

Annual Report 2022



New York State Senate Standing Committee on **Aging**

Senator Rachel May

Chair



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

**THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK**



RACHEL MAY
SENATOR, 53RD DISTRICT

Chair
Aging
Legislative Commission on Rural
Resources
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Agriculture
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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 Aging for the 2022 Legislative Session. As Chair, I am proud to continue to lead our efforts to address important matters under my committee's jurisdiction like the state's longterm care ombudsman program (LTCOP), elder care services and prevention of fraud and other abuses, and the safety and care of our nursing home residents. During the 2022 session, the Aging committee met 3 times during session and reported 14 bills.

Our work as Chairs of Committees often extends beyond the room where we consider legislation. This year, during the budget cycle, at budget hearings and through my own legislation, I spoke often and strongly about the great need to support those who care for our most vulnerable residents, our seniors. I fought hard for a meaningful and fair increase in the caregivers' hourly wage, and the campaign to accomplish this took on a life of its own for the entire session. With your support and leadership we secured the largest investment in home care wages any state has ever made. We are now continuing to push for the successful rollout of this wage increase, and I will always support the vital work our caregivers in this state do for our older New Yorkers. The Fair Pay movement brought many Senators, advocates, and workers together around a common and vitally important challenge and I will always consider this heartfelt and hardfought victory one of my proudest achievements as Chair of the Aging Committee.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rachel May".

Rachel May, 53rd Senate District

2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION REPORT

**NEW YORK STATE SENATE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGING**

Senator Rachel May, Chairperson

Committee Members

Senator Rachel May Senator Joseph Addabbo Senator Samra Brouk Senator Simcha Felder Senator Jose Serrano	Senator Sue Serino Senator George Borrello
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Committee Staff

Kristin M. Williams, Committee Clerk

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 2022 Legislative Session, 72 bills were referred to the Committee for its review. Of these bills, 14 were reported from the Committee. Including several bills discharged from the Committee to the Rules Committee after regular committee meetings ended, 15 were passed by the Senate, and 11 passed in both houses. This work was conducted through a series of 3 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 2022:

- S72 (Hoylman) Clarifying the meaning of the phrase “greatest social need” for purposes of the administration of programs under the federal Older Americans Act of 1965
- S8617A (May) relating to the annual reporting requirements of the state long-term care ombudsman program
- S3085A (Stewart-Cousins) 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 and persons with disabilities and limited income
- S3483 (Bailey) Relates to income eligibility under the EPIC program

TWO HOUSE BILLS

In 2022, Fifteen of the 72 bills referred to the Standing Committee on Aging passed both houses of the Legislature. Of these bills, the Governor has signed 5 and vetoed 1.

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Action (Chapter X of 2022, Veto X of 2022, or “On the Governor’s Desk” if not yet acted on)
S3932	Savino	Specifies procedures for the closure and/or decertification of assisted living residences	Chapter 625
S78A	Hoylman	Clarifies the meaning of the phrase greatest social need for purposes of the administration of programs under the federal Older Americans Act of 1965	Chapter 573
S3085A	Stewart-Cousins	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 and persons with disabilities and limited income	Chapter 488
S555C	May	Creates the office of older adult workforce development within the office for the aging	Veto No. 70

S3483A	Bailey	Relates to income eligibility under the EPIC program	Chapter 800
S6903	Kavanagh	Authorizes tax abatements for certain properties containing dwelling units	Chapter 684
S8570	Gounardes	Relates to requiring additional notice for real property tax exemptions for senior citizens	Chapter 738
S8617A	May	Relates to annual reporting requirements of the state long-term care ombudsman (LTCOP)	Chapter 776
S9032B	Kavanagh	Relates to enacting legislation related to Battery Park city	Chapter 686
S9308	Kavanagh	Extends the effectiveness of certain provisions dealing with tax exemptions for rent regulated properties occupied by certain persons	Chapter 292
S9471	Kavanagh	Relates to authorizing tax abatements for certain properties containing dwelling units	Chapter 687

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

Bill	Sponsor	Summary	Significant Action (Chapter X of 2022, Veto X of 2022, On the Governor's Desk, Passed Senate Only, or Reported from Committee)
S78A	Holyman	Clarifies the meaning of the phrase greatest social need under the federal Older Americans Act of 1965	Chapter 573
S554A	May	Directs the office for the aging and department of economic development to expand encore entrepreneurship in the state for individuals over 50 establishing small businesses	Passed Senate Only
S555C	May	Creates the office of older adult workforce development within the office for the aging	Veto No. 70
S3085A	Stewart-Cousins	Increases the amount of income property owners may earn for the purpose of eligibility for the property tax exemption for those over 65 years of age	Chapter 488
S2535A	Rivera	Relates to program eligibility for plans	Passed Senate Only

		comparable to Medicare part D	
S3483A	Bailey	Relates to income eligibility under the EPIC program	Chapter 800
S4412A	May	Establishes an Alzheimer's disease outreach and education program	Passed Senate Only
S5420	Parker	Expands volunteerism by making use of the databases of stateside aging organizations and institutes volunteer certificate programs	Passed Senate Only
S6664A	May	Establishes a state-level program of all-inclusive care for the elderly	Advanced to 3 rd Reading
S6903	Kavanagh	Authorizes tax abatements for certain properties containing dwelling units	Chapter 684
S7407	Sepulveda	Relates to providing language access services to individuals relating to the tax abatement program	Passed Senate Only
S8570	Gounardes	Relates to requiring additional notice for real property tax exemptions for senior citizens	Chapter 738
S8585	May	Establishes the Office for an Age-friendly New York	Committed to Finance
S8617A	May	Relates to annual LTCOP reporting	Chapter 776



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Committee on Aging**