



LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP 2024

New York State Senate Democratic Majority



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2024 Legislative Wrap Up Summary

In 2024, the Senate Democratic Majority continued its fight to make New York a fairer and more equitable society, where all New Yorkers can feel safe, secure, and prosperous. In support of this goal, the Majority passed 805 two-house bills, including critical protections for reproductive health care, improvements to New York's election laws, worker protections, and environmental conservation laws. Highlights are described below, by topic area.

SESSION

Protecting New Yorkers' Rights to Reproductive Healthcare. Since taking the majority in 2019, the Senate Majority has been committed to enshrining New Yorkers' right to choose in law—a commitment all the more important in the aftermath of *Dobbs*. The 2024 session was no exception, as the Senate passed numerous bills to protect access to reproductive healthcare. First, the Senate passed a bill to establish the Reproductive Freedom and Equity Grant Program to build reproductive healthcare provider capacity and fund uncompensated care (S.348C, by Senator Cleare) and the Hospital Transparency Act to provide information to patients and the public on whether the hospitals in their area provides the care they seek prior to admission (S.1003A, by Senator Hinchey). The Senate also passed legislation to strengthen New Yorkers' privacy rights by requiring companies that collect and sell healthcare information to receive affirmative consent by users to sell such information to third parties (S.158B, by Senator Krueger).

Finally, the Senate passed legislation to create a Workgroup on Maternal Health Care and Birthing Standards (S.7702A, by Senator Webb), a bill to strengthen protections for pregnant individuals during special enrollment periods for healthcare insurance (S.201, by Senator Cleare), and a bill to require healthcare providers to offer a maternal depression screening to new mothers (S.2039A, by Senator Brouk).

Making New York More Affordable and Combating Junk Fees. As prescription drug costs, even for generics, continue to rise out of reach for patients and insurers, the Senate Majority advanced legislation to reduce the cost of prescription drugs, eliminate cost sharing for insulin, and promote health equity for patients in New York. The Senate passed the New York State Affordable Drug Manufacturing Act, which would permit and galvanize the NYS Department of Health and its Commissioner to establish partnerships directly with drug manufacturers to help significantly lower the cost of drugs for consumers by helping secure more generic alternatives to prescription (S.4786A, by Senator Rivera). If enacted, New York would become the second state in the nation besides California to pursue its own drug manufacturing to lower costs and protect against short supplies.

This year the Senate also passed the New York Junk Fee Prevention Act (S.7783B, by Senator Gianaris), which eliminates hidden junk fees by requiring sellers to display the total price of a good or service, including all mandatory fees, ensuring New Yorkers know the true cost of what they are buying before they buy it. This legislation was part of a package of bills to stop hidden fees and make sure New Yorkers do not get nickled and dimed, that included requiring health

clubs to make it easier to cancel contracts (S.932C, by Senator Persaud) and capping credit card service charges on retail installment contracts (S.363 by Senator Thomas).

Strengthening New York's Democracy. The Senate Majority continued its tradition of opening the legislative session with a package of election reforms. Most importantly, the Senate passed legislation to make it easier for New Yorkers to use absentee ballot drop boxes (S.610, by Senator Hoylman-Sigal), and to prevent election misinformation from keeping New Yorkers from the polls (S.263, by Leader Stewart-Cousins).

Additionally, the Senate worked to reform New York's byzantine system of Boards of Elections, by passing several pieces of legislation to improve their operations. The Senate passed legislation to require Board employees to receive mandatory training (S.617, by Senator Myrie), and to require minimum staffing levels (S.644A, by Senator Mannion). The Senate also passed a significant piece of legislation to revamp the operations of the New York City Board of Elections (S.619A, by Senator Krueger).

Lastly, the Senate passed a bill which will move most local elections outside of New York City to even years, which will increase voter participation in these low turnout elections and make sure that all voters have the opportunity to weigh in on their local governments (S.9826, by Senator Skoufis).

Protecting Ratepayers. This year the Senate Majority focused on passing legislation to hold utility companies more accountable and protect ratepayers from unfair utility costs. This included legislation to require accurate meter readings so customers do not get overcharged for estimated bills (S.1815B by Senator Hinchey), and legislation to limit fixed utility charges (S.1303B by Senator Parker), and require set formulas for rates (S.6557A by Senator Mayer). The Majority also supported legislation to make it easier for veterans and other groups to get discounted utility rates (S.1201C, by Senator Parker) and made it easier for those who were previously enrolled in the Home Energy Assistance Program to be automatically re-enrolled (S.2496, Mannion). New York's climate goals also go hand in hand with keeping utilities affordable as New York moves towards a more renewables-based grid, which is why the Senate again passed the NY HEAT Act (S.2016B by Senator Krueger), aligning the public service commission regulations with state climate justice and emission reduction targets while also capping utility expenses at no higher than 6% of a customer's monthly income.

Expanding Access to Childcare: Making sure more New Yorkers have access to affordable child care has been a long standing priority of the Senate Majority Conference. This year they expanded on that commitment with the passage of a few key pieces of legislation to make it easier for more families to access child care. Expanding presumptive eligibility statewide will allow families that qualify for subsidized care to get their children enrolled immediately, without having to wait the 1-2 months it may take to process their paperwork (S.4667A by Senator Brouk). The Senate Majority also passed legislation to remove the minimum wage requirements for child care assistance (S.4924A by Senator Ramos) so that the lowest income New Yorkers have access to care and expanded child care assistance to nontraditional hours, so that parents have child care during training periods or for nonbusiness hour shifts (S.8152A by Senator Brisport).

Protecting New Yorkers from Gun Violence. Currently, gun violence ranks as the number one cause of death among kids and teens in the United States. The Senate Majority is building on its strong record of gun safety by advancing responsible and effective firearm regulations to help end the tragic loss of life due to gun violence. The Senate passed legislation to strengthen gun safety measures and ensure deadly weapons stay out of the wrong hands. The proposed legislation will provide funding for anti-violence education in schools (S.4598A, by Senator Bailey), add reasonable restrictions to the open carry of long guns (S.9137, by Senator Gianaris), establish a ten-day waiting period for firearm purchases (S.4818, by Senator Gianaris), require reasonable controls on the manufacturing and sale of pistol converters (S.7365A, by Senator Hoylman-Sigal), establish a voluntary waiver of the right to purchase firearms (S.2086A, by Senator Kavanagh), hold firearm industry members accountable for unreasonable conduct (S.7392A, by Senator Myrie), and expand the list of who can petition for Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) (S.8589, by Senator Scarcella-Spanton).

Fighting for Workers' Rights. The Senate stands with New York's workers and has led the fight to strengthen workers rights in New York. To protect every New Yorkers, the Senate passed several pieces of legislation that will help all workers get ahead. The Senate passed legislation increasing short-term disability benefits over a five-year period to eventually align with the Paid Family Leave program (S.9840, by Senator Ramos). The Senate also passed legislation requiring annual sick leave for domestic workers (S.1801, by Senator Ramos), creating the crime of misappropriation of payroll funds (S.7205, by Senator Comrie), passing the Retail Workers Safety Act to create a model workplace violence prevention program (S.8358C, by Senator Ramos), expanding workers' compensation coverage to include work-related PTSD for all workers (S.6635, by Senator Ramos), and passing the Wage Payment Integrity Act to protect against wage theft (S.4973A, by Senator Gounardes).

Combating Climate Change. The Senate has always been committed to protecting New York's natural resources and open spaces while combating climate change. To those ends, the Senate passed the Climate Superfund to establish a climate change adaptation cost recovery program to require fossil fuel companies that have contributed significantly to greenhouse gas emissions to fund needed infrastructure investments to adapt to climate change (S.2129B, by Senator Krueger). The Senate also passed legislation to identify potential sites on roadways for wildlife crossings (S.4198B, by Senator Comrie), a ban on styrofoam coolers (S.4414A, by Senator Krueger), an expansion of the food scrap recycling program (S.5331A, by Senator Harkham), and a ban on carbon dioxide fracking, to ensure that gas and oil companies do not take advantage of this loophole in the State's hydrofracking ban (S.8357, by Senator Webb). Lastly, the Senate passed the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act, which requires producers of packaging and single-use plastics to ensure these products meet certain reduction, re-usability, and recycling requirements, engage in reforming waste system infrastructure, and reduce the use of toxic substances (S.4246D, by Senator Harkham). As well as establishing an extended producer responsibility program for mattresses (S.6419E, by Senator Kavanagh).

Strengthening Social Media Protections for Kids. The Senate passed nation-leading legislation to regulate how social media companies use algorithms on children and utilize their data. The Stop Addictive Feeds Exploitation (SAFE) for Kids Act will prevent social media companies

from showing algorithmic feeds to minors under the age of 18 and will prohibit overnight push notifications for addictive feeds, unless they receive parental consent (Ch. 120, by Senator Gounardes). Finally, the Senate passed the Child Data Protection Act, which will limit the personal information that media companies can collect and sell from children that is used to create personalized advertisements and to support the curation of addictive algorithmic feeds (Ch.121, by Senator Gounardes).

BUDGET

Throughout the budget process, the Senate fought for and won significant and expansive measures to address the pressing needs of working individuals and families, safeguard public education, and implement a holistic approach to housing reform and affordability. The SFY 2024-25 Enacted Budget was balanced and fiscally sound, all while providing record funding for public education, healthcare and housing. The Enacted Budget builds a balanced and equitable fiscal foundation capable of providing vital support and services for families and businesses. It also shows the Senate's commitment to investing in public safety, the environment, and to recognizing the contributions of human services workers.

Highlights are listed below, arranged by subject area.

Housing Reform. The Senate fought for and won a transformative housing deal that targets both the affordability and supply of the current market through meaningful tenant and homeowner protections, along with real incentives to replenish the housing stock. The reform package includes: Housing Opportunities for the Future, a new \$150 million program to build affordable homes and rentals across the State; a new opt-in construction or commercial conversion tax exemption for affordable housing outside of New York City; authorization for municipalities to adopt a local tax exemption to make it easier for individuals to build accessory dwelling units; enactment of “Good Cause” protections for tenants; and establishing the crime of deed theft to protect homeowners from having someone steal the title to their home through fraudulent or deceptive practices.

The Senate won crucial funding towards affordable housing and homeowner protections, such as: \$140 million in capital funding for NYCHA, \$80 million to support Mitchell-Lamas and \$75 million to support public housing authorities outside of New York City, \$40 million in the Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP), and a total of \$10 million in Eviction Protection Funding in New York City and \$40 million for outside New York City

The Senate also secured New York City specific housing measures. These include: an extension of the 421a construction completion deadline until 2031 to ensure that vested projects that had started construction prior to the expiration of 421a are able to continue; 485x, a new version of 421a, to build new multifamily buildings across the City with stronger labor and wage standards and requires levels of affordability; a lift of the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) cap to allow for higher density buildings; a pilot program to legalize basement and cellar apartments within identified geographic locations and to ensure those apartments are brought up to code to allow individuals

to live in them safely; and a tax incentive program for Commercial Conversions with higher affordability requirements.

Combating Climate Change. The Enacted Budget continued the Senate Majority's commitment to meeting New York's climate goals by forging ahead on key investments to address the effects of climate change. The Senate fought and won an additional \$250 million over the Executive proposal for the Clean Water Infrastructure Act for a total of \$500 million, and successfully reversed cuts to the Environmental Protection Fund for an investment of \$400 million to support climate priorities across the State. The Enacted Budget also included the RAPID Act, to expedite the siting and construction of electrical transmission and commercial energy energy, while preserving agricultural land, incorporating greater community input in the siting process, and improving labor standards. Finally the Budget includes \$1 billion for the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and investing \$47 million to plant 25 million trees by 2033, and \$300 million in Capital for enhancing and improving parks statewide and \$150 million for the New York Statewide Investment in More Swimming (NYSWIMS) program to improve pools and build new ones in communities across the State.

Investing in Public Education. The Senate continued its commitment to fully funding New York's schools, by successfully fighting against the Executive budget's proposed cuts to Foundation Aid, ensuring that all schools have what they need to educate students to their fullest potential. The Senate secured \$1 million for a comprehensive study by the Rockefeller Institute and the State Department of Education to develop a modernized school funding formula. The Senate also won \$180 million to continue its expansion of school meals and \$100 million for Universal Pre-K to allow school districts throughout the State to serve at least 90% of eligible four year olds. With respect to higher education, the Senate fought for increases in general operating aid and flexible capital for SUNY and CUNY. For the first time since 2000, the Senate won an increase to the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) minimum award from \$500 to \$1,000 and raised the TAP income cap thresholds, while also adding part-time TAP for proprietary students.

Investing in Local Communities. The Senate Majority fought and won record funding for local governments, ensuring a \$50 million increase in AIM, the first increase in over a decade. The Enacted Budget also included increased funding for public transportation systems across the State, including \$10 million in additional funds for Upstate STOA funding, and \$551 million for non-MTA downstate systems.

Improving Public Safety. The Senate fought to put meaningful resources into public safety and the protection of all New Yorkers. The Enacted Budget expanded the range of offenses that can be prosecuted as hate crimes and created a Class E felony for assaulting retail workers. The Budget also includes protections against artificial intelligence deep fakes and increased enforcement powers for the Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) to enable cities and counties to crack down on illegal cannabis shops.

Protecting New York's Workers. The Senate fought and won for the inclusion of a 2.84% COLA for Human Services workers, including a 1.7% target salary increase for specific support direct care, clinical, and non-executive administrative staff. The Senate also won a long overdue and critical Tier 6 reform by changing the final average salary calculation window for Tier 6 members from five to three years to help incentivize workforce retention.

Strengthening New York's Healthcare System. The Senate achieved an increase in Medicaid reimbursement rates, on top of the increases from last year's budget, of \$350 million for hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living providers. The Senate also won \$800 million in support for distressed and safety-net hospitals and \$7.5 billion invested in New York's health care system through modifications to the state's 1115 Medicaid Waiver to be used for promoting health equity, diminishing health disparities, and enhancing access to primary and behavioral health care. Finally, the Senate won for the inclusion of a 2.84% COLA for Human Services workers, including a 1.7% target salary increase for specific support direct care, clinical, and non-executive administrative staff.

Expanding the Empire State Child Tax Credit. The Senate insisted upon and won \$350 million for a new supplemental tax credit for families eligible for the Empire State Child Credit to provide direct support to working families.

Supporting Small Businesses. In ongoing efforts to bolster New York's economy from the ground up, the Senate Majority continues to invest in small businesses and development at all levels of the economy. The Enacted Budget includes a retail security tax credit, which helps small businesses make the investments needed to keep employees safe. The Senate fought for the Newspaper and Broadcast Media Jobs Program, to support and promote local media. The program includes a personal income and corporate franchise tax credit for certain qualifying, independently owned print media or broadcasting entities, including those that have experienced workforce or circulation decline in the last five years.

Supporting Reproductive and Maternal Health. The Senate Majority continues to be committed to advance greater protections and resources for reproductive and maternal health. To that end, the Senate ensured that the Enacted Budget included: Paid Prenatal Leave, providing 20 hours of paid sick time for pregnant employees to use for their prenatal care visits; codifying the Reproductive Freedom and Equity Grant Program to provide funding for abortion providers and non-profit entities to support increased access to abortion; enacting the Community Doula Expansion Grant Program to provide funding to community-based organizations for recruitment and retention and startup and administrative costs; allowing the Health Commissioner to issue a statewide, non-patient specific order to provide doula services for any pregnant, birthing, or postpartum individual; and requiring paid breaks for breast milk expression in the workplace for 30 minutes.

2024 Legislative Wrap Up Summary

Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Senate Bill Introductions	8,441	7,571	9,008	7,246	8,398	6,616	8,073	6,812	7,156
Senate Bills Reported to Calendar	1,898	1,859	1,923	1,790	1,018	1,830	2,143	2,228	2,013
Senate Bills Passed*	1,679	1,648	1,636	1,559	796	1,555	1,542	1,895	1,752
Senate Bills Died on Calendar	219	211	289	231	222	275	601	335	263
Assembly Bill Introductions	9,310	7,817	9,902	8,032	10,041	8,434	9,673	8,524	9,444
Assembly Bill Reported to Calendar	1,122	1,100	1,405	1,179	828	1,259	1,576	1,258	1,386
Assembly Bills Passed	987	1,026	1,245	1,054	581	1,099	1,113	998	1,041
Assembly Bills Died on Calendar	135	74	154	125	247	160	423	269	345
Bills Passed Both Houses	805	896	1,009	892	413	935	641	606	618
Bills Passed by Democratic Conference Members*	1,540	1,465	1,503	1,428	714	1,383	210	151	147
Bills Passed by Republican Conference Members*	139	183	133	131	82	172	1,160	1,475	1,409

*Includes Assembly bills handed down to the Senate Third Reading Calendar

AGING

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Extends the Raised Income Eligibility Provisions for SCRIE and DRIE Programs****S.9418 (Cleare) / A.10141 (Lucas)**

This legislation extends the effective date of tax exemptions for rent-regulated properties occupied by senior citizens and persons with disabilities. The Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) were last increased in 2014, by raising the combined maximum income from \$29,000 to \$50,000. The raised income eligibility for SCRIE and DRIE is set to expire on June 30, 2024, and will revert to \$29,000. This legislation extends the effective date to June 30, 2026.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Relates to Assessments for Certain Real Property Tax Exemptions**S.9785 (Cleare) / A.10411 (Bichotte Hermelyn)**

This legislation amends the Real Property Tax law concerning real property tax and rent exemptions for seniors and people with disabilities. This legislation amends the definition of "income" used to determine benefits for cities with a population of 1 million or more. As a result of this legislation, the most recent income tax year, or the most recent year for which data is available, will be used to determine if any exemptions are available to the applicant.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

Relates to Quality Improvement and Increased Consumer Transparency in Assisted Living Residences**S.8865 (Cleare) / A.5790B (Paulin)**

The legislation requires assisted living facilities to report quality measures, rates, rents, and service fees, and to post information about them. Additionally, it mandates a scoring system for assisted living quality reports. As part of this legislation, assisted living residences can also be accredited by agencies selected by the Commissioner of the Department of Health.

Proponents: Alzheimer's Impact Movement

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

**Automatically Identifies and Enrolls EPIC Participants into HEAP When Eligible
S.8760A (Cleare) / A.9369A (McDonald)**

This legislation requires the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to establish a program that will automatically identify and enroll Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage (EPIC) program participants in the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP).

Proponents: AARP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

**Excludes Certain Expenditures for Medical Care from Income Eligibility for SCRIE
S.717 (Cleare) / A.6053 (Dinowitz)**

This legislation adds medical and prescription drug expenses, that are not paid or reimbursed by insurance, to count as excluded "income" when determining eligibility for the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Assessing Authorities to Provide Additional Notice of Tax Exemptions for Senior Citizens

S.6095 (Cleare) / A.5916 (Dinowitz)

This legislation requires assessing authorities to provide additional notice for senior citizens real property tax exemptions. Currently, assessing authorities must provide an application form and notice to individuals who received a senior citizens tax exemption. For the exemption to take effect, the application must be filed and approved 60 days before the applicable taxable status date. This legislation requires an assessing authority that has not yet received a completed application to send a second copy of the application and notice required 30 days prior to the appropriate taxable status date.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Provides Language Access for SCRIE and DRIE Programs**S.4349 (Sepulveda, Webb) / No Same As**

This legislation expands current law to require any entity responsible for the administration of the Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) and the Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE) at the local level to develop and implement a plan to ensure adequate access to information for individuals with limited English proficiency or who require communication assistance.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes a Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease Program Database**S.887 (Cleare, Chu) / A.5306 (Hyndman)**

This legislation requires the New York State Office for the Aging, in conjunction with the New York State Department of Health, to develop and maintain a Dementia and Alzheimer's disease program database, of programs within NYS that have been shown to be successful in supporting and treating elderly individuals aged 60 years or older who suffer from dementia or Alzheimer's disease.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes an Interagency Elder Justice Task Force**S.9138 (Cleare) / No Same As**

This legislation establishes the Interagency Elder Justice Task Force within the New York State Office for the Aging. The task force consists of representatives of state agencies whose work involves elder justice to create greater collaboration and develop overarching strategies, systems, and programs to protect older adults from abuse and mistreatment. The task force's purpose is to focus attention on elder justice and create a multidisciplinary mechanism to align agencies.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

AGRICULTURE

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Requires Signage on the Prohibition of Sale of Race Horses for Slaughter When Offering for Sale and Requires An Agent to be Present at All Race Horse Auctions

S.6796A (Addabbo, Palumbo) / A.6947A (Pretlow)

This bill ensures compliance with the recently codified prohibition of the slaughter of race horses. Specifically, the bill requires all corporations and other business entities offering a thoroughbred or standardbred horse for sale, including at auction, to have conspicuous signage detailing that it is illegal to sell a racehorse for slaughter. Signage must include penalties associated with this violation and must be posted no later than 90 days after this bill becomes law.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 148-0

Modifies the Young Farmer Advisory Board on Agriculture and Replaces with the Beginning Farmer Advisory Board on Agriculture

S.9248 (Hinchey) / A.7658A (Lupardo)

This bill establishes the Beginning Farmer Advisory Board on Agriculture by diversifying the composition of the Young Farmer Advisory Board.

Proponents: Department of Agriculture and Markets

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 136-0

Allows Cannabis Growers to Receive Agricultural Assessments, Protections, and Property Tax Benefits

S.1752 (Hinchey, Bailey, Cooney, Skoufis, Webb) / A.1234 (Lupardo)

This bill allows cannabis growers to receive agricultural assessments, protections, and property tax benefits under agricultural districts by adding cannabis to the definition of crops produced on land used in agricultural production.

Proponents: New York Farm Bureau, Cannabis Association of New York

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-3 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Martins, Mattera)

Assembly Vote: 122-19

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

Provides Agricultural Assessments for Start-up, Beginning, and Small Farms

S.1056A (Hinchey, Borrello, Webb) / A.3786A (Gunther)

This bill allows start-up, beginning, and small farms to receive agricultural assessments by updating the definition of "land use in agricultural production" to expand eligibility to farms that have not met the codified annual gross sales value thresholds.

Proponents: New York Farm Bureau

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Codifies Federal Standards for False or Misleading Advertising of Food and Provides a Special Consideration for Advertising Directed at Children

S.213B (Myrie, Bailey, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Hoylman-Sigal, Kavanagh, May, Ramos, Sepulveda, Skoufis, Webb) / A.4424B (Reyes)

This bill codifies the Federal Trade Commission's unfair practices standard used when determining whether food or food product advertising is false or misleading, expanding the State's ability to bring civil claims on behalf of consumers. This bill further provides a special consideration for false or misleading food advertising directed at children consistent with federal regulation.

Proponents: Center for Science in the Public Interest; Campaign Against Hunger; 1199 SEIU

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 45-13 (Borello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the Farm Ownership Succession Planning Program

S.2407 (Bailey, Webb) / A.7457 (Cruz)

This bill requires the Department of Agriculture and Markets to establish the Farm Ownership Succession Planning Program which would create a succession planning toolkit for farmers and prospective farmers, assemble a taskforce to assist the program in reaching people in a protected class, and provide information on farm viability.

Proponents: None

Opponents: New York Propane Gas Association

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Strengthens and Restructures Animal Cruelty Laws Prohibiting Animal Fighting
S.3431A (Skoufis, Hinchey) / No Same As**

This bill strengthens and restructures animal cruelty laws to deter individuals from engaging in animal fighting.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Associated Dog Clubs of New York State

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Brisport)

Assembly Vote: None

**Enacts "Tucker's law" - Provides a Sentencing of up to Four Years for a Violation of
Aggravated Animal Cruelty**

**S.5325 (Martinez, Addabbo, Borrello, Chu, Gallivan, Helming, Mattera, Murray,
Palumbo, Rolison, Tedisco, Weber) / A.8211 (Lunsford)**

This bill enacts "Tucker's Law," which removes the language that limits the term of imprisonment to up to two years, defaulting to the Class E felony sentencing of up to four years. This bill also removes language that makes the penalty a definite sentence, which would allow for sentences of multiple counts of animal cruelty to be "stacked." Under current law, if a defendant is serving multiple sentences in the same facility, those sentences are added together and the defendant serves either the total sentence or two years, whichever is less.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-2 (Brisport, Salazar)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

**“Erin’s Law”: Requires Public Buildings to Stock Opioid Antagonists
S.3112A (Mannion, Jackson) / A.1588A (Buttenschon)**

This bill directs the Office of General Services to ensure that each public building in the State maintains a stock of opioid antagonists, which are medications that block the effects of opioids. The bill is named “Erin’s Law” for a young woman from Rochester, who lost her life in November 2019 from an accidental overdose of fentanyl.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 51-6 (Borrello, Gallivan, Helming, Murray, O’Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: 140-0

**Requires Fentanyl Test Strips and Information in Overdose Prevention Program Kits
S.4393 (Martinez, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Sepúlveda, Webb) / A.5004 (Hyndman)**

This legislation requires the kits provided by the Department of Health’s Opioid Overdose Prevention Program to include fentanyl test strips and for the informational card distributed under the program to be updated to include information about the test strips and their uses.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 143-0

**Expand “Matthew’s Law” to Include Xylazine Test Strips
S.7833A (Fernandez, Harckham, May, Webb) / A.8467 (McDonald)**

This bill amends “Matthew’s Law” to include xylazine test strips in the drug adulterant testing kits. Matthew’s Law was created to expand access to fentanyl testing kits by allowing healthcare providers and pharmacists to dispense drug adulterant testing supplies to consumers. These kits contain fentanyl test strips which can detect the presence of fentanyl in all illicit substances.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: 144-2

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Establishes an Intensive Addiction and Medical Services Integrated Services Pilot Program
S.4530 (Harckham, Cooney, May, Webb) / A.3378 (Woerner)**

This legislation establishes a 3-year intensive addiction recovery and medical integrated services pilot program to support two programs that provide intensive addiction and medical services integrated services to individuals who have significant addiction and medical issues.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Designates Jail-Based SUD Treatment, Peer Led Recovery Support Services & Transition Services as Essential**S.5163 (Harckham, Jackson) / A.6226 (Kelles)**

This bill designates jail-based substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, peer-led recovery support services, and transition services programs as essential medical care services. By doing so, it requires facilities to make efforts to provide these services continuously. The services would also have the opportunity for increased funding from the government.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

Directs OASAS to Develop a Statewide Certification Process to Provide In-Home Substance Use Disorder Treatment Services**S.8717 (Fernandez) / A.9688 Reyes**

This legislation directs the Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS) to develop a statewide operating certification process for entities seeking to provide in-home based substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services. Applicants must show that they are able to meet the General Service Standards for Chemical Dependence Outpatient and Opioid Treatment Programs, which contains programmatic, operational, Medicaid reimbursement, workforce, and recordkeeping requirements for SUD outpatient programs certified, licensed or funded by OASAS.

Proponents: Aware Recovery Care

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Requires No-Cost Fentanyl Test Strips in Certain Healthcare and Rehabilitation Facilities
S.5671 (Fernandez) / A.5005 (Steck)**

This bill requires the Office of Addiction Services and Supports to establish a program for individuals to receive fentanyl test strips, at no cost, at certain healthcare and rehabilitation facilities. The bill also requires the Office to cooperate with the Department of Health to develop and run a public awareness campaign focused on the dangers of fentanyl and advertising where people can find test strips at no cost.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

BANKS

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Prohibits Fees for Use of Electronic Benefit Transfer Card****S.2601B (Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson) / A.8999C (Tapia)**

This bill prohibits banks, credit unions, and operators of automated teller machines (ATMs) from charging fees for using electronic benefit transfer cards. The bill defines electronic benefit transfer cards to include any medical assistance card, food stamp assistance card, public assistance card, or any other identification, authorization card or electronic access device issued by the State or a social services district which entitles a person to obtain public assistance benefits under a local, state or federal program administered by the State. It also includes any unemployment insurance program card, occupational training act program card, adoption subsidy electronic payments program card, or card issued by the New York child support program which entitles a person to receive funds under a local, state or federal program administered by the State, its political subdivisions or social services districts.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 43-15 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 97-48

Provides a Process for Department of Financial Services Removal of Officers**S.7532 (Sanders) / A.7428A (Buttenschon)**

This bill eliminates the existing director removal section of Banking Law and replaces it with a new process authorizing the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to remove a director, trustee, or member of any entity it supervises if they find the individual is operating in violation of a law, regulation, order or agreement, or who has engaged in unsafe or unsound practices, or who has engaged or participated in a willful act that directly contributed to the failure of the entity. Under the current law, removal of officers was conducted by an entity called the Banking Board, which has not existed since 2011 following the creation of the DFS.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 101-44

Private Education Debt Registry**S.8197 (Thomas) / A.8913 (Epstein)**

This bill requires private education creditors operating within the state, that are not already licensed or chartered by DFS, to register with DFS. "Private education creditor" is defined as any person engaged in the business of securing, making, or extending a private education debt or any holder of private education debt. This includes institutions of higher education to which student education debt is owed. This legislation requires all private education creditors to annually submit information on their private education debt activity.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 47-14 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 136-9

Wildcard Law Reauthorization**S.9382 (Sanders) / A.10031 (Buttenschon)**

This bill extends New York's wild card law, allowing DFS to permit state-chartered banking institutions, including banks, trust companies and credit unions, to exercise powers available to federally-chartered banks, by five years until September 2029.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Establishes Multiple-Person Accounts**S.9383A (Sanders) / A.9230B (Wallace)**

This bill creates rules for the establishment and governance of multiple-owner accounts and accounts with authorized signers for personal use. This bill creates a process which requires account owners to indicate up front whether they are opening a single or multiple owner account, and if multiple, whether they would prefer their account funds to be disposed of as a part of their estate or whether those funds should pass to the surviving account owners. It also requires account owners to indicate whether there should be authorized account managers who are not owners. This bill also requires banks to ask owners of existing accounts to indicate how they would like account funds to be disposed of in the case of the death of an owner. Banks would have to keep a record of the account intention in the case of a dispute over the funds following the death of an account owner.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: New York Bankers Association; New York Credit Union Association

Senate Vote: 40-21 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Cooney, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 92-49

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY**Prohibits State-Chartered Banks from Investing in Private Prisons****S.205 (Cleare, Brouk, Jackson, May) / A.6601 (Reyes)**

This bill prohibits any state-chartered banking institution from providing financing for or investing in the stocks, securities, or other obligations of any institution, company, or subsidiary that owns or contracts with a government to manage or run a prison.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 39-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Right of Action for those Injured by Mortgage Servicers**S.564A (Kavanagh, Addabbo, Brisport, Jackson, May, Myrie, Ramos, Sanders, Webb) / A.2131A (Dinowitz)**

This bill creates a private right of action for those who are injured by a mortgage servicer's failure to comply with foreclosure proceeding rules and regulations. Under this bill, a person injured may bring an action or assert a counterclaim and may recover \$1,000 per violation, treble actual damages, and costs and expenses including reasonable attorneys' fees if awarded damages or injunctive relief. A mortgagee and mortgage servicer will be jointly and severally liable for any recoveries by an injured mortgagor in any action brought pursuant to this legislation.

Proponents: AARP; Community Service Society of New York; Mobilization for Justice; Legal Services NYC and various other legal services organizations across the state

Opponents: JPMorganChase; New York Bankers Association

Senate Vote: 40-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Public Bank Feasibility Study**S.1755C (Sanders, Jackson) / A.2720B (Peoples-Stokes)**

This bill establishes a temporary commission to conduct a feasibility study on the formation and control of a State-owned public bank. This bill requires the commission to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature between six and seven months after the bill takes effect reporting on its findings.

Proponents: New Economy Project

Opponents: New York Bankers Association

Senate Vote: 39-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Allows the Department of Financial Services to Regulate Unlicensed Entities
S.7420 (Krueger) / A.7770 (Bores)

This bill authorizes DFS to investigate activities that may constitute prohibited unlicensed acts under the Banking and Insurance Laws. DFS presently licenses and regulates financial services and insurance companies operating in New York State, but emerging technologies and offering types may not fall under existing licensing and regulatory regimes. This bill would allow DFS to regulate unlicensed entities and levy penalties for violations of those regulations.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 42-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

Wildcard Law Expansion
S.6982 (Sanders) / A.7353 (Buttenschon)

This bill permits New York-chartered banking institutions to exercise any powers authorized by out-of-state-chartered banking institutions without any additional legislation, subject to the DFS approval. Under current law, DFS can already permit a state-chartered bank or credit union to exercise the powers of a federal bank, which must be reauthorized every five years.

Proponents: DFS

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 148-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Licensing Consumer Debt Collectors
S.666B (Kavanagh) / No Same As

This bill requires consumer debt collectors to obtain an annual, renewable license from DFS in order to conduct business in the state. The bill covers consumer debts arising from transactions with primarily a personal, family, or household purpose. The bill defines consumer debt collector as any person who engages in the business of collecting consumer debts owed to another person.

Proponents: Receivables Management Association International

Opponents: New York State Creditors Bar Association

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Allows Credit Unions, Savings Banks, Savings and Loan Associations, and Federal Saving Associations to Hold Municipal Deposits**S.1453 (Sanders, Mannion, May, Mayer, Parker, Ramos, Skoufis) / A.3246A (Hunter)**

This bill would allow credit unions, savings banks, savings and loan associations, and federal savings associations to accept and secure municipal deposits. Under current law, the ability to hold municipal deposits is reserved for commercial banks.

Proponents: New York Conference of Mayors; New York Credit Union Association; New York State School Boards Association

Opponents: New York Bankers Association; Independent Bankers Association of New York; New York State Association of Counties

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes requirements for the creation and operation of limited purpose trust companies**S.8364 (Cooney) / A.9350 (Bores)**

Requires DFS to issue an authorization certificate to a limited purpose trust company, which commonly includes crypto currency providers, if they meet DFS's conditions for limited purpose trust companies. DFS currently uses a letter agreement to recognize limited purpose trust companies.

Proponents: Paxos; Crypto Council for Innovation

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

The 2024-2025 Executive Budget proposed the licensing and regulation of Buy-Now, Pay-Later lenders. Buy-Now, Pay-Later lenders extend consumers credit in four or fewer payments at the point of sale of the purchase of a good or service. No three-way agreement was reached during the Budget, and agreement was not reached on this issue during the remainder of the legislative session.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Public hearing of the Senate Banks Committee. *Disparities in New York's Banking Industry: Banking Access for Consumers and Small Businesses* (February 27, 2024).

Public hearing of the Senate Banks Committee. *Exploring unequal access to loans in New York's mortgage banking and credit industry* (May 7, 2024).

BUDGET AND REVENUE

Analyst: Gabriel Paniza
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Allows for Tax Warrants to be Served Electronically****S.5240 (Sanders) / A.2987 (Zebrowski)**

This bill allows the Department of Tax and Finance to serve tax warrants electronically if the individual or entity consents to such electronic service.

Proponents: J.P. Morgan Chase; New York Bankers Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Decouples State from the Treatment of Gains under the Opportunity Zones Program****S.543B (Gianaris, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Salazar) / A.2170B (Dinowitz)**

This bill decouples State and New York City personal income taxes from the federal exemptions on taxation of gains from investments in areas designated as federal Opportunity Zones and requires taxpayers to calculate their gains from such an investment without any special tax treatment or exemption.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Changes Eligibility Rules for the Digital Gaming Tax Credit**S.6997B (Breslin, Cooney) / A.7126B (McDonald)**

This bill makes changes to the eligibility criteria for the Digital Gaming Tax Credit and what constitutes qualified production costs. The minimum size of the total production costs of a project is halved to \$50,000 and the requirement that 75 percent of total production costs be qualified production costs is removed. The limit on the amount of wages per employee covered is removed, as is the prohibition on wages or salaries for writers and actors being a qualified cost and the prohibition on income such as royalty or licensing fees paid to employees with an ownership stake. Wages for executive staff directly related to game production would be included in qualified production costs also. Digital gaming companies would make annual applications for the credit to Empire State Development to be submitted no earlier than 90 days before the beginning of the year. The \$4 million cap on qualified production costs is removed.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available
Senate Vote: 57-2 (Mayer, Skoufis)
Assembly Vote: None

**Imposes a Noise Tax on Non-Essential Helicopter and Seaplane Flights in New York City
S.7216C (Gonzalez, Addabbo) / No Same As**

This bill establishes a new noise tax equal to \$50 per seat ticket, or \$200 per flight, whichever is higher, on non-essential helicopter flights conducted by helicopter and seaplane operators in New York City. There would be an exemption for non-essential flights conducted using models of helicopters or seaplanes that meet certain requirements to be considered a quiet aircraft. The Department of Tax and Finance, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, would be responsible for creating the registry of what models meet the criteria for being considered a quiet aircraft.

Proponents: Manhattan Borough President, Brooklyn Borough President, Hudson Classical Theater Company

Opponents: Blade

Senate Vote: 38-22 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ort, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Increases the Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Worker Credit
S.7286A (Martinez, Chu, Hinchey, May, Thomas, Webb) / A.7524A (Thiele)**

This bill increases the value of the volunteer firefighters and volunteer ambulance workers tax credit from \$200 to \$800 per individual and would allow individuals who claim the property tax exemption to also claim the credit, which is currently prohibited. Additionally, the bill clarifies which localities are eligible to offer at local option a volunteer firefighter and ambulance worker property tax exemption.

Proponents: Rescue EMS Campaign (NYS Association of Counties; NYS County Executives' Association; Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York; Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York; NYS Assoc. of Fire Chiefs; NYS Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Assoc., Inc.; EMS Sustainability Alliance / Make EMS Essential; International Association of EMTs and Paramedics; Wyoming County; Firefighters Assn. of the State of NY; Central Oneida County Volunteer Ambulance Corps.; Central Oneida County Volunteer Ambulance Corps.; New Paltz Rescue Squad; UNYAN; Delmar-Bethlehem EMS; Condor Emergency Squad, Inc.; Madison County Office of Emergency Management; NYSACHO)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Exempts Meals Bought with Donated Meal Points from Sales Taxes**S.8873A (Webb) / A.9563A (Cunningham)**

This bill expands the existing sales tax exemption for food purchased by enrolled students at college and universities using a meal plan to include meals purchased by students using donated meal plan points or other approved donations.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Allows the Transferability of the Historic Commercial Rehabilitation Credit**S.9071 (Kavanagh, May, Serrano) / A.964 (Woerner)**

This bill allows for the transfer of the rehabilitation of historic properties credit from the original applicant to an investor, allowing a non-profit entity to act as the pass-through to make the transfer tax-free at the federal level. The investor that gets control of the credit from the non-profit does not have the right to further transfer the credit.

Proponents: Preservation League of NY, NYS Association for Affordable Housing.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Allows the Department of Tax to Share Certain Information with DEC and NYSERDA**S.9711 (Krueger) / A.10220 (Dinowitz)**

This Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Departmental bill allows the Department of Tax and Finance to disclose information on the amount of fuel brought into the State from Petroleum Business Tax filing to the DEC or the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). This information would allow DEC and NYSERDA to cross check information contained in these filings with information being reported to the registry of major greenhouse gas emissions producers.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 45-16 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Working Families Tax Credit**

S.277B (Gounardes, Cooney, Breslin, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Mannion, May, Mayer, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sepulveda, Serrano, Webb) / A.4022B (Hevesi)

This bill creates the Working Families Tax Credit, replacing the existing Empire State Child Credit and the portion of the State Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) for individuals with children that qualify for the new credit. The full benefits of this credit would phase-in over five years, with the maximum refundable credit per child being equal to \$1,600 plus an inflation adjustment, and a minimum of \$500 per child, with the credit amount being inflation adjusted in the following years. When fully phased in, the program would be making advance payments to families four times a year. The Senate included a modified version of this bill in the One-House budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

Proponents: Alliance for Quality Education, Astor Services, Catholic Guardian Services, COFCCA, Downtown Women for Change, Earthjustice, Empire Justice Center, Families Together, Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies, New York State Catholic Conference, NYS American Academy of Pediatrics, Prevent Child Abuse New York, Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter, The Children's Defense Fund – New York, The Children's Defense Fund, The Education Trust—NY, The NYIC, United Neighborhood Houses, United Way of the Greater Capital Region, WCA.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Presumptive Eligibility for Child Care Assistance****S.4667A (Brouk, Chu, Cooney, Jackson, May, Salazar) / A.4099A (Clark)**

The bill mandates that each local Department of Social Services (LDSS) utilize a presumptive eligibility standard when individuals apply for child care assistance. The bill also provides that a LDSS may utilize funds from the child care block grant for the presumptive eligibility period, regardless of whether or not the applicant is ultimately determined to be eligible for child care assistance.

Proponents: Early Care and Learning Council, Empire State Campaign for Child Care, Schuyler Center.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Melanie's Law**S.6288 (Hinchey, Bailey, Chu, Skoufis) / A.6026 (Cunningham)**

This bill amends the Family Court Act and Criminal Procedure Law as it relates to proceedings over which the Family Court and Criminal Court have concurrent jurisdiction and which persons are considered members of the same family or household. The bill is named for Melanie Chianese who was killed by Paul Senecal, the ex-boyfriend of her mother, Cheryl Chianese, in May 2022. At the time of the murder, Cheryl Chianese had orders of protection against Mr. Senecal. However, because Melanie was an adult and not a family member or individual who had an intimate relationship with Mr. Senecal, she was unable to be included on an order of protection issued in a family offense proceeding and she was unable to commence her own family offense proceeding against Mr. Senecal.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 143-5

Expansion of Access to Child Care Assistance**S.8152A (Brisport, Breslin, Brouk, Jackson, May, Salazar, Webb) / A.8878A (Hevesi)**

This bill requires that a local Department of Social Services provide child care assistance, including full-time childcare, funded under the block grant which covers different hours than a parent or caretaker actually spends in an approved work, education, or training activity, as well as any other approved activity included in a local district's consolidated service plan.

Proponents: Robin Hood

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 56-4 (Gallivan, Griffo, Oberacker, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 121-24

Safe Landings for Youth Leaving Foster Care Act**S.8724B (Hoylman-Sigal, Cleare, Cooney, Fernandez, Gounardes, Harckham, Jackson, Parker, Rivera, Salazar, Sepulveda, Serrano, Thomas) / A.9321B (Hevesi)**

This legislation empowers the Family Court to enforce orders made for youths during their foster care placement even after they have reached the age of twenty-one and exited the foster care system. It also mandates the appointment of an attorney for the child if independent legal representation is unavailable, for proceedings that aim to enforce a lawful court order once a youth has turned twenty-one and aged out of foster care.

Proponents: Center for Family Representation; Children's Law Center; Children's Defense Fund; Citizens' Committee for Children; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA); Covenant House NY; Families Together in New York State; Hope 585; Lawyers for Children; Legal Aid Society; NYC Bar Association; Queens Defenders; Schuyler Center for Analysis and Advocacy; Youth Represent

Opponents: New York Public Welfare Association (NYPWA)

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 106-35

Certification Requirements for Continuation of Adoption Subsidies**S.8745 (Persaud) / A.3580A (Hevesi)**

This legislation amends Social Services Law to provide authorization to local social services district (LSSDs) officials to terminate adoption subsidies to adoptive parents, in the event the adoptive parents are no longer providing support to the child or children.

Proponents: Children's Defense Fund; Children's Law Center; Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA); Covenant House New York; Lawyers for Children; New Yorkers for Children; NYS Bar Association; The Legal Aid Society

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 53-4 (Borrello, Murray, Rhoads, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Authorizes the Correctional Association to Inspect Residential Juvenile Detention Facilities
S.600 (Salazar, Brisport, Fernandez, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.7261 (Aubry)**

This legislation mandates the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) guarantee that all juveniles in OCFS-maintained or certified facilities have access to a complimentary and confidential hotline for reporting maltreatment, abuse, or complaints about their confinement conditions. Additionally, it authorizes the Correctional Association of New York to conduct routine visits, inspections, and evaluations of all secure, limited secure, and non-secure facilities under OCFS's operation or maintenance. These inspections will encompass all property, documents, records, policies, procedures, personnel, or other items under the facility's jurisdiction.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Elimination of Anonymous Reporting of Child Abuse and Maltreatment
S.902B (Brisport, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hoyalman-Sigal, Jackson, Murray, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Webb) / A.2479 (Hevesi)**

This legislation provides that when a caller reaches out to the Statewide Central Register for Child Abuse and Maltreatment (SCR) regarding allegations of abuse or maltreatment, the information gathered from the caller must include their name and contact information. No report from the statewide register shall be transmitted to a local child protective service (CPS) unless the caller's name and contact information is provided. Currently, anonymous reporting is permitted.

Proponents: Adoptive and Foster Family Coalition of New York; Children's Law Center; Children's Rights; Children's Defense Fund NY; Citizens Committee for Children NY; NYS Coalition Against Domestic Violence; NYU Family Defense; Prevent Child Abuse NY; Schuyler Center; The Legal Aid Society

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Martinez)

Assembly Vote: None

Protections to Families and Treatment Providers of Young People Receiving Gender-Affirming Care**S.7506A (Hoylman-Sigal, Brouk, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hareckham) / A.7687A (Bronson)**

This legislation enhances safeguards surrounding gender-affirming care by prohibiting family separation due to a minor receiving such care. It does not allow enforcement of another state's order removing a child from a parent if it is based upon the parent allowing a child to access gender-affirming care and extends emergency jurisdiction to courts in New York, when a child is present in the State due to an inability to obtain gender-affirming care. Additionally, the bill adds gender-affirming care as a legally protected health activity, whether provided in-person or through telehealth. It also makes modifications to the Education Law to ensure that the provision of reproductive services or gender-affirming care to an individual who resides in a state where the provision of such care is illegal will not, by itself, constitute professional misconduct for a provider otherwise acting within their scope of practice.

Proponents: American Academy of Pediatrics; Callen-Lorde; NYCLU; NYS Academy of Family Physicians; NYS Psychiatric Association; The New Pride Agenda

Opponents: None.

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Inspections of Childcare Facilities**S.7815A (Rivera) / A.8966A (Alvarez)**

The legislation mandates that the Office of Children and Families Services (OCFS) add recognition of illegal substances and common drug paraphernalia to the list of required training topics for child care facility inspectors and requires that inspections include a visual inspection of every room and closet in a home or facility where child care is provided. Additionally, the bill requires that OCFS, in consultation with the Department of Health and the Office of Additional Services and Supports, provide education and training on overdose prevention for child care providers, requires that all child care providers maintain an opioid antagonist on site, and ensures transparency for parents with children in home-based daycare centers with additional posted notices.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Center for Fatherhood Initiatives**S.8892A (Bailey) / A.9811 (Dais)**

This legislation creates The Center for Fatherhood Initiatives within the Office of Children and Family Services which will be responsible for issuing grants aimed at initiatives promoting and advancing fatherhood, particularly those that expand opportunities to enhance parenting skills, attitudes, and self-sufficiency among marginalized communities.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Increases Time Frames for Payments of Expenses by Adoptive Parents to Birth Mothers
S.9008 (Scarcella-Spanton) / A.10464 (Paulin)

This bill increases the time frame for payments of a birth mother's reasonable and actual expenses for housing, maternity clothing, clothing for the child, and transportation by adoptive parents to 180 days prior to and forty-five days after birth or forty-five days after the parental consent to the adoption. Payment for the birth mother's expenses shall not extend beyond the designated time periods unless a court finds that exceptional circumstances warrant it.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Ensures a Right to Counsel During the Investigatory Phase of a Child Protective Proceeding and That Attorneys for Parents and Children Have Access to Necessary Records Prior to the Filing of Court Proceedings

S.9695 (Brisport) / No Same As

The legislation mandates that an adult involved in a Child Protective Services (CPS) investigation is entitled to legal counsel before any court proceedings begin. Should an individual attend their initial CPS court appearance without an attorney, the court is required to inform them at the start of the proceedings of their right to representation by an attorney of their choice, the right to request a postponement to consult with an attorney, and the right to court-appointed counsel if they cannot afford one. This legislation also grants prospective attorneys, representing both parents and children, access to reports from the Statewide Central Register (SCR).

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: None

Right to Counsel in Family Court Proceedings Regarding Violations of Orders of Child Support and Establishment of Paternity or Parentage**S.9696 (Brisport) / No Same As**

This legislation provides minors with the right to an attorney in proceedings related to child support violations, paternity, or parentage. It also ensures the right to appointed legal counsel for individuals who cannot afford representation in cases of contempt, intentional violations of a Family Court order, and paternity or parentage matters. This includes those who are notified and opt to participate in parentage proceedings. Furthermore, the bill affords a right to legal counsel, or for minors, an Attorney for the Child, for parties lacking the financial means to secure legal representation in matters of child support violations.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 56-5 (Borrello, Griffo, Oberacker, Rhoads, Stec)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Information Disclosure to Parents and Caretakers during a CPS Investigation - "Parental Bill of Rights"****S.901A (Brisport, Bailey, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Webb) / A.1980 (Walker)**

This bill requires, at the point of initial contact when a child protective investigation is initiated, that a child protective services worker notify parents or caretakers of specific information, both orally and in writing. The information must include that the parent or caretakers is not required to permit the worker entry into the home, to speak with the worker, the interview or examine a child, to sign releases of information or undergo drug testing, as well as information about seeking the advice of an attorney and the specific allegations in the report.

Current law requires child protective services to initiate an investigation into a report accepted by the State Central Registry within 24 hours. There are statutory requirements that have to be met, including an evaluation of the environment of the child named in the report and any other children in the same home and a determination of the risk to such children if they continue to remain in the existing home environment. Additionally, child protective services has to make a determination of the nature, extent and cause of any condition specified in the report and the name, age and condition of other children in the home. After seeing to the safety of the child or children, child protective services must immediately notify the subjects of the report, and other persons named in the report, in writing of the existence of the report and their respective rights under social services law. Currently, disclosure of specific allegations is not required at the point of initial contact.

Proponents: New York City Bar; NYCLU; Parent Legislative Action Network; Prevent Child Abuse NY; Schuyler Center; Bronx Defenders

Opponents: CSEA; NY Public Welfare Association

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Custodial Interrogation of Minors

S.1099A (Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Thomas, Webb) / A.8923A (Hevesi)

This bill amends current law enforcement practices when taking a child or youth into custody and the interrogation of juveniles. Significant changes include a requirement that an officer must immediately notify the parent or person legally responsible for the child that the child has been taken into custody prior to transporting the child to the police station house which is a change to the current law which does not strictly prohibit law enforcement from transporting a child prior to notification to a child's parent or person legally responsible for their care. In addition, a juvenile cannot be questioned until that juvenile has consulted with legal counsel in person, by telephone, or by video conference. This legal consultation cannot be waived by either the child or the child's parent or custodian.

Proponents: Brooklyn Defender Services; Center for Community Alternatives; Children's Rights; Covenant House New York; Kevin Barrett; PhD Professor of Criminal Justice Rockland Community College; Legal Aid Society of Rochester NY; Ronald Richter; JCCA; The Alliance of Families for Justice; The Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU; The Chief Defenders Association of New York; The New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; The Office of Genesee County Public Defender; The Youth Shelter Program of Westchester

Opponents: NYPD; New York State Sheriffs' Association

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Mothers and Infants Lasting Change (MILC) Allowance

S.4578A (Ramos, Brouk, Ashby, Bailey, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Jackson, Kennedy, Rivera, Salazar) / A.6197A (Clark)

The bill creates a pilot program which will provide 15,000 low-income participants, in both urban and rural areas, an unconditional cash allowance during the final three months of pregnancy which will continue until the child born of that pregnancy reaches 18 months of age.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Children and Families and Judiciary Committees. *Hearing on oversight of the Family Court throughout the State, including its resources, operations, and outcomes.* (November 1, 2023).

CITIES 1

Analyst: David Bissember
518-455-2848

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Online Posting of Sanitary Inspection Grades****S.509B (Thomas, Jackson, Webb) / A.28C (Rosenthal L)**

This legislation requires New York City restaurants with online delivery services, and internet-based third-party food delivery services, to post on their website, including any mobile application, a hyperlink to the City's Health Department food establishments lookup tool to find the sanitary inspection letter grade of any restaurant for which food delivery services are provided in the City. This bill authorizes other municipalities in New York State to opt-in through the adoption of a local law or rule to post a hyperlink to the municipal or State Health Department food establishment lookup tool.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Uber Eats

Senate Vote: 55-3 (Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara)

Assembly Vote: 140-5

Extends the Exemption from Water Usage and Supply Charges to other than For-Profit Community Gardens in New York City**S.9053 (Comrie) / A.9919 (Zinerman)**

This bill exempts certain other than for-profit community gardens from payment for water usage and supply in New York City, to apply the water charge exemption to any community gardens that are registered with the City's Parks and Recreation Department instead of solely non-profit 501(c)(3) ones.

Proponents: NYC Office of the Mayor

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 136-0

Hurricane Sandy Work Permit Extender**S.9206 (Sanders) / A.9549 (Pheffer Amato)**

This bill extends provisions reinstating prior approved work permits and waiving requirements as such provisions relate to rebuilding and repairing homes devastated by Hurricane Sandy in New York City.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

**Makes Various Amendments to Pier 76 and the Hudson River Park Trust Act
S.9408C (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.10224C (Simone)**

This bill clarifies various zoning protections at Pier 76, including commercial building height, helipad location, and helipad permit renewal terms and local input.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

**Limits Water Charges in NYC for Hospitals and Charitable Organizations
S.9736 (Sepúlveda) / A.9670 (Dais)**

This bill limits water charges in New York City for hospitals and charitable organizations.

Proponents: New York State Catholic Conference (2022)

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

**Increase Fines For Tractor-Trailer Parking on Residential Streets Overnight
S.519 (Comrie, Liu, Stavisky) / A.1186 (Vanel)**

This bill increases the monetary fines for tractor-trailer combinations and other large commercial vehicles for parking on residential streets overnight.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: None

**Requires Notice to Neighbors of Construction Sites
S.1304 (Comrie, Jackson, Persaud) / A.2517 (Dickens)**

This bill requires the NYC Department of Buildings (DOB) to issue a bulletin to homeowners who live next to construction sites, informing them of their rights.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 42-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

NYC Sewer and Water Line Repair**S.1398 (Liu, Addabbo, Jackson, Persaud) / No Same-As**

This bill makes public utility companies responsible for the repair and replacement of damaged residential lateral sewer and water pipes in certain cases.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (2021); Energy Coalition New York; Verizon

Senate Vote: 44-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Allows Commuter Vans in New York City to Accept Hails from Prospective Passengers in the Street****S.6781B (Parker, Bailey, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Jackson, Lanza, Myrie, Palumbo, Persaud, Ramos, Rhoads, Sanders, Webb) / A.2653B (Anderson)**

This bill allows commuter vans to accept street hails from prospective passengers on streets outside the FHV central business district and airports, subject to additional TLC regulations; also authorizes commuter vans to carry a maximum of 24 passengers instead of 20.

Proponents: City of New York Office of the Mayor; Commuter Van Association of New York

Opponents: New York Taxi Workers Alliance

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 147-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**NYC Residential Composting Programs****S.1000 (Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Salazar) / A.1616 (Rosenthal L)**

This bill requires New York City to establish a composting program for all buildings with residential units.

Proponents: Downtown Women For Change (2022); Council of Chelsea Block Associations

Opponents: Rent Stabilization Association of New York City (2022)

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

CITIES 2

Analyst: David Bissember
(518) 455-2848

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Reduces Down Payment Amount and Increases Duration of Installment Plans for Delinquent Taxes in the City of Mount Vernon

S.9047 (Bailey) / A.9939 (Pretlow)

This bill reduces the down payment to 10 percent of delinquent taxes and increases the duration period for installment plans in the City of Mount Vernon.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-1 (Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: 140-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Senate Standing Committee on Cities 2. Hearing on Concentrated Poverty in Upstate Cities. (December 12, 2023).

CIVIL SERVICE AND PENSIONS

Analyst: Rachel Eisenberg
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Establishes A 20-Year Retirement Plan for Certain Law Enforcement Officers**

S.8472A (Jackson, Bailey, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Mannion, May, Scarcella-Spanton, Skoufis, Webb) / A.8918A (Pheffer Amato)

This bill establishes a twenty-year retirement plan for officers of law enforcement employed by the Department of Environmental Conservation, Forest Rangers, Regional State Park Police, and State University of New York Police.

Proponents: Police Benevolent Association of NYS; Police Conference of New York; The State University of New York

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-1 (Brisport)

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Updates Civil Service Examinations

S.8551 (Jackson, Addabbo, Chu, May, Skoufis, Webb) / A.9349 Pheffer Amato

This bill requires the State Civil Service Department to review and update the questions contained within civil service examinations, as deemed appropriate by the department, no less than every five years.

Proponents: Civil Service Employees' Association (CSEA); NYSUT; Boards of Cooperative Education Services (BOCES)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Credits Certain Provisional Time For Promotional Examinations

S.8557 (Jackson, Chu, Harekham, Webb) / A.9386 (Pheffer Amato)

This bill provides that a person appointed provisionally, who receives a permanent appointment to the same title immediately following the provisional appointment shall have all time spent as a provisional appointee in such title credited towards the qualifications required to take a promotional examination as well as eligibility for appointment from the resulting eligible list.

Proponents: CSEA; BOCES; New York Section of the American Water Works Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

**Authorizes Certain Beneficiaries to Choose Pension Benefits or a Death Benefit
S.9812A (Skoufis) / A.10570 (Zebrowski)**

This bill allows the beneficiaries of members of the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (NYSLERS) and the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement (NYSPFRS) who are eligible for retirement but who die within the ninety-day period after filing their application for service retirement and before their effective date of retirement the option to select a one-time lump sum death benefit or a monthly pension benefit.

Proponents: Office of the State Comptroller (Departmental)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE**Increases The Earnings Limitation For Certain Retired Members**

S.3144E (Mannion, Addabbo, Chu, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Harckham, Hinchey, Mayer, Skoufis) / A.6419B Stirpe

This bill increases the retiree earnings limitation from \$35,000 to \$50,000 per year for retired members who return to work in positions of public employment for 2024 and thereafter.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-1 (Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Forfeiture of Benefits after Domestic Violence Conviction

S.5131 (Webb, Brouk, Clear, Comrie, Fernandez, Jackson) / A.5629 (Reyes)

This bill provides that retired members of a New York State retirement system shall be entitled to change their option election or select a new beneficiary if their beneficiary is convicted of a domestic violence related offense of which the member is a complainant.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Past Service Credit for Deputy Sheriff Transfers**S.5289B (Mayer, Ashby, Cooney, Gallivan, Helming, Mattera, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Rolison, Setc, Walczyk) / A.5231B (Pheffer Amato)**

This bill expands the definition of creditable service under 20 year and 25 year retirement plans in the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System (NYSPFRS) to include service credit earned in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System (NYSLERS) for those individuals previously employed in the title of Deputy Sheriff.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Provides World Trade Center Related Benefits to Certain Employees**S.6306B (Jackson, Martinez, Martins) / A.7344B (Pheffer Amato)**

This bill expands the definition of members who participated in World Trade Center rescue, recovery or cleanup operations to include those who worked at the Verrazano Bridge Toll Facility.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits Changes to Hearing Officer Recommendations for Managerial and Confidential Employees**S.6478 (Jackson) / A.3760 (Pheffer Amato)**

Under Civil Service Law Section 75 an employee who is subject to a disciplinary action is entitled to representation rights and to a hearing on stated charges before an impartial hearing officer. Designated M/C employees may be removed from their positions or have other disciplinary actions taken after the hearing is held, and an employer may reject the hearing officer's recommendation and impose its own sanctions, including termination, upon the employee. This bill requires that the recommendation of a hearing officer in relation to designated M/C employees shall be considered final and not subject to change or modification by an employer.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY

Prohibits Executive Agency Outsourcing During a Hiring Freeze

S.4132 (Mannion, Jackson) / A.9003 (Eachus)

This bill prohibits any Executive agency, department, division, commission, bureau or any other entity from circumventing a hiring freeze by using contractors, subcontractors, or other third parties to fill roles that would ordinarily be performed by the positions subject to the freeze.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO; New York State Public Employees Federation; The Civil Service Employees' Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 142-5

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Hearing of the Civil Service and Pensions Committee *To discuss retention and recruitment for civil service jobs in New York State, the New York State pension fund, pensions, and civil service benefits* (October 11, 2023).

CODES

Analyst: Yasmine D. Bailey
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Repeals Crime of Adultery****S.8744 (Krueger) / A.4714 (Lavine)**

This bill decriminalizes the crime of adultery.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 57-4 (Addabbo, Gallivan, Martinez, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: 137-10

Prohibition on Pistol Converters**S.7365B (Hoylman-Sigal, Cleare, Jackson, Skoufis) / A.10053A (Simon)**

This bill adds pistol converters to the firearms and weapons definition, as well as requires firearm dealers in New York state to take reasonable steps to prevent their use and installation.

Proponents: Everytown for Gun Safety.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 48-13 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 97-44

Requires Firearm Dealers to Post Written Warnings of Firearm Dangers**S.6649 (Gianaris, Chu, Hoylman-Sigal) / A.2882 (Dinowitz)**

This bill requires firearm dealers to post and provide written warnings to purchasers of dangers posed by access to weapons in the home. Failure to comply with the warning requirement will be a violation punishable by imprisonment of not more than fifteen days or by a fine of not more than one thousand dollars, or both. Each day that a violation continues will be deemed a separate offense.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 40-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 98-47

Protective Orders for Juries

S.6239 (Thomas) / A.7495 (Lavine)

This bill grants the court the authority, under certain circumstances, to withhold the names and addresses of jurors during specific proceedings.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: Chief Defenders Association of New York, NYS Defenders Association, NYS Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Legal Aid Society.

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Prohibits Sexual Activity between Probationers and their Supervisors

S.2922 (Cleare) / A.1774 (Rosenthal L)

This bill prohibits sexual activity between a person on probation and an employee of the local probation department who is performing supervisory duties by making the probationer incapable of providing consent to sexual activity with the employee.

Proponents: Safe Horizon, New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, District Attorneys Association of NYS.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Includes Removal of Religious Clothing from a Person as Aggravated Harassment

S.5302 (Fernandez, Addabbo, Chu, Webb) A.8849 (Sayegh)

This bill includes the removal or threat of removal of religious clothing or headdress to the crime of Aggravated Harassment in the Second Degree.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Requires Non-English Supporting Depositions to be Accompanied by Translation Certifications

S.8687 (Bailey) / A.9122 (Cruz)

This bill requires accusatory instruments supported by facts provided by a witness in a language other than English to be accompanied by: the statement of facts in the witness' primary language, an English translation, and an affidavit by the interpreter certifying the accuracy of the translation.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 40-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattered, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 93-52

Detective Brian Simonsen's Law: Requires Wireless Service Providers to Disable Reported Stolen Cellphones

S.7739B (Scarcella-Spanton, Palumbo) A.8994A (Paulin)

This bill mandates that wireless service providers must maintain a program designed to prevent the activation of phones with IMEI numbers that appear on the GSMA block list. This measure ensures that stolen phones cannot be used on their networks, thus discouraging theft and fraud.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 136-0

Creates a Public Awareness Campaign on Firearm Safe Storage and Child Access Prevention

S.9760 (Mayer) / A.10356-A (Benedetto)

This bill mandates the commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services to create and implement a public awareness campaign aimed at educating the public on the safe storage of firearms, rifles, and shotguns, with a particular focus on preventing child access.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 53-7 (Borrello, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Allows Evidence of a Defendant's Prior Sexual Offense to be Admissible in a Sexual Offense Proceeding****S.9276 (Gianaris, Hoylman-Sigal, Scarcella-Spanton, Sepulveda)/ No Same As**

This bill allows evidence of a defendant's prior sexual offense to be admissible in a sexual assault proceeding. More specifically, it states that the court can allow evidence of other sexual offenses committed by the defendant to be admitted, which can be considered relevant for various purposes, such as proving a pattern of behavior or propensity to engage in similar acts.

Proponents: CVTC; Joyful Heart Foundation.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 55-4 (Brisport, Gonzalez, Rivera, Salazar)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes Automatic Expungement of Past Syringe Convictions**S.502 (Rivera, Brisport, Fernandez, Harckham, Salazar) / A.7466 (Kelles)**

This bill requires the automatic expungement of past convictions for possession of a hypodermic instrument.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 42-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Notification of Guardians when a Minor is Arrested**S.2754A (Bailey, Addabbo, Gounardes, Jackson, Krueger, Myrie, Ramos) / A.1063A (Bichotte-Hermelyn)**

This bill requires that when a teenager that is at least sixteen but less than nineteen is arrested, the law enforcement officer who made the arrest must make every reasonable effort to immediately notify the parent, or another person who is legally responsible for the teen.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 42-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Civil Cause of Action for Non-Consensual Removal of a Sexually Protective Device
S.4032A (Scarcella-Spanton) / A.157A (Paulin)**

This bill creates a private right of action for the non-consensual removal of or tampering with a condom or other prophylactic during sex. This conduct is known as "stealthing."

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 56-5 (Borrello, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, O'Mara)

Assembly Vote: None

**Establishes that a Person is Incapable of Consent while Voluntarily Intoxicated
S.4555B (Fernandez, Addabbo, Borrello, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Martins, Palumbo, Ramos, Rhoads, Rolison, Sepulveda, Webb, Weber) / A.1065-A (Dinowitz)**

This bill establishes that a person can be considered mentally incapacitated for the purposes of establishing a lack of consent to sex acts when he or she is intoxicated, regardless of whether the victim is voluntarily or involuntarily intoxicated.

Proponents: District Attorneys Association of the State of New York; Safe Horizon; Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN); Youth Against Sexual Violence; New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence; NYSTLA.

Opponents: Brooklyn Defender Services; Bronx Defenders; New York State Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Eliminates Criminal Liability for Person Living with Sexually Transmitted Infections who Engage in Sexual Activity

S.4603A (Hoylman-Sigal, Brisport, Gonzalez, Jackson, Ramos, Salazar, Sepulveda) / A.3347A (Gonzalez-Rojas)

This bill repeals a provision of the Public health Law that establishes a misdemeanor for an individual, aware of their infection with an infectious venereal disease, to engage in sexual intercourse with another person. This bill also allows for criminal record expungement for individuals previously convicted of this crime.

Proponents: Callen-Lorde; Legal Aid Society; NYC District Attorney; NYCLU.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 42-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Ort, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Include the Threat of Disseminating Intimate Images to NY Revenge Porn Statute S.7881 (Martinez, Addabbo, Ashby, Borrello, Fernandez, Gallivan, Helming, Murray, Palumbo) / A.9955 (Braunstein)

This bill establishes that when an individual threatens to disseminate or publish a still or video image depicting another person with one or more intimate parts exposed or engaging in sexual conduct, including a still or video image created or altered by digitization, where such person may reasonably be identified from the still or video image itself or from information displayed in connection with the still or video image, then the individual may be charged with the crime of Unlawful Dissemination or Publication of an Intimate Image.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Eliminates the Civil and Criminal Statutes of Limitations for Sex Trafficking S.349B (Cleare) / A.1940B (Dinowitz)

This bill eliminates the statute of limitations for sex trafficking offenses, allowing both civil claims and criminal charges to be brought for these acts at any time. The bill also opens a lookback window for civil cases, similar to that established under the Child Victims Act.

Proponents: None Available.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

Waives Sovereign Immunity to the Americans with Disabilities Act A.6541 (Kelles) / S.1164A (Sanders)

This bill waives the state's sovereign immunity for claims arising under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA), and Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).

Proponents: New York Association of Independent Living; Northern Regional Center for Independent Living; Southern Tier Independence Center, Inc.; United Spinal Hudson Valley Chapter.

Opponents: New York Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly: 142-4

**Requires DCJS to Certify the Technological Viability of Personalized Handguns
A.8333A (Bores) / S.7802A (Kavanagh)**

This bill enacts the "Safer Weapons, Safer Homes act" which would mandate the Division of Criminal Justice Services to create a process to assess and regulate personalized handguns which includes investigating to determine the technological viability of such firearms, and then certifying whether personalized handguns can be reliably and effectively manufactured and used.

Proponents: Everytown for Gun Safety.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly: 94-51

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Reverse Warrant Ban

S.217 (Myrie, Brisport, Cooney, Gianaris, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, Liu, Ramos, Rivera, Sepulveda, Stavisky) / A.3306 (Solages)

This bill would prohibit the search, with or without a warrant, of geolocation and keyword data of individuals who are under no individual suspicion of having committed a crime, but are merely at a location at a given time or searched particular word or phrases, or websites. These warrants are respectively referred to as reverse location or reverse keyword court orders.

Proponents: New York Civil Liberties Union; Surveillance Technology Oversight Project.

Opponents: None Available.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

COMMERCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & SMALL BUSINESS

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Establishes a Study on Kitchen Incubators

S.1979A (Cleare, Jackson, Webb) / A.6321A (Cruz)

This bill requires the Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) to consult with the Department of Agriculture and Markets and Office of New Americans to study the potential economic impact for optimizing kitchen incubators in the State, including establishing and/or expanding such opportunities at public or private locations with appropriate kitchen preparation space for a kitchen incubator that the Corporation may identify. Additionally, the bill requires a report containing recommendations for the creation, funding and future expansion of kitchen incubators.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: 137-0

Establishes the I Love NY Historic Small Business Niche Brand

S.9268 (Ryan) / A.10036 (Woerner)

This bill creates an "I Love NY Historic Small Business" niche brand to highlight small businesses listed on the New York State Historic Business Preservation Registry (HBPR), which was established in 2020. The purpose of the list is to highlight businesses that have operated for at least 50 years and contributed to their community's history. This bill allows a Historic Small Business brand and logo to be used in marketing and tourism in the same manner as the "I Love NY" brand.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

Establishes a SUNY-Based Center for Employee Ownership

S.962 (Bailey, Addabbo, Comrie, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, May, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Sanders) / A.1920 (Zinerman)

This bill repeals the requirement that the Job Development Authority and ESDC provide employee ownership assistance loans and instead creates a State University of New York (SUNY)-based center to provide education and outreach about employee ownership succession; organize workshops and conferences; provide consultation to businesses considered employee ownerships; act as a referral service; partner with professional associations, and support the growth of associations of employee-owned companies.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Allows Bed and Breakfasts to Sell Various State Alcohol Products

S.5357 (Webb) / A.4381 (Zebrowski)

This bill expands the ability of farm cideries, breweries, farm breweries, distilleries, and wineries, to sell any of their own alcoholic products produced on premise as well as NYS-labeled cider, NYS-labeled liquor, NYS-labeled beer, and NYS-labeled wine at a Bed and Breakfast (B&B) that is on or adjacent to their establishment under the same permit. Additionally, this bill would permit the issuance of a liquor license to a freestanding B&B, not connected to a brewery, cidery, winery, or distillery, to sell alcoholic beverages for on premises consumption to all persons, not just the overnight guests of the bed and breakfasts.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes a Small Business Compliance Guide

S.8109 (Mannion) / No Same As

This bill requires ESD's Division of Small Business to develop and publish a small business compliance guide by January 31 each year. The guide will serve to inform small businesses about relevant statutory and regulatory changes in user-friendly terms and provide contact information for the relevant state agencies in connection to such changes. The guide will be posted to the Division of Small Business website and a public awareness campaign regarding the guide will be developed.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

Establishes a Small Business Energy Conservation Ombudsman Program

S.9280 (Ryan) / A.9970 (Woerner)

This bill establishes a Small Business Energy Conservation Ombudsman Program to represent and promote the participation of small businesses on policies and issues relating to state energy policy and the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act's (CLCPA) goals.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 140-4 (DiPietro, Fitzpatrick, Norris, Palmesano)

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS & FORUMS

None.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Standards for the Manufacturing and Sale Of Lithium-Ion Batteries**

S.154F (Krueger, Chu, Comrie, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Liu, Ramos, Scarcella-Spanton) / A.4938D (Dinowitz)

This bill prohibits the manufacture and sale of lithium-ion batteries used for electric mobility devices like e-bikes and scooters unless they have shown testing and certification compliance with nationally recognized standards.

Proponents: NYC Office of the Mayor; NYPIRG

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 134-10

Expands a Customer's Ability to Cancel a Health Club Contract

S.932D (Persaud, Jackson, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.4667B (Dinowitz)

This legislation amends the statutory provisions concerning health club contracts by increasing the font size to 12-point for the notice, allowing for notice of cancellation to be e-mailed to the buyer as an alternative to a hard copy of the notice being mailed, and require refunds to be provided within 3 business days instead of 15 days. This legislation also allows consumers to cancel their health club contract if they are significantly disabled for more than three months, instead of the current six-month threshold.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 131-19

Requires Dating Websites to Ban Fraudulent Accounts**S.1759B (Skoufis, Chu) / A.1057C (Vanel)**

This bill makes a number of structural changes to online dating programs. The bill requires a dating service to disclose any outreach from banned site members if non-banned members received or responded to an on-site message from that banned member. It also requires provision of a variety of pieces of information about the banned member, including user name and ID number or identifiers, explaining their use of a false identity, and advising on how to avoid fraud. The online dating site must send the notification within 24 hours of imposing the ban unless there is a more effective time to send the notification (with a three-day cap on sending the notice).

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

Requiring Labeling of Ingredients on Diaper Packages**S.2279C (Cleare, Brouk) / A.43C (Rosenthal L)**

This bill requires a "plain and conspicuous" printed list of all ingredients with percentages of the components of diapers sold in the state. It also imposes a civil penalty of up to \$1000 per package or box on a manufacturer that fails to comply with the bill's requirements.

Proponents: Women's Voices For Earth

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 54-7 (Borello, Gallivan, Griffo, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 128-22

Prohibits Turn-in Fees in Auto Leases**S.4778 (Sanders) / A.7167 (Solages)**

This bill adds a prohibition on auto leases that charge a turn-in fee at the expiration of the lease when that turn-in fee is solely made up of an additional fee for administrative handling or clerical charges. Turn-in fees are also called a "disposition fee" or "termination fee." This charge usually covers the cost of transferring the lease, which may include vehicle cleaning, reconditioning costs, vehicle inspection fees, transportation costs, storage fees, auction fees, administrative costs and funding costs until the vehicle is sold.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 100-47

Prohibits the Use of Social Media Websites to Collect Debts**S.5703B (Parker) / A.1035B (Bichotte Hermelyn)**

This bill prohibits the use of a social networking website as an avenue to collect a debt from a consumer. This bill specifies that a social networking website does not include email. Common social networking platforms include Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram, Tumblr among others. The purpose of this bill is to protect New Yorkers from the invasion of privacy by prohibiting debt collectors from using social media as a means to collect on consumer debts.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Borello)

Assembly Vote: 99-47

Requiring Retailers of E-bikes and Micromobility Devices to Provide Customers with an Operating Manual**S.7503B (Cleare, Sepulveda, Webb)/ A.1910B (Anderson)**

This bill requires any person regularly engaged in the business of selling bicycles or micromobility devices with electric assist or lithium-ion electrical batteries at retail to provide the purchaser an operating manual for such bicycle or device.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 109-37

Requiring a Notice to be Affixed on E-bikes and Micromobility Devices**S.7744D (Chu, Addabbo, Comrie, Gounardes, Krueger, Ramos, Sepulveda, Skoufis, Webb) / A.8310C (Eachus)**

This bill requires any sale or offer for sale at retail of a bicycle with electric assist, or micromobility device (e.g., electric scooters, skateboards, unicycles) to have a notice on the device that reads "NOTICE: Always yield to pedestrians and follow traffic laws. Riding on sidewalks may be illegal; consult local law." This notice must be affixed with an adhesive backing, be made from common materials used to attach similar notices or stickers to vehicles, and be printed in English and the two most common non-English languages spoken in the state, which are currently Spanish and Chinese.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 122-23

**Requires Tags on Charging Cords for Micromobility Devices, Mopeds and E-Bikes
S.7760A (Chu, Addabbo, Fernandez, Gounardes, Sepulveda, Skoufis, Webb) / A.8102A
(Eachus)**

This bill prohibits persons and businesses from manufacturing, distributing, assembling, reconditioning, selling or offering for sale at retail any micromobility device, moped, or bicycle with electric assist unless there is a red tag affixed to the charging cord or the device. The red tag must clearly and conspicuously state "UNPLUG WHEN NOT IN USE" and be located near the end of the cord, where it is typically plugged into an outlet, and include additional consumer safety information regarding safe usage of the device and its charging equipment.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Requires Issuers of Credit and Debit Cards to Use International Merchant Category Codes for Firearm Merchants

S.8479A (Myrie, Cleare, Gounardes, Harckham, May, Skoufis) / A.9862A (Solages)

This bill requires issuers of debit and credit cards (mostly financial institutions like banks and credit unions) to make the Merchant Category Code (MCC) for firearms and ammunition businesses, as established by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), available to processors for sellers who are dealers in ammunition or dealers of firearms.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 45-16 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 90-51

The Restaurant Reservation Anti-Piracy Act
S.9365A (Fernandez, Chu, Comrie) / A.10215A (Bores)

This legislation prohibits third-party restaurant reservation services from listing, advertising, promoting, or selling reservations for a food service establishment through the third-party's platform without a written agreement between the third-party service and the food establishment. Furthermore, this legislation prohibits the written agreement from including any provision, clause, or covenant that requires the food service establishment to indemnify the third-party application from any damages or harm caused by an act or omission initiated by the third-party application. An indemnification provision typically requires one party (the food establishment) to assume legal and financial responsibility for any damages or losses caused by the other party (the third-party reservation service). For example, if a third-party service's app malfunctions and provides incorrect reservation information, overbooks or otherwise is the source of customer dissatisfaction, the indemnification clause could make the restaurant liable for refunding customers or paying damages, even though the issue arose from the third-party's systems. In the event an agreement contains the prohibited indemnification provision, that provision shall be deemed void and unenforceable.

Proponents: American Express; Resy; NYS Restaurant Association.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-1

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

Protections for Private Education Loan Borrowers and Cosigners
S.362A (Thomas, Addabbo, Jackson, Persaud, Webb) / A.3155A (Zebrowski)

This bill allows cosigners to be removed from private education loans when a borrower's financial ability to pay is established. This may be established by the borrower submitting documented evidence of their ability, willingness and stability to handle their payment obligations. The scope of the bill is limited to private education lenders, servicers, and third-party contractors working on behalf of such lenders or servicers, and exempts financial institutions to the extent preempted by Federal law.

Proponents: AARP New York; Consumer Reports; Margert Community Corporation; Mobilization for Justice; Teamsters Local 237; The Western New York Law Center; Mobilization for Justice

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 55-5 (Borello, Oberacker, O'Mara, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: None

Adds Credit Service Charge Cap for Retail Installment Contracts**S.363 (Thomas, Comrie, Jackson, Ramos) / A.10022 (Dilan)**

There is currently no cap on the credit service charge for retail installment contracts. This legislation sets a cap on all retail installment contracts to match the interest rate set in Section 14-A of the Banking law which relates to student loan servicers. Section 14-A sets a maximum interest rate of 16% for credit service surcharges in student loan contracts. This bill creates a similar cap for retail installment contracts at 16% or less of the total value of the installment.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

New York Privacy Act**S.365B (Thomas, Cleare, Comrie, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, May, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill enacts the New York Privacy Act, a comprehensive data protection regulation to require companies to disclose their methods of de-identifying personal information, to place special safeguards around data-sharing and to allow consumers to obtain the names of all entities with whom their information is shared.

Proponents: The App Association; The Business Information Coalition; Microsoft; Alliance of NYS YMCAs; SIFMA

Opponents: Airlines for America; Alliance Data Card Services; American Heart Association; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; Association of National Advertisers, et al; Buffalo Niagara Partnership; Business Council of New York State; Business Information Coalition ; Chamber of Progress; Coalition for Sensible Public Records Access (CSPRA); Computer & Communications Industry Association; Consumer Reports; Electronic Transactions Association; Energy Coalition New York; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority; Food Industry Alliance of New York; Food Industry Alliance of New York State, Inc.; Internet Association; Joule Assets; Lawsuit Reform Alliance of New York; Life Insurance Council of New York; LICONY; New York Bankers Association; New York Civil Liberties Union; New York News Publishers Association, et al; NYS Hospitality and Tourism Association et al; Partnership for New York City; State Privacy & Security Coalition; TechNet; Verizon Media; Tech:NYC

Senate Vote: 44-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Brisport, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rath, Rolison, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, and Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Regulation of Non-Licensed Self-Help Professionals**S.1155A (Skoufis, Gounardes) / A.4166A (Levenberg)**

This bill defines a "self-help practitioner" as anyone publicly presenting themselves as a 'self-help guru' or similar, offering paid guidance in financial, spiritual, or educational realms to enhance personal awareness, talent, and life quality. Exempt are licensed professionals like medical staff, athletic trainers, accountants, and social workers under Title 8 of the Education Law. The bill mandates these practitioners provide new clients a 16-point font risk disclosure detailing service risks in clear language. They must also share credentials and a risk management plan for potential emotional or physical harm. Penalties for violations include a \$250 civil fine for first offenses and \$500 for subsequent infractions.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Mayer)

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits the Use of Consumer Credit History in Hiring, Employment and Licensing Determinations**S.1731D (Sanders, Comrie, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, May, Ramos, Rivera, Thomas) / A.779C (Dinowitz)**

This bill adds a new subdivision to the General Business Law which defines consumer credit history as an individual's credit worthiness, as indicated by a credit report, credit score or other information regarding credit accounts and/or bankruptcies, judgments or liens. This bill prohibits employers and municipal agencies from requiring a person to disclose information from their consumer credit history for the purposes of employment (terms and conditions of employment, promotions, salary) or licensing. The bill provides for exceptions where the prohibition does not apply, including where it is required by law or regulation, where the applicant would have signatory authority over assets valued at over \$10,000 or more, where they have access to business trade secrets, where it is required for federal employment, and where the applicant is able to modify a digital security system.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: Capital Region Chamber; Region Chamber; Consumer Data Industry

Senate Vote: 39-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Establishes the Manufacturer Disclosure and Transparency Act
S.3518 (Fernandez, Addabbo) / A.895 (Gallagher)**

This bill requires any pharmaceutical manufacturers of brand name prescription drugs who enter into agreements with another pharmaceutical manufacturer that may cause to delay or prevent the introduction of a generic substitute of the drug into the marketplace to notify the Attorney General within 30 days of entering into such agreement and provide details of the agreement. These types of agreements are referred to as "pay-for-delay" or "reverse payment patent settlements" agreements.

Proponents: AARP NY

Opponents: New York State Business Council; PhRMA.

Senate Vote: 50-12 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Mattera, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Regulates Third Party Litigation Financing
S.4146B (Cooney, Borrello, Myrie, Rhoads, Sepulveda) / A07655B (Walker)**

This bill requires consumer litigation funding transactions to be subject to state regulation and sets requirements regarding disclosure, licensing, funding company and attorney responsibilities and limitations, violations and other provisions. The bill requires these contracts to be written in plain language, disclose all charges, and include a clearly identified right to rescission, which allows a consumer to cancel the contract within ten business days if they return the money in the form of the original check or a money order. The attorney retained by the consumer in the relevant litigation must include a written acknowledgement in the contract about the litigation financing or the contract will be null and void. The bill also set's maximum repayment rates at the federal usury rate of 36%.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Biometric Privacy Act**S.4457A (Liu) / A.1362A (Gunther)**

This bill requires private entities in possession of biometric identifiers or biometric information such as retina or iris scans, fingerprints, voiceprints, or scans of someone's hand or face geometry, to develop a publicly available written policy establishing a retention schedule and guidelines for permanently destroying biometric identifiers and biometric information within 60 days after the initial purpose for collecting or obtaining the identifiers or information has been satisfied or within three years of the individual's last interaction with the private entity, whichever occurs first. The bill also prohibits private entities from collecting, purchasing, or disclosing someone's biometric information without first informing them or their representative that it is being collected, for what purpose, and for how long. The entity must also obtain the subject's written release authorizing this collection.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits the Sale of Certain Infant Walkers**S.5643A (Cleare) / A.325A (Paulin)**

This bill prohibits the sale of fully enclosed mobile unit infant walkers capable of being propelled when the child is seated or standing, and prohibits a child care facility from using or having on the premises any infant walker unless a medical professional has determined that use of an infant walker is medically necessary for a particular child.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Gallivan, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

21st Century Anti-Trust Act**S.6748 (Gianaris, Salazar, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, May, Sepúlveda)/ No Same As**

This bill amends the Donnelly Act by making the abuse of dominance unlawful and requiring companies to provide pre-merger notifications already provided under federal law to the Attorney General. The bill further makes it unlawful for an actor to abuse their dominant position. Specifically, the bill provides that it is unlawful for any person or persons with a dominant position in the conduct of any business, trade, or commerce; in any labor market; or in the furnishing of any service in this state to abuse that dominant position.

Proponents: RWDSU, Small Business Rising Coalition, The Repair Association, Yelp!, Family Farm Action

Opponents: Association of National Advertisers, Business Council of NY State, New York Bankers Association, Business Council of Westchester, Partnership for New York City, Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State, Technet, Buffalo Niagara Partnership, Capital Region Chamber, New York Farm Bureau, Food Industry Alliance of New York State, Inc., Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce, Long Island Association, Inc, MPA.

Senate Vote: 42-19 (Ashby, Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Cooney, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rollison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY**Prohibits the Use of Voice Recognition Features Without Informed Disclosure****S.1298A (Comrie) / A.5468A (Gunther)**

This bill prohibits the use of a voice recognition feature in computers, video games, computer accessories, and toys unless the individual is informed, during the initial setup or installation of a connected device, that the device may be recording the user, and that the entity that makes the device may be retaining these recordings. "Voice recognition feature" is defined as the function of a connected device that allows the collection, recording, storage, analysis, transmission, interpretation, or other use of spoken words or other sounds

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Keeping Records Of Spoofed Telephone Numbers S.2318 (Bailey) / A.61 (Sayegh)

This bill requires businesses that allow for someone to spoof a telephone number to keep certain records. These records must include, but are not limited to: the phone number that would be displayed on the caller ID device of the person receiving the phone call; the phone number or IP address of the device placing the phone call; and the time, date, and duration of the telephone call.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Consumer and Small Business Protection Act

S.795A (Comrie, Bailey, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Krueger, Liu, May, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Skoufis, Thomas)/ A.7138 (Weinstein)

This bill amends New York's current Unfair and Deceptive Practices (UDAP) statute to establish standing for persons affected by prohibited or unlawful business practices, and it expands prohibited acts to include unfair, unlawful, deceptive, and abusive acts.

Proponents: AARP; African Communities Together; AARP New York; Consumer Reports; Fair Deal NY; Mobilization for Justice;

Opponents: American Property Casualty Insurance Association; Big I New York; Business Council of New York State; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; Food Industry Alliance of New York State, Inc.; Life Insurance Council of New York; Long Island Association; State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company; The Business Council;

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Insurance Requirements For Third-Party Food Delivery Apps

S.6760B (Hoylman-Sigal) / No Same As

This bill requires delivery network companies to ensure that, during the period that a driver is available to make a delivery or during the period of making a delivery, primary automobile liability insurance is in place that recognizes that the driver is a delivery network driver or that the insurance does not exclude coverage for use of a personal vehicle to provide deliveries. In short, this legislation requires third-party delivery apps (a "delivery network company" such as UberEats, DoorDash, and Grubhub) to ensure delivery drivers within their respective network are covered by insurance during working periods.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

Comprehensive Data Privacy and Health Data Privacy

In the 2024 Senate One-House, the Senate advanced language to enact the New York Privacy Act (S.365B) to provide additional disclosure and safeguards with respect to how personal data is used and stored. Additionally, the Senate has passed the New York Health Information Privacy Act (S.158E) in the 2023 and 2024 legislative sessions. These issues, however, have been stalled in the Assembly.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

CORPORATIONS, AUTHORITIES, AND COMMISSIONS

Analyst: Martin Ascher
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Timeline Extension for ESD Public Hearing Notices****S.791A (Comrie)/A. 9885 (Simone)**

This bill amends the public notice provisions in the Urban Development Corporation Act to require that the Empire State Development Corporation (ESD) provide a community no less than 30 days' notice after publicly announcing a local project and before having the public hearing to discuss that project. The current statutory timeline provides for 10 days between public notice and the time of the hearing.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 54-5 (Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 97-48

Port Authority Reform**S.2901A (Comrie) / A.5994B (Darling)**

This bill makes comprehensive changes to the Port Authority governing statute, including changes to board appointments, leadership structure, higher conflict-of-interest standards, whistleblower protections, procurement processes, public hearings and MWBE programs. Additionally, the bill requires that all needs assessments (required before raising tolls) be made publicly and conspicuously available on the Authority's website, increases the amount of time capital plans must be available for public review before a vote, requires Port Authority representatives to appear before the New York and New Jersey State legislatures upon legislative request, and requires the Port Authority to create an online dashboard which can be used to measure progress on individual capital projects.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Food Retail Establishment Subsidization for Healthy Communities Act (FRESH Communities Act)**S.3546 (Kennedy, Chu, May, Webb) / A.9069 (Stirpe)**

This bill authorizes the Empire State Development Corporation (ESD) to provide loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies and grants to businesses, municipalities, not-for-profit corporations or local development corporations for the purpose of attracting, maintaining or permitting the expansion of food retail establishments in underserved areas through its Empire State Development Fund. It requires ESD to evaluate economic viability of the proposals, establish performance evaluation indicators, and track and publish such indicators on its website.

Proponents: American Diabetes Association, NYCOM

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-1 (Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Albany County Pine Hills Land Authority**S.9569A (Breslin) / A.10358A (Fahy)**

This bill creates the Albany County Pine Hills Land Authority which aims to transition the future use of facilities of the College of Saint Rose, which voted to close after the 2023-24 academic year, to stimulate economic development in Albany before the college's assets are sold in bankruptcy proceedings and potentially identify ways to maintain former College assets in public use.

Proponents: Albany County

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 52-9 (Ashby, Martins, Murray, O'Mara, Rhoads, Skoufis, Stec, Tedesco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 142-0

Permitting Land Banks to Prioritize the Use of Property for a Community Garden**S9797 (Parker, Webb) / A.9403A (Santabarbara)**

Land banks are not-for-profit corporations created to take control of, and redevelop, vacant or abandoned properties to better serve the public interest. In order to combat the problem of vacant and abandoned properties, the New York State Land Bank Program permits municipalities to apply for and create land banks in their communities. This bill permits a land bank to prioritize the use of property for a community garden.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

Prohibiting NDAs in Public Economic Development Contracts

S.545 (Gianaris, Comrie, May, Ramos, Webb) / A.211A (Solages)

This bill prohibits any provisions in contracts for economic development projects by State or local entities that make any part of the terms of the contracts confidential or bind any parties into a non-disclosure agreement. This includes, without limitation, any agreements for tax incentives, payments in lieu of taxes, tax abatements, bonds, notes, loans, and grants or rebates provided by the State to private parties.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Subjects REDCs to FOIL, Open Meetings Law, Code of Ethics, and Financial Disclosure Statement Requirements

S.1883 (Skoufis) / A.9548 (Solages)

The bill makes economic development entities such as regional economic development councils (REDCs) subject to the Freedom of Information Law and the Open Meetings Law sections of the Public Officers Law. Specifically, the bill requires these entities to maintain and publish a record of all proposals submitted to them through the CFA process. The bill also deems any member of an economic development entity a State officer or employee for the purposes of financial disclosure requirements. Lastly, the bill subjects all members of the REDCs to the Code of Ethics provisions provided in the Public Officers Law.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Limits Negotiated and Below Fair-Market Value Property Sales by Public Authorities

S.1936 (Comrie, Webb) / No Same As

This bill closes several exceptions relating to the disposition of property by public authorities that currently allow public authorities to sell land to private entities without public bidding or fair market value appraisals. It makes any below-fair-market value sale of land subject to a 60-day period during which the Governor, the Senate, and the Assembly may disapprove of the sale. This bill also limits the situations where a sale can be made through private negotiations without public bidding.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Local Audits for IDAs and Municipal Non-Profits**S.2297 (Mayer, Mattera, May) / A.5910 (Zebrowski)**

This bill authorizes county comptrollers to conduct an audit of a project or action of an Industrial Development Agency (IDA) in the county, or a city, town or village government located within that county. This would be in addition to the Office of State Comptroller's current authority to audit IDAs.

Proponents: New York State School Boards Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Expands the Information Provided to the PACB Prior to Project Approval**S.2535 (Comrie) / No Same As**

This bill requires that any project involving a loan submitted to the Public Authorities Control Board (PACB) for approval include the conditions and dates for repayment of State appropriations and the repayment agreement, as well as any job retention/creation terms, the interest rate, and information on other contractual restrictions, security required, and the date on which principal would be repaid. The bill also requires grant applications before the PACB to include the terms and conditions, job retention/creation requirements, explanation of fund usage, description of ownership for any real property purchases, total project cost and listing of fund sources/uses.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Transparency Package for Local Development Corporations S.2727B (Skoufis) / A.3715C (Paulin)

This bill expands the applicability of the Open Meetings and Freedom of Information Laws to public or quasi-public not-for-profit corporations like local development corporations (LDCs). It requires the Department of State to send a copy of every certificate of incorporation where the filing is on behalf of a municipal corporation, or other state or local entity to the Authorities Budget Office. The bill makes the not-for-profit corporations acting on behalf of local governments subject to Open Meetings and Freedom of Information laws and requires them to obtain Authorities Budget Office consent prior to filing certificates of incorporations. This bill discourages creation of not-for-profit corporations where the functions are substantially similar to that of government entities that already exist and prohibits leasing of public lands for terms longer than 25 years.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: New York Conference of Mayors and Municipal Officials, New York State Economic Development Council

Senate Vote: 40-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

ESD Governance Structure Changes S.3437 (Skoufis) / A.7736 (Zebrowski)

This bill adds a six-month limit on having an “acting” president or acting chair of the ESD Board similar to other larger authorities. This bill also requires that the President and Chair of ESD be separate offices and prohibits the same person from being appointed to both. This ensures that the ESD Board can act separately from the head of day-to-day operations. This bill would not affect current ESD appointments. This bill also prohibits the President and the Chair from engaging in private employment, another profession, or holding a business.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 52-9 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Martins, Matteredra, Murray, Palumbo, Rhoads, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Additional Oversight Powers for Authorities Budget Office**S.6746 (Ryan, Webb) / A.8121 (Thiele)**

This bill expands the powers of the Authorities Budget Office (ABO) by empowering it to commence dissolution proceedings for authorities acting beyond their power and to remove board members who failed to obtain the State-mandated training. This bill also strengthens reporting requirements and classifies a knowing and willful false statement to the ABO on a financial report as perjury in the third degree.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany

Opponents: City of Yonkers IDA, New York State Economic Development Council

Senate Vote: 48-11 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: None

Requiring Senate Confirmation for Certain Authority Appointments**S.7655 (Salazar, Comrie, Brisport, Cleare, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Helming, Jackson, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Skoufis) / A.8022 (Shrestha)**

Under current law, appointments for the executive director positions at the Dormitory Authority (DASNY), Thruway Authority, New York Power Authority (NYPA) and Long Island Power Authority (LIPA) are nominated by the Governor subject to Senate confirmation. However, nominees are deemed to have been automatically confirmed if the Senate fails to vote to confirm them within 60 days of its submission to the Senate if it was submitted during session, or within seven days if the Senate fails to vote after convening for session. This bill removes the automatic confirmation of these executive director positions in the instance that the Senate fails to vote on the nomination.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-2 (Palumbo, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Repealing PACB Voting Restrictions**S.8142 (Comrie) / A.9231 (Zebrowski)**

This bill repeals the provisions added to Public Authorities Law late in the 2019-2020 Adopted Budget that restricted the legal authority of a member of the Public Authorities Control Board (PACB) solely to determining whether a public authority's application to the PACB has demonstrated that there is the commitment of funds sufficient to finance the acquisition and construction of the project subject to approval.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Allowing Water and Sewage Authorities to Address Stormwater in the Wastewater Context

S.8861 (May, Hoylman-Sigal, Brisport, Chu, Cleare, Harckham, Kavanagh, Krueger, Mayer, Myrie, Palumbo, Ramos, Salazar, Serrano, Skoufis) / A.09435 (Gallagher)

This bill clarifies that water and sewer authorities across the state have the ability to take action to manage stormwater. It does this by including stormwater in the definition of sewage for purposes of certain water, sewer, and water and sewer authorities. The bill also defines stormwater for all of these authorities as "a flow of water occurring on the ground or other surface when rain or meltwater can no longer be absorbed by the soil or other surface" so that there is consistency in law. With these broader and new definitions, local water and sewer authorities would have the clear legal ability to initiate projects that lead to climate resilience and water quality improvements, particularly through green infrastructure or the creation of financial incentives to manage stormwater. This clarifies that water and sewer authorities have the ability to assess charges in the wastewater context in order to manage or finance stormwater projects.

Proponents: Buffalo Sewer Authority, Queens Borough President, Nature Conservancy NY, Rise to Resilience, Riverkeeper

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

Demographic Workforce Data Collection

S.8496 (Comrie) / A.8555 (Paulin)

This bill requires that any business corporation or limited liability company that is required to file an employer information report (EEO-1) with the US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), also submit the information from their most recent EEO-1 report as part of their biennial filing to the Department of State (DOS). The bill directs DOS to then publish the data on the gender, race, and ethnicity of each filing entity's employees on its website within 90 days of receipt. An EEO-1 report is a mandatory annual data collection that requires certain entities to submit demographic workforce data, including data by race/ethnicity, sex and job categories to the EEOC. The EEO-1 reports are public documents.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: The Business Council

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 103-41

**Creating a Preference for Women to be Appointed to State and Local Authority Boards
A.5212A (Wallace) / No Same As**

This bill establishes a program promoting women to state and local authority boards. Under the program, preference would be given by an appointing authority to women candidates in the appointment or reappointment process, provided that the weight of the preference is based on the number of women currently on the board and such preference shall not be dispositive.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 112-38

UNRESOLVED ISSUES**Port Authority Reform**

While both houses of the New York Legislature passed Port Authority reform (S.2901), in order to be adopted identical legislation would need to pass the New Jersey Legislature as well and be signed by both governors.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Senate Corporations, Authorities & Commissions Committee and Investigations & Government Operations Committee. *Public Hearing: To examine the procedures and practices of the State Liquor Authority, assess recent changes to the Alcoholic Beverage & Control laws, and gather recommendations to improve the efficiency, responsiveness and transparency of the SLA to businesses across the state.* (March 1, 2024)

CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME, AND CORRECTION

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Relates to the Experience of Members of the Board of Parole****S.126 (Ryan, Jackson) / A.586 (Burgos)**

This bill expands the current eligibility criteria for potential parole board candidates by providing that Board members can have either a degree in the fields specified under current law and at least five years of experience in several fields or at least ten years of experience in the field of criminology, administration of criminal justice, law enforcement, sociology, law, social work, corrections, psychology, psychiatry, or medicine.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-1 (Brisport)

Assembly Vote: 128-9

Provides Incarcerated Individuals with Access to Breast Cancer Screenings and Information About Breast Self-Examinations**S.204 (Cleare, Rolison) / A.4957 (Jean-Pierre)**

This bill requires mammogram screenings every two years for persons incarcerated, detained, or otherwise confined in State and local correctional facilities. The bill also requires the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to provide incarcerated persons with educational programs focused on the importance of preventative health care measures, including breast self-examinations.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 143-0

Relates to Certificates of Relief from Disabilities**S.3176 (Cleare) / A.7194 (Dilan)**

This bill amends the language in the Correction Law governing the issuance of certificates of relief from disabilities to allow a certificate of relief from disabilities to be granted if the court or DOCCS is satisfied that the individual meets all requirements under the law.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 96-48

Notification of an Incarcerated Individual's Emergency Contacts when Such Incarcerated Individual Attempts Suicide or is Hospitalized**S.9056 (Sanders) / A.9678 (Dilan)**

This bill requires DOCCS within twenty-four hours of the attempted suicide or hospitalization of an incarcerated individual in the custody of the department, to notify the individual's emergency contact.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 142-2

Strip Searches in Correctional Facilities**S.9350 (Salazar) / A.4904 (Gibbs)**

This bill directs the State Commission of Correction (SCOC) to promulgate rules and regulations for strip searches in correctional facilities. These regulations must establish standard practices and procedures, including the stipulation that a minimum of two staff members must be present during any strip search.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 56-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: 137-0

Heat Mitigation Planning in Correctional Facilities**S. 7781A (Harckham, Jackson, Rolison)/ A.9169 (Burdick)**

This bill directs the commission of corrections and community supervision to establish an annual heat mitigation plan and to create an extreme heat action plan work group of the department of environmental conservation in order to analyze the impact of extreme heat on incarcerated individuals and people working in prisons.

Proponents: Correctional Association of New York, NYS PEF.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-2 (Oberacker, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 142-2

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

Educational Leave for Eligible Incarcerated Individuals

S.302 (Salazar,Cleare)/No Same As

This bill provides that incarcerated individuals who are within two years of being eligible for a Temporary Release Program are actually eligible for Educational Release. Because Educational Release is considered one of the rarest of temporary release programs, the number of individuals that apply is low. This bill aims to broaden the pool and increase the number of people who may be eligible to apply by including those who are two years away from being eligible to apply for Educational Release.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Awards Made to Crime Victims

S.303 (Salazar, Murray, Rolison, Webb, Weber) / A.3257 (Rajkumar)

This bill provides a definition for personal property necessary and essential to the welfare of a victim. Currently, no such definition exists. The bill also enumerates a list of items that could be considered property necessary and essential to the welfare of the victim, including but not limited to clothing, shoes, furniture, appliances, electronics, and bedding.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes Emergency Management Plans in Correctional Facilities

S309B (Salazar, Fernandez, Sepulveda) / A.9449 (Gibbs)

This bill requires DOCCS to create a disaster emergency management plan for State correctional facilities if a state of emergency is declared pursuant to an Executive Order.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 39-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes a Visitation Program for Incarcerated People**S.3318A (Sepúlveda, Bailey, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Gianaris, Gounardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders) / A.6488 (Weprin)**

This bill codifies the existing visitation program that DOCCS currently operates. It requires that the program allow for reasonable visiting hours and for visits of reasonable duration to provide incarcerated persons with opportunities of personal contact to promote individual transformation and better institutional and community adjustment, upon release. It also requires a published overcrowding policy, which includes the circumstances that in-person visitation would be limited due to overcrowding.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 41-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Allows Telephone Calls and Notification Prior to an Incarcerated Individual's Transfer**S.4071 (Salazar, Chu) / A.6490 (Weprin)**

This bill requires DOCCS to provide notice, via email, to the families of incarcerated individuals before transferring the incarcerated family member to another facility, and requires that an individual be given the opportunity to make a personal phone call before being transferred.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Authorizes the State Inspector General to Receive and Investigate Complaints of Sexual Assault In Correctional Facilities**S.6975 (Salazar, Brouk, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.8820 (Fahy)**

This bill authorizes the State Inspector General to receive and investigate complaints of sexual assault against individuals housed in correctional facilities and other places operated by DOCCS.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 55-2 (Oberacker, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Promotes the Health, Safety and Human Rights of Incarcerated Pregnant Individuals and Their Children

S.7132A (Salazar, Bailey, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Harckham, Jackson, Liu, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.7630A (Kelles)

The bill requires comprehensive care and rights for pregnant incarcerated individuals and their children. The bill requires that pregnant incarcerated individuals must receive comprehensive prenatal care, including necessary tests and treatments, and appropriate medical care during labor and delivery. They are also entitled to treatment for opioid use disorder, psychological and psychiatric therapy, adequate hydration and nutrition, and safe housing conditions.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Discharge Plans and Reentry Services for Wrongfully Convicted Individuals

S.7646 (Skoufis, Bailey) / A.8017 (Dinowitz)

This bill requires DOCCS to create discharge plans and provide reentry services for wrongfully convicted individuals who are released from custody. Wrongfully convicted individuals are defined as those who have been convicted but later found to be innocent of the crime.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes a Gender Disparity Study

S7936 (Harckham) / A.9586 (Levenberg)

This bill requires the commissioner of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) to study gender disparities in the resources provided to incarcerated individuals and make a report to the governor and the legislature of the findings, conclusions, and recommendations.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 56-5 (Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SNAP Screening for Incarcerated Individuals**S.8173 (Bailey, Webb) / A.8234 (Gonzalez-Rojas)**

This bill requires screening incarcerated individuals for eligibility in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) prior to release. The bill requires DOCCS in collaboration with the Department of Social Services to screen incarcerated individuals for eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Access Program 30 days before release. Officials must assist eligible individuals in applying for the program and seek waivers from the USDA to extend eligibility to one-year post-release and suspend the three-month time limit for those in areas without work.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 46-12 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Lethality Assessment in Incidents of Domestic Violence**S.8977 (Webb, Mayer, Rolison) / A.9892 (Wallace)**

This bill requires law enforcement officers to conduct a lethality assessment as part of the standardized domestic incident report form when responding to incidents of domestic violence. The lethality assessment component involves asking the victim a series of questions about their experiences and the behavior of the alleged offender to assess the risk of future violence. The questions cover topics such as the use of weapons, threats to kill, strangling or choking, possession of firearms, and other concerning behaviors.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Fair and Timely Parole**

S.307 (Salazar, Rivera, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Webb) / A.162 (Weprin)

This bill changes the standard of review used by the Board of Parole in their parole determinations by creating a standard of presumptive release unless there is a current and unreasonable risk the person will violate the law if released.

Proponents: Academia Arrested, et al (Criminal Justice Roadmap); B'nai Jeshurun; Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging; Campaign for NY Health; Catherine F Parker Westchester Board of Legislators; Celebrate845; Center for Appellate Litigation; Chinese-American Planning Council; Chinese-American Planning Council Inc; Citizen Action of New York; Clinton Avenue United Methodist Church; Congregation Beit Simchat Torah; Damon Maher, Westchester County Board of Legislators; Empire State Indivisible; FWD.us; Grace Episcopal Church; Hour Children; It Could Happen to You; Jose Alvarado Westchester County Board of Legislators; JASA ;Law Enforcement Action Partnership; Lincoln Square Legal Services, Inc.; LiveOn NY; Long Island Social Justice Action Network; New York Chapter of Resource Generation; New York Jewish Agenda; New York Jewish Coalition for Criminal Justice Reform; New York Progressive Action Network; New York State Defenders Association, Inc.; New York State Public Health Association; New York Working Families Party; Newburgh LGBTQ+ Center; Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson; NAACP; NAACP New York State Conference; NYCAIC #HALTsolitary Campaign; NYS Nurses Association; Office of the Appellate Defender; Park Slope Jewish Center; Rise and Resist; Showing Up for Racial Justice NYC; State Society on Aging of New York; The Fortune Society; Tyrae Woodson Samuels Westchester Board of Legislators; United Nations Association-Westchester Chapter; Wake Up What's Next; Women & Justice Project; Women 2 Women.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Elder Parole

S.2423 (Hoylman-Sigal, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Thomas, Webb) / A.2035 (Davila)

This bill expands parole eligibility to incarcerated individuals who are over the age of 55 and have served at least 15 years of their sentence.

Proponents: Academia Arrested, et al (Criminal Justice Roadmap; Adelante Student Voices; B'nai Jeshurun; Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging; Campaign for NY Health; Catherine F Parker Westchester Board of Legislators; Celebrate845; Center for Appellate Litigation; Center for Community Alternatives; Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at NYU School; Chinese American Planning Council Inc; Chinese-American Planning Council; Clinton Avenue United Methodist Church; Concerned Families of Westchester; Congregation Beit Simchat Torah; Damon Maher Westchester County Board of Legislators; Empire State Indivisible; End New Jim Crow Action Network; Fordham Law School Criminal Defense Clinic; FWD.us; Hour Children; It Could Happen to You ;Jose Alvarado Westchester Board of Legislators; JASA; Latinx Project; Law Enforcement Action Partnership; Legal Aid Society of Westchester County; LiveOn NY; Long Island Social Justice Action Network; New Hour for Women and Children Long Island; New York Chapter of Resource Generation; New York Jewish Agenda; New York Progressive Action Network; New York State Defenders Association, Inc.; New York State Public Health Association; New York Working Families Party; Newburgh LGBTQ+ Center; Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson; NAACP New York State Conference; NYCAIC #HALTsolitary Campaign; NYS Nurses Association; Parole Justice Campaign; Rise and Resist; Showing Up for Racial Justice NYC; Solange Muller; The Fortune Society; Tyrae Woodson Samuels Westchester Board of Legislators; United Nations Association- Westchester Chapter; United Neighborhood Houses; Wake Up What's Next; Women & Justice Project; Women 2 Women; WESPAC Foundation
Opposition: NYS PEF.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS, TOURISM, PARKS, & RECREATION

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Establishes a Program for Designating Arts & Cultural Districts**

S.253A (Serrano, Bailey, Cleare, Comrie, Hoylman-Sigal, May, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Rolison) / A.2563A (Gunther)

This bill directs the New York State Council on the Arts and the Department of Economic Development to develop guidelines and criteria for designating Arts and Cultural Districts for the purposes of promoting tourism and education. The bill defines an “Arts and Cultural District” as a geographic area of a city, town, or village with a concentration of arts or cultural facilities located within its boundaries.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Modifies the Resident Curator Program in State Parks and Historic Sites

S.722 (Serrano, Mannion, Rolison) / A.4285 (O'Donnell)

This bill modifies the Resident Curator Program in the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation by expanding the program beyond the four structures initially designated, and by requiring consultation with the State Board for Historic Preservation when considering adding new structures to the program.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

Expanded Allowance of Dogs in State Parks

S.4993B (Martinez, Harckham, Murray, Stavisky) / A.6244B (Stern)

This bill requires the Commissioner of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) to adopt rules, regulations and programs necessary to allow the presence of dogs in all state parks under the jurisdiction of OPRHP and to provide for installation of dog waste stations. OPRHP will retain authority to limit the presence of dogs in the manner and to the extent it deems appropriate, such as at certain times of day or year, and for the protection of wildlife, other aspects of the environment, the quality of the park, the experience of other park users, or in arboretums or park preserves.

Proponents: American Kennel Club; Nassau County SPCA; NYS Bar Association

Opponents: Audubon Society

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: 142-3

Prohibits Mandated Use of Credit Cards for Payment at Certain State Recreation and Historic Sites**S.5423 (Martinez, Mattera, Murray) / (A.4853 Ramos)**

This bill prohibits state agencies having jurisdiction over any State park, or recreational or historic site, from requiring patrons to utilize a credit card to pay for entrance or user fees, and specifies that cash payment must be accepted.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: 143-0

Regional Diversity for the New York State Council on the Arts**S.7296A (Hinchey, Cooney, Rolison) / A.8978A (Woerner)**

This bill imposes regional diversity on NYSCA by requiring that it have at least one member from each of the ten regions of the state: Western New York, Finger Lakes, Southern Tier, Central New York, North Country, Mohawk Valley, Capital Region, Mid-Hudson, New York City, and Long Island.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Notice and Posting of Empire State Trail Segment Closures**S.7807A (Serrano) / A.8274A (Fahy)**

This bill codifies current practice regarding Empire State Trail (EST) closures to enhance compliance. Specifically, EST segment owners must ensure that their EST segments remain open when practicable, and when a segment requires closure for construction or for public safety, that the segment owner must notify the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). OPRHP must then coordinate with the segment owner to plan a detour and post prominent detour signage, which OPRHP will provide. OPRHP must also post notice on its website.

Proponents: Parks and Trails NY

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

**Applying Navigation Law to Commercial Vessels Operated in Caves
S.9241 (Serrano, Ortt) / A.10399 (O'Donnell)**

This bill is a Governor Program Bill to address the Lockport Caves accident. It applies relevant components of the Navigation Law to commercial vessels in caves where there is no connection between the underground waters and navigable waters of the state. This regulatory oversight includes inspections and certain basic prohibitions on improper acts such as operating while intoxicated. The bill does not, however, impose requirements that are inapplicable in caves, such as a captain's license or boating safety certificate. The bill also adds, with respect to all vessels, authorization for inspectors to suspend a vessel's certificate of inspection if the vessel poses a public safety risk and specifies that operating the vessel without such certificate is a misdemeanor.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Chapter 119

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

Municipal Reporting of Parkland Alienation

S.252 (Serrano, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal) / no same as

The bill requires municipalities to report on compliance with parkland alienation conditions when acting pursuant to parkland alienation legislation and authorizes the Attorney General to enjoin alienation of parkland where municipalities have repeatedly failed to adhere to alienation requirements.

Proponents: None

Opponents: NYSAC; NYS School Boards Association

Senate Vote: 59-1 (Helming)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the State Parks Passport Program

S.261 (Serrano, Helming, Rolison, Walczyk, Webb) / No same as

This bill directs the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to establish the State parks passport program, allowing visitors to log their visits in a passport book or electronic application.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Playground Equipment Cleaning After Pesticide Exposure**S.805 (Serrano, Jackson, Webb) / A.1861 (Rosenthal L)**

This bill protects playgrounds from pesticide drift by requiring the Department of Environmental Conservation, in consultation with the Department of Health, to establish a minimum buffer distance between playground equipment and pesticide applications. If a municipality or the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) sprays a pesticide within the regulatory buffer area of a playground operated by the municipality or OPRHP, the municipality or OPRHP must clean all playground equipment as soon as possible, but in no event later than 24 hours following the application.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Murray, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Encouraging and Promoting Farmers' Markets in State Parks**S.1608A (Serrano, Chu, Helming, Hinchey, May, O'Mara, Rolison) / A.4905B (O'Donnell)**

The bill directs the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation to encourage and promote the presence of farmers' markets in state parks, so long as the markets do not harm the natural environment or integrity of the park.

Proponents: New York Farm Bureau

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Incorporating Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice Considerations into the Arts & Cultural Affairs Law**S.5714A (Cleare, Fernandez, Jackson, May, Myrie, Rolison, Salazar) / A.4912A (Cunningham)**

This bill requires broader concern for culture, access, diversity, equity, inclusion, and social and racial justice with respect to the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), and arts and culture policy generally. Changes include reforming the composition of NYSCA by requiring consideration of diversity, equity considerations, and cultural preservation and development; requiring NYSCA to evaluate potential funding grantees on the basis of how they use arts or culture to address racial and social justice; and directing NYSCA to engage with and support not-for-profit arts and culture organizations that conduct advocacy work on these issues.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 50-11 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Helming, Lanza, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

DISABILITIES

Analyst: Abisha Vijayashanthar
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Directs the Department of Health to Do a Comprehensive Review of Early Intervention Services

S.1198A (Rivera, Brouk, Mannion, Myrie, Salazar, Webb) / A.10175 (Paulin)

This bill directs the Department of Health to do a comprehensive review of the Early Intervention (EI) Program. The study will review the service delivery models, reimbursement rates for efficacy, adequacy, and effectiveness of service delivery, and the full implementation of individualized family service plans.

Proponents: New York State Alliance for Children with Special Needs; Citizens Committee for Children; Advocates for Children of NY; Children's Defense Fund; Citizens Committee for Children

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Expands the Independent Developmental Disability Ombudsman Program

S.3108A (Mannion, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Salazar, Skoufis, Webb) / A.1577A (Buttenschon)

This bill expands the Independent Developmental Disability Ombudsman Program to require adding the creation of the service delivery structure that includes a toll-free telephone hotline, an interactive website, and availability of in-person, telephone, and email access to the Ombudsman Program. The bill also includes the duty to provide assistance with navigating and completing complex processes, filing and preparing appeals, any issues or inquiries encountered, and education on rights and responsibilities of the Office for People With Developmental Disabilities and care coordination provided by health homes serving intellectual or developmental disabilities individuals.

Proponents: Medicaid Matters

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Requires Schools and Daycares to Establish Emergency Evacuation Plans for Children with Disabilities****S.1963A (Addabbo, Webb) / A.4978B (Santabarbara)**

This legislation requires every board of education or trustees of each school district and the city school district of New York City to establish and maintain an emergency evacuation plan for children with disabilities in schools.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Adds Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders to Definition of Developmental Disability****S.1866 (Brouk, Hoylman-Sigal) / A.2297 (Clark)**

This bill would add fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, including fetal alcohol syndrome, partial fetal alcohol syndrome (pFAS), and alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder (ARND), to the list of developmental disabilities.

Proponents: Healthcare Association of New York State

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

EDUCATION

Analyst: Maria Morrissey
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Reforms Annual Professional Performance Reviews Process and Uncouples Reviews as a Primary Consideration for Tenure**

S.9054 (Mayer, Mannion, Harckham, Martinez, Webb) / A.9849 (Benedetto)

This bill reforms the annual professional performance review (APPR) and tenure process for teachers and principals to increase local control over performance evaluations, and removes performance reviews as the primary consideration in tenure decisions.

Proponents: NYSUT, NYSCOSS, SED, Conference of Big 5 School Districts NYS PTA

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Requires SED to Establish Rules and Regulations on Protocols for Diapering and Toileting

S.9147B (Mannion, Hinchey, May, Skoufis) / A.9777B (Benedetto)

The bill requires the Commissioner of Education to promulgate rules and regulations that establish uniform statewide protocols for diapering and toileting of students in public schools, BOCES, special acts, 853 schools, and other state-supported schools that serve students with disabilities or for students who need more time for toilet training.

Proponents: NYSUT

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Establishes a Maximum Temperature in School Buildings and Indoor Facilities

S.3397-A (Skoufis, Addabbo, Bailey, Brisport, Chu, Comrie, Cooney, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Liu, Mannion, Martinez, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Ryan, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Thomas, Webb) / A.9011-A (Eachus)

This bill requires all schools to develop policies to relieve heat-related discomfort when occupied school buildings and indoor facilities' temperature reaches 82 degrees Fahrenheit, and prohibits these spaces from being occupied when the temperature reaches 88 degrees Fahrenheit.

Proponents: NYSUT

Opponents: NYSCOSS, NYSSBA, NYC Board of Education Employees

Senate Vote: 57-3 (Oberacker, O'Mara, Ort)

Assembly Vote: 129-12

Schools Impacted by Gross Highways (SIGH) Act**S.4550B (May, Brisport, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Mannion, Myrie, Rivera) / A.8998B (Tapia)**

This bill establishes the Schools Impacted by Gross Highways (SIGH) Act to prohibit the construction of new schools near major roadways with limited exceptions and includes schools in environmental impact statements for the construction of a major roadway.

Proponents: Citizens Committee for Children of NY, Climate Families NYC, NYCLU, NYS Nurses Association, People's Climate Movement NY, South Bronx Unite, The Point CDC, We Act for Environmental Justice

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 45-15 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 107-40

Expands Access to Omnibus School Violence Prevention Grant Funding for School Anti-Violence Education Programs**S.4598-D (Bailey, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gianaris, Goundardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, Myrie, Parker, Persaud, Salazar, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Skoufis) / A.4917-D (Anderson)**

This bill expands access to funding under the Omnibus School Violence Prevention Grant for the purposes of school anti-violence education programs.

Proponents: Everytown for Gun Safety, New Yorkers Against Gun Violence

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

Requires Student Ex Officio Member to be Designated to Local School Boards**S.9018A (Mayer, Jackson) / A.9855A (Woerner)**

This bill requires all school districts and BOCES, except for New York City, that operate a high school to establish a process to designate at least one student as ex officio members of local school boards without voter approval in all public schools.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 48-13 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Prohibits Interest Earned on Special Act Reserve Funds from Offsetting State Tuition Payments

S.9107A (Mayer, Jackson, Webb) / A.10315A (Shimsky)

This bill allows special act schools to maintain any interest accrued from reserve funds without counting against state tuition payments.

Proponents: Special Act School Districts

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

Underrepresented Teachers of Tomorrow Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program

S.1192 (Persaud, Chu, Cooney, Jackson, Liu, May) / A.4556 (Hyndman)

This bill establishes the Underrepresented Teachers of Tomorrow Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program to attract and retain underrepresented certified teachers in schools which have an underrepresentation of certified teachers by providing grants to school districts and teachers.

Proponents: NYS Council of School Superintendents, New York State School Boards Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 56-5 (Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ort)

Assembly Vote: None

Creates Statewide and Regional Conventions to Bring Together Underrepresented Teachers

S.1988 (Jackson, Brouk, Chu, Hoylman-Sigal, Liu, Mayer) / A.2247 (Hyndman)

This bill directs the Commissioner of Education to annually convene statewide and regional conventions to bring together underrepresented educators and administrators to discuss experiences, best practices, and provide for networking, mentorship opportunities, and support. This bill seeks to address reports that found that many educators of color feel unsupported in the workplace and educators of color, particularly male educators of color, leave the profession because of the lack of diversity.

Proponents: NYSUT, NYS Council of School Superintendents, New York State School Boards Association.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Lanza)

Assembly Vote: None

Task Force on Educator Diversity in New York State**S.3385A (Brisport, Brouk, Cooney, Jackson, Liu, Salazar) / No Same As**

This bill establishes a task force on educator diversity in New York State to study educator diversity, state actions taken to promote educator diversity in New York State, and how New York State can encourage new initiatives on the topic.

Proponents: The Council of School Superintendents, New York State School Boards Association, Today's Students Tomorrow's Teachers.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-4 (Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ort)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the Bilingual Teachers of Tomorrow Teacher Recruitment and Retention Program**S.3408 (Parker, Chu, Cooney, Jackson, Liu, May) / A.364A (Cruz)**

This bill establishes the bilingual teachers of tomorrow teacher recruitment and retention program to provide grants for school districts to attract and retain bilingual, certified teachers to instruct in schools with a bilingual teachers shortage.

Proponents: Council of School Superintendents; NYS School Boards Association.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: None

Protects Religious Attire from Discrimination, Bullying, and Harassment in Schools**S.4505A (Liu, Addabbo, Chu, May, Myrie, Webb) / A.1994A (Fall)**

This bill amends the Dignity for All Students Act, to specifically protect a student's attire, clothing, or facial hair in accordance with the requirements of their religion, from harassment, bullying, or discrimination in schools.

Proponents: NYS Council of School Superintendents.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Directs SED to Establish a Model Curriculum for History and Civic Impact of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islanders**S.5963A (Liu, Chu, Cooney, Thomas, Gounardes, Kavanagh, Stavisky, Addabbo, Bailey, Cleare, Comrie, Felder, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzales, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Webb) / A.6579A (Lee)**

This bill directs the Commissioner of the SED to establish curriculum or instruction for school districts on Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander history and civic impact. School districts may include the established materials as components of its history or social studies curriculum, or any other way the school deems appropriate.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Decreases Frequency of Lock-down Drills and Specifies Implementation of Such Drills**S.6537A (Gounardes, Brouk, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Myrie, Webb) / A.6665A (Simon)**

This bill decreases the frequency of lock-down drills in schools and requires that lock-down drills be designed to consider the mental health needs of students, as well as training for teachers and administrators.

Proponents: Advocates for Children of New York; Everytown for Gun Safety; Mental Health Advocates of Western New York; Mental Health Association in New York State; National Alliance on Mental Illness NYS; New York State School Social Workers Association; NYS American Academy of Pediatrics; NYS Coalition for Children's Behavioral Health; Teachers Unify to End Gun Violence.

Opponents: NYS PTA

Senate Vote: 40-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Directs SED and OCFS to Streamline the Process of Operating Both a Daycare and Prekindergarten Program**S.8363 (May, Brisport, Jackson) / A.9361 (Hunter)**

This bill directs SED in consultation with OCFS to create a single, streamlined process whereby a combination of pre-kindergarten and daycare programs may be certified to operate.

Proponents: Alliance of NYS YMCA's, NYSSBA.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Solutions Not Suspensions Act**

S.1040B (Jackson, Brisport, Bailey, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Kavanagh, Liu, May, Myrie, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Thomas, Webb) / No Same As

This bill reforms school discipline and suspension laws by prohibiting suspensions of students in grades prekindergarten through three, limits the suspension or removal of students for certain misconduct, requires schools to adopt restorative practices, and requires schools to amend codes of conduct to ensure parental notification and community involvement. This bill applies to school districts, BOCES, and charter schools.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Solutions Not Suspensions Coalition

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education Instruction in all Public Schools

S.1402 (Liu, Chu, Jackson) / No Same As

This bill codifies the State Education Department's (SED) existing Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education (CRSE) Framework and requires CRSE instruction aligned with the framework for all students in public schools. The bill also requires the Commissioner of Education to update learning standards on an ongoing basis and provide technical assistance and resources to aid public schools in providing the CRSE instruction. CRSE instruction includes but is not limited to the history of diverse groups across race, social, class, gender, language, sexual orientation, nationality, religion, and ability; the history and civic impact of Asian Americans, America's Indigenous Peoples, African American, Muslim American, Hispanic, Latinx and Caribbean Americans, and the Holocaust.

Proponents: State Education Department, NYSUT

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

ELECTIONS

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Authorizing Absentee Ballot "Drop Boxes" & Drop-Off Locations**

S.610 (Hoylman-Sigal, Bailey, Breslin, Brouk, Cooney, Gounardes, Hinchey, Jackson, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, May, Mayer, Parker, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Thomas, Webb)/A.7243 Simone

This bill permanently authorizes the use of absentee ballot drop boxes in the state as a method of returning absentee ballots. The bill is permissive in nature and gives counties authority to use drop boxes if they so choose. The State Board of Elections is authorized and directed to promulgate related rules and regulations, including emergency regulations if needed.

Proponents: Vote Early NY, NYPIRG

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 41-21 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 89-52

Statewide Attorney Election Monitors

S.6130A (Parker, Bailey, Comrie, Kavanagh, Krueger, Mayer) / A.530 (Weprin)

This bill allows attorneys who are New York State residents, qualified voters, and licensed to practice law in New York to act as poll watchers throughout the state. A poll watcher is a representative of a candidate, political party, civic organization, or other association who is lawfully permitted in the polling place to observe the conduct of the election. Poll watchers are often recruited to identify and thwart any election violations or risks of voter suppression. Currently in New York, a poll watcher must be a registered voter in the county or city holding the election.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 37-21 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 98-49

**Requiring County Committee Candidates in New York City to be Notified if Designated
S.6199B (Myrie) / A.494B (Epstein)**

This bill requires the New York City Board of Elections to provide candidates designated for the party position of member of the county committee in New York City notice of designation and the process for declining designations.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 100-45

**Allowing Pre-Registered Voters to Apply for Absentee and Early Vote-By-Mail Ballots
S.6735A (May)/A.3250A (Epstein)**

Under current law, New Yorkers who are 16 or 17 years old may pre-register to vote for elections occurring after they turn 18. However, the Election Law does not provide for the application of absentee ballots or early vote-by-mail ballots, meaning that these cannot be requested until the voter turns 18. This bill allows pre-registered voters to apply for an absentee or early vote-by-mail ballot as long as they will be eligible to vote (18 years old) on Election Day.

Proponents: Democratic Election Commissioners Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 48-9 (Borrello, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ort, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 147-0

**Conforming to Federal Electoral Count Act Reforms
S.8464 (Skoufