



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

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



**SENATOR
JOSÉ M. SERRANO**
CHAIR

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Senator, 29th District

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**NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE**

ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247



CHAIR OF THE MAJORITY

CHAIRMAN
CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM,
PARKS AND RECREATION

COMMITTEES
AGING
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
LIBRARIES
SOCIAL SERVICES
VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
WOMEN'S ISSUES

December 2021

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Temporary President and Majority Leader
New York State Senate
Albany, NY 12247

Dear Senator Stewart-Cousins:

I am pleased to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation for the 2021 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2021 session, this committee met three times in session and reported sixteen bills. The Committee also approved twenty-three nominations during the 2021 session to fill various vacancies within the New York State Council on the Arts, the State Athletic Commission, the State Board for Historic Preservation, and multiple regional park commissions.

I thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts and support this year, and I thank you for the continued support from the Majority Conference in the committee's operations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "José M. Serrano". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

José M. Serrano
29th Senate District

2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

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

Senator José M. Serrano, Chairperson

Committee Members

Senator Jeremy A. Cooney
Senator Michelle Hinchey
Senator Brad Hoylman
Senator James Sanders

Senator Susan Serino,
Ranking Member
Senator Pamela A. Helming

Committee Staff

Andrew Postiglione, Committee Director and Clerk
Robert Habermann, Counsel to the Committee

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning the State system of parks and historic sites, arts development, tourism initiatives, and advancing recreational opportunity for New Yorkers.

During the 2021 Legislative Session, fifty-eight bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, sixteen were reported from the Committee, eleven were passed by the Senate, and seven passed in both houses. This work was conducted through a series of three virtual committee meetings. A list of all bills reported from the committee is provided at the end of this report.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The Senate Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation held three virtual meetings during the 2021 Covid-19 Pandemic-impacted session. Additionally, Committee members met with the arts and tourism community to help craft State relief programs included in the SFY 22 Enacted Budget including additional New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) support, a new round of Capital arts funding, and small business support for venues and related accommodations.

The committee reported S.4410C by Senator Mayer that establishes The New York State 250th Commemoration Act to create a commemoration commission and related fund to coordinate New York's heritage organizations with state and federal programming surrounding the approaching Bicentennial of the American Revolution.

The committee also reported S.146 by Senator Thomas, subsequently signed into law as Chapter 660 of 2021, which promotes the expansion of the game of cricket in New York State. This bill responds to growing interest in the sport throughout the state led by burgeoning immigrant communities by charging the New York State Athletic Commission with promoting its development.

TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2021, seven of the fifty-eight bills referred to the Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs, Tourism, Parks and Recreation passed both houses of the Legislature.

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S.146	Thomas	Relates to including the promotion and expansion of cricket in the state of New York to the jurisdiction of the state athletic commission	Signed Chapter 660
S.1270	Brooks	Requires that certain boats shall be equipped with functioning marine carbon monoxide detectors	Delivered to the Governor
S.1767	Mannion	Allows the village and town of Skaneateles in the county of Onondaga to regulate the construction and location of boathouses, moorings and docks	Signed Chapter 569
S.2168	Serrano	Relates to the effectiveness of certain provisions of law relating to the operation of personal watercraft and specialty prop-craft	Signed Chapter 169
S.4410C	Mayer	Establishes the "New York State 250th Commemoration act"; repealer	Delivered to the Governor
S.5354	Breslin	Relates to rates for pilotage on the Hudson river	Signed Chapter 625
S.6229A	Sanders	Authorizes the city of New York to alienate and discontinue the use of certain portions of parkland	Signed Chapter 472

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S.146	Thomas	Relates to including the promotion and expansion of cricket in the state of New York to the jurisdiction of the state athletic commission	Signed Chapter 660
S.639	Liu	Authorizes the commissioner of transportation to conduct a study pertaining to a proposed expansion of the Long Island Motor Parkway trail	Reported and Committed to Finance
S.998	Gaughran	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	Passed Senate Only
S.991C	Hoylman	Directs the commissioner of the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to conduct a legal review for the re-designation of Donald J. Trump State Park	Passed Senate Only
S.1355	Serrano	Relates to the reporting of alienation of municipal parkland	Passed Senate Only
S.1364	Serrano	Authorizes the office of parks, recreation and historic preservation to establish a resident curator program for the rehabilitation of state park buildings	Passed Senate Only
S.1405	Serrano	Prohibits littering on state park lands and provides for penalties for violations	Passed Senate Only
S.1924	Jackson	Relates to the Amistad Commission	Passed Senate Only
S.2168	Serrano	Relates to the effectiveness of certain provisions of law relating to the operation of personal watercraft and specialty prop-craft	Signed Chapter 169
S.4078	Hinchey	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	Passed Senate Only

S.4410C	Mayer	Establishes the "New York State 250th Commemoration act"; repealer	Delivered to the Governor
S.5006	Serrano	Relates to permitting farmers markets in state and local parks	Passed Senate Only
S.5025A	Serrano	Creates a legislative task force on outdoor environmental education and recreation	Passed Senate Only
S.5031	Serrano	Directs the commissioner of parks, recreation and historic preservation to establish the state parks passport program	Passed Senate Only
S.5354	Breslin	Relates to rates for pilotage on the Hudson river	Signed Chapter 625
S.6208	Serrano	Relates to the development and posting of a senior trail guide	Passed Senate Only

Nominations

The Committee also advanced 23 nominations for gubernatorial appointments to fill vacancies on the NYSCA review board, regional park commissions, the State Board for Historic Preservation, and the State Athletic Commission.



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STANDING COMMITTEE**

CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM