Execution Rocks or Sands Point
<b>S6524A</b>	<b>SERINO</b> -- Authorizes the city of Poughkeepsie, in the county of Dutchess, to discontinue the use of certain lands as parklands and to sell and convey such lands, which are to be replaced by different parklands

## Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation Bills Passed by the Senate:

Bill No.	
<b>S136</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Authorizes persons under the age of eighteen to participate in certain organized racing and competitive events involving snowmobiles
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<b>S1185</b>	<b>MARCELLINO</b> -- Exempts operators of law enforcement and fire department vessels from laws which regulate vessels on the navigable waters of the state while responding to emergencies
<b>S1470</b>	<b>RITCHIE</b> -- Relates to directing the commissioner of the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to report on the feasibility of restarting the barn grant program
<b>S1650</b>	<b>CARLUCCI</b> -- Directs the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to fund and conduct the empire state games on an annual basis
<b>S1674</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Authorizes towing a person on water skis with a vessel without an observer under certain circumstances
<b>S1676A</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Directs the commissioner of education to establish and implement a museum education grant program
<b>S1974</b>	<b>LITTLE</b> -- Relates to the authenticity, attribution and authorship of fine works of art
<b>S2640</b>	<b>LANZA</b> -- Relates to license fees per barrel of petroleum ship through the state for use outside the state
<b>S3051A</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Relates to the reporting of alienation of municipal parkland
<b>S3053</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Prohibits littering on state park lands
<b>S3108</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Relates to developing criteria and guidelines for state designated arts and cultural districts
<b>S3198</b>	<b>SERRANO</b> -- Authorizes the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to establish a resident curator program for the rehabilitation of state park buildings
<b>S3532</b>	<b>FLANAGAN</b> -- Establishes the Nissequogue River state park
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<b>S4626</b>	<b>RANZENHOFER</b> -- Creates a legislative task force on outdoor environmental education and recreation
<b>S4861</b>	<b>DIAZ</b> -- Requires state campgrounds to provide a reduced fee for campsites to persons 65 or over

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*New York State Senator*  
**Rich Funke**

*55th Senate District*

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