Annual Report 2025

New York State Senate Standing Committee on
Aging

Senator Cordell Cleare

Chair

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

CHAIR
AGING

MEMBER
CITIES 1
CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES AND COMMISSIONS
EDUCATION
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
INVESTIGATIONS AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
SOCIAL SERVICES

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK

CORDELL CLEARE
SENATOR, 30TH DISTRICT

ALBANY OFFICE
905 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247
(518) 455-2441
FAX: (518) 426-6809

DISTRICT OFFICE
ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR.
STATE OFFICE BUILDING
163 WEST 125TH ST., RM. 912
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10027
(212) 222-7315
FAX: (212) 678-0001

January 15, 2026

The Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
State Senate Majority Leader
New York State Senate
188 State Street, Room 907
Legislative Office Building
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins,

I am honored to transmit the Annual Report of the Senate's Standing Committee on Aging for the 2025 Legislative Session.

As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction, including, without limitation: legislation to help our older New Yorkers freeze their rents (SCRIE) and receive increased tax exemptions, expand prescription drug savings programs (like EPIC), bolster and support health programs, expand senior centers, and ensure safety and oversight over institutional providers.

During the 2025 Session, this Committee met four times in Session and reported thirty-one bills.

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

Cordell Cleare

Cordell Cleare
Senator | 30th District

2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

NEW YORK STATE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGING

Senator Cordell Cleare, Chairperson

Committee Members

Senator Monica R. Martinez

Senator Sam Sutton

Senator Brian Kavanagh

Senator Jacob C. Ashby

Senator José M. Serrano

Senator Rob Rolison

Committee Staff

Chris LaBarge, Committee Director

Elena Kilcullen, Associate Counsel | Majority Counsel/Program

Andrew Title, Assistant Deputy Director | Majority Counsel/Program

Anqesha L. Murray-Cody, Ph.D. | Senate Finance Majority

Victor Diaz, Fiscal Analyst | Senate Finance Majority

COMMITTEE JURISDICTION AND OVERVIEW

The New York State Senate Standing Committee on Aging has legislative oversight responsibilities for issues concerning Elder Law, nursing homes, caregivers, and senior services. During the 2025 Legislative Session, 75 bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, 31 were reported from the Committee. This work was conducted through a series of four Committee Meetings. A list of all bills that were reported from the Committee is provided at the end of this report.

COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

The following key bills were acted on by the Committee in 2025:

S.1201	CLEARE Requires the division of housing and community renewal, with the state office for the aging, to establish a database of available senior housing; requires the office for the aging to maintain such database **Last Act:** 01/28/25 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE
S.1457A	KAVANAGH, ADDABBO, CLEARE, GONZALEZ, HOYLMAN-SIGAL, JACKSON, KRUEGER, ROLISON, SCARCELLA-SPANTON, SERRANO, STAVISKY Provides for adjustment of the maximum income threshold for eligibility for SCRIE, DRIE, SCHE and DHE by any increase in the consumer price index **Last Act:** 06/13/25 referred to aging
S.1782	HINCHEY, ROLISON Relates to dementia care and establishes a dementia care coordinator in the state office for the aging to manage the work of dementia care navigators **Last Act:** 05/13/25 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE
S.2451A	KAVANAGH, ADDABBO, CLEARE, JACKSON, SEPÚLVEDA, SERRANO Permits localities to opt to reduce renters' payments towards rent to one-third of household income for eligible participants in the SCRIE and DRIE programs **Last Act:** 03/04/25 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE
S.3563	CLEARE, JACKSON Relates to permitting other qualifying members of a household to qualify for the disability rent increase exemption **Last Act:** 05/13/25 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE
S.3574	CLEARE, ADDABBO, ASHBY, HELMING, ROLISON, WEBB, WEBER Relates to notification of a senior real property tax exemption **Last Act:** 04/03/25 referred to aging
S.3750	CLEARE, ASHBY, ROLISON Creates the office of older adult workforce development within the office for the aging **Last Act:** 03/04/25 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE

S.4805 C. RYAN, JACKSON, ROLISON, SCARCELLA-SPANTON, WEBB
Requires the state to handle the income verification process for the purposes of the senior citizen tax exemption
Last Act: 03/17/25 referred to aging

S.5175A COMRIE, HARCKHAM, HELMING, JACKSON, RHOADS, ROLISON
Relates to exemptions from real property taxes for senior citizens
Last Act: 06/11/25 SUBSTITUTED BY A3698A
12/05/25 signed chap.581

