



New York State Senate Standing Committee on Ethics and Internal Governance

Senator Alessandra Biaggi

Chair



Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins
President Pro Tempore
NYS Senate Majority Leader



NEW YORK STATE SENATE
ALBANY, NY 12247

ALESSANDRA R. BIAGGI
SENATOR

December 16, 2022

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 Ethics and Internal Governance for the 2022 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to have lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction.

During the 2022 session, this committee met virtually four times and reported fifteen bills. The Committee also held a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction to examine sexual assault in New York State's correctional facilities.

I want to thank my colleagues who served on the Committee for their efforts this year, as well as the Majority Conference for their continued support of the committee's operations.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "A. Biaggi", written in a cursive style.

New York State Senator Alessandra Biaggi
District 34

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

**NEW YORK STATE SENATE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON ETHICS AND INTERNAL GOVERNANCE**

Senator Biaggi, Chairperson

Committee Members

Senator Neil D. Breslin	Senator Anthony H. Palumbo
Senator Todd Kaminsky	Senator Phil Boyle
Senator Toby Ann Stavisky	Senator Andrew J. Lanza

Committee Staff

Committee Counsel: Shannon Owens
Legislative Director : Karen Reppy

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Ethics and Internal Governance has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning internal workplace ethics, per diem and travel expenses, and time and attendance.

During the 2022 Legislative Session, 38 bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, 17 were reported from the Committee. Two were passed by the Senate, although none passed both houses. This work was conducted through a series of four committee meetings. A list of all bills reported from the committee is provided at the end of this report.

In addition to its regular meetings, the Committee held a joint public hearing with the Senate Committee on Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction to examine sexual assault in New York State's correctional facilities.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

During the 2022 Session with the utilization of virtual committee meetings, the Ethics and Internal Governance Committee met a total of four times and held one joint public hearing. The committee reported several notable pieces of legislation that went on to pass on the Senate floor.

The committee passed two bills to address legal compensation and campaign reimbursements. S164, by Senator Gianaris prohibits state reimbursement of campaign and political committees or legal defense funds, for payments made on behalf of the criminal defense of a state employee. S1543A, by Senator Kaminsky, prohibits certain persons from receiving compensation for legal fees, consulting, or other work performed for an industrial development agency or an economic assistance corporation.

The committee also advanced S7613, by Senator Kaminsky, to prohibit public officers from using their authority to compel subordinates to use their official time to perform activities intended to benefit a private business.

Additionally, the committee advanced S7272 by Senator May to close the loophole on cryptocurrency assets, like bitcoin, on the state's financial disclosure statement and add transparency regarding individuals' interest in this type of digital financial property.

Finally, the committee partnered with the Senate Committee on Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction Chairwoman Julia Salazar led a joint public hearing on the problem of sexual assault in New York State's correctional facilities. The purpose of this hearing was to examine the pervasiveness of sexual assault in correctional facilities, provide survivors of sexual violence an opportunity to share their experiences, assess the effectiveness of existing policies and systems, and identify ways to prevent sexual violence in correctional facilities. Testimony was given by formerly incarcerated survivors, directly impacted correctional officers, advocacy organizations, and officials from the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS).

TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2022, of the 38 bills referred to the Standing Committee on Ethics and Internal Governance, only S202 passed both houses of the Legislature. It was then vetoed by the Executive.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action
S164	GIANARIS	Prohibits state reimbursement of campaign and political committees, legal defense fund for payments made on behalf of the criminal defense of a state employee	Passed Senate
S202	KAPLAN	Relates to the term "reportable business relationship" as it relates to certain employees of the state university of New York and the city university of New York	Vetoed by Executive
S816	BIAGGI	Prohibits campaign contributions to candidates for state senate and assembly by certain members of the legislative ethics commission	Reported from Committee
S1059B	LIU	Authorizes the joint commission on public integrity to provide a training course concerning anti-sexual harassment training for lobbyists and requiring lobbyists to complete the course annually	Reported from Committee
S1500A	BRESLIN	Requires legislators and candidates for member of the legislature to provide a link to their financial disclosure statements on their official state and campaign websites	Reported from Committee
S1543A	KAMINSKY	Prohibits certain persons from receiving compensation for legal fees, consulting, or other work performed for an industrial development agency or an economic assistance corporation	Passed Senate
S3430B	COMRIE	Requires public officers and bodies to provide interpreters and assistive listening devices for the hearing impaired at public hearings under certain conditions	Reported from Committee
S5540	SANDERS	Prohibits state officers and employees from official involvement with a state project where the officer or employee acted as a consultant on such project	Reported from Committee

S6263A	BIAGGI	Modifies the requirements for financial disclosures for certain state and legislative officials, officers and employees	Reported from Committee
S6398B	BIAGGI	Relates to reporting requirements on small nonprofits	Reported from Committee
S6964A	BIAGGI	Relates to the joint commission on public ethics	Reported from Committee
S7272	MAY	Relates to reporting of cryptocurrency holdings on the annual statement of financial disclosure	Reported from Committee
S7362A	SKOUFIS	Relates to requiring certain individuals to file financial disclosure forms	Reported from Committee
S7439A	SKOUFIS	Relates to posting financial disclosure filings for candidates for statewide office or candidate for a member of the legislature	Reported from Committee
S7613	KAMINSKY	Prohibits public officers from using their authority to compel subordinates to use their official time to perform activities intended to benefit a private business	Passed the Senate
S8421	BIAGGI	Expands the ethical duties of public officers and employees	Reported from Committee
S8742	REICHLIN-M ELNICK	Enacts the "New York Stock Act" prohibiting public officers and employees from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit	Reported from Committee



Annual Report 2022

**New York State Senate Standing Committee
on Ethics and Internal Governance**