S.5548 CLEARE
Relates to redetermination of a tax abatement for rent-controlled and rent regulated property occupied by senior citizens or persons with disabilities
Last Act: 04/29/25 REPORTED AND COMMITTED TO FINANCE

S.7077 CLEARE, ASHBY, COMRIE, JACKSON, ROLISON
Provides for expanded non-medical in-home services, non-institutional respite services, case management services, and ancillary services without a prescription or physician's order; repealer
Last Act: 06/11/25 SUBSTITUTED BY A7907
06/11/25 RETURNED TO ASSEMBLY

S.7160 CLEARE, RHOADS, ROLISON
Ensures the long-term sustainability and viability of senior centers in all areas of the state
Last Act: 06/13/25 referred to aging

S.7335 MARTINEZ, RHOADS, C. RYAN
Relates to enhanced eligibility requirements of STAR
Last Act: 06/10/25 referred to real property taxation

S.7570 CLEARE
Requires municipal corporations to adopt senior citizen rent increase exemption programs and disability rent increase exemption programs
Last Act: 04/22/25 REFERRED TO AGING

S.7737 CLEARE, ROLISON
Extends provisions of the long term care ombudsman to assisted living facilities
Last Act: 06/09/25 SUBSTITUTED BY A8113
08/07/25 signed chap.237

TWO HOUSE BILLS

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.01202A	CLEARE	Establishes the interagency elder justice task force consisting of representatives of state agencies whose work involves elder justice to create greater collaboration and develop overarching strategies, systems, and programs with a goal of protecting older adults from abuse and mistreatment.	Substituted By A.7277A - Vetoed Memorandum 71
S.04351A	CLEARE	Requires the state office for the aging to publish a "Guide to Actions When Someone Close Dies"; establishes a temporary special advisory committee to create and publish such guide.	Substituted By A.3939A - Chaptered 582
S.05175A	COMRIE	Authorizes localities to provide for an additional real property tax exemption for senior citizens who meet the income eligibility limits and other criteria to the extent of sixty-five percent of the assessed valuation of such real property.	Substituted By A.3698A - Chaptered 581
S.07077	CLEARE	Provides for expanded non-medical in-home services, non-institutional respite services, case management services, and ancillary services without a prescription or physician's order; repeals certain cost sharing requirements for such services.	Substituted By A.7907 - Delivered to Governor
S.07671	CLEARE	Requires the commissioner of health to produce a report on the utilization and activity of the elderly pharmaceutical insurance coverage program, including future enrollment and program cost projections, and to publish such report and deliver the report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly.	Substituted By A.8090 - Vetoed Memorandum 74
S.07737	CLEARE	Extends provisions of the long term care ombudsman access to assisted living facilities for two years from December 31, 2025 until December 31, 2027.	Substituted By A.8113 - Chaptered 237

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.00118	CLEARE	Establishes a dementia and Alzheimer's disease program database.	Passed the Senate
S.00121	CLEARE	Increases the amount of income property owners may earn for the purpose of eligibility for the property tax exemption for persons over sixty-five years of age; increases such amount to $75,000.	Senate Rules
S.00903	SANDERS	Relates to informal caregiver training; defines "person in need of assistance"; expands who may serve as an "informal caregiver".	Passed the Senate
S.01201	CLEARE	Requires the division of housing and community renewal, in collaboration with the New York state office for the aging, to establish a publicly accessible online database of available senior housing units; requires the New York state office for the aging to maintain the senior housing unit database.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.01202	CLEARE	Establishes the interagency elder justice task force consisting of representatives of state agencies whose work involves elder justice to create greater collaboration and develop overarching strategies, systems, and programs with a goal of protecting older adults from abuse and mistreatment.	Substituted By A.7277A - Vetoed Memorandum 71
S.01457A	KAVANAGH	Provides for adjustment of the maximum income threshold for eligibility for the senior citizen rent increase exemption (SCRIE), disability rent increase exemption (DRIE), senior citizen homeowners' exemption (SCHE), and disabled homeowners' exemption (DHE) by any increase in the consumer price index (CPI).	Passed the Senate

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.01782	HINCHEY	Relates to dementia care; establishes a dementia care coordinator in the state office for the aging to manage the work of dementia care navigators; requires each area agency to employ a dementia care navigator; sets forth the duties of the dementia care coordinator and dementia care navigators.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.02451A	KAVANAGH	Relates to establishing a maximum rent of one-third of household income for the senior citizens rent increase exemption and disability rent increase exemption.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.03180	SANDERS	Requires the office for the aging to develop and provide elder abuse prevention training to train senior service centers and contractors in the detection and reporting of elder abuse in consultation with the office of children and family services.	Passed the Senate
S.03309	PALUMBO	Provides that where a person who meets the requirements for an enhanced exemption for property owned by senior citizens purchases real property after the levy of taxes, such person may file an application for exemption to the assessor within thirty days of the transfer of title to such person for such exemption.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.03555A	CLEARE	Relates to improving and expanding the pharmaceutical insurance coverage program for certain medicare enrollees; creates the expanded pharmaceutical insurance coverage panel, to be responsible for expanding pharmaceutical insurance coverage.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.03563	CLEARE	Permits other qualifying members of a household to qualify the household for the disability rent increase exemption when they are not the head of household.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.03574	CLEARE	Requires a second notification to persons previously eligible for a senior real property tax exemption.	Passed the Senate

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.03750	CLEARE	Creates the office of older adult workforce development within the office for the aging to address the needs of older adults regarding the workplace.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.03759	CLEARE	Relates to social model adult day services programs.	Passed the Senate
S.04334	COMRIE	Establishes a senior dental services grant program; authorizes the director to establish the program and, upon the availability of appropriations, provide grants to eligible elderly persons who are in need of such services.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.04351A	CLEARE	Requires the state office for the aging to publish a "Guide to Actions When Someone Close Dies"; establishes a temporary special advisory committee to create and publish such guide.	Substituted By A.3939A - Chaptered 582
S.04805	RYAN C	Shifts the conducting of the income verification process for the purposes of the senior citizen tax exemption from municipalities to the department of taxation and finance.	Passed the Senate
S.05069	GRIFFO	Provides a filing extension for the "enhanced" STAR exemption to initial applicants provided that such applicants have not been granted such extension before and such applicants are otherwise entitled to the exemption.	Senate Rules
S.05175A	COMRIE	Authorizes localities to provide for an additional real property tax exemption for senior citizens who meet the income eligibility limits and other criteria to the extent of sixty-five percent of the assessed valuation of such real property.	Substituted By A.3698A - Chaptered 581
S.05280	SEPÚLVEDA	Relates to providing language access services to individuals relating to the tax abatement program for rent-controlled and rent-regulated property occupied by senior citizens or persons with disabilities.	Passed the Senate

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.05548	CLEARE	Permits a redetermination of a tax abatement for rent-controlled and rent regulated property occupied by senior citizens or persons with disabilities upon a permanent decrease in income.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.05832	SKOUFIS	Increases the income thresholds for eligibility for the senior citizen and disabled person property tax exemptions; applies to any local law, resolution or ordinance amended or adopted on and after the effective date of this act.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.06043	CLEARE	Requires a report on individuals who are the primary caregiver for an older adult, including the number of individuals who are primary caregivers for an older adult, the average age of a primary caregiver, the cost to an individual to provide care to an older adult, and the economic value and savings to the state of such individual's services.	Reported to Senate Finance
S.06533	STAVISKY	Relates to tax abatement for rent-controlled and rent regulated property occupied by and real property owned by senior citizens or persons with disabilities.	Passed the Senate
S.07077	CLEARE	Provides for expanded non-medical in-home services, non-institutional respite services, case management services, and ancillary services without a prescription or physician's order; repeals certain cost sharing requirements for such services.	Substituted By A.7907 - Delivered to Governor
S.07160	CLEARE	Directs the senior center council to engage in statewide planning of both a programmatic and fiscal nature to ensure the long-term sustainability and viability of senior centers in all areas of the state.	Passed the Senate
S.07335	MARTINEZ	Relates to enhanced eligibility requirements of STAR; bases income on retirement.	Passed the Senate

BILL	SPONSOR	SUMMARY	SIGNIFICANT ACT
S.07671	CLEARE	Requires the commissioner of health to produce a report on the utilization and activity of the elderly pharmaceutical insurance coverage program, including future enrollment and program cost projections, and to publish such report and deliver the report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly.	Substituted By A.8090 - Vetoed Memorandum 74
S.07737	CLEARE	Extends provisions of the long term care ombudsman access to assisted living facilities for two years from December 31, 2025 until December 31, 2027.	Substituted By A.8113 - Chaptered 237

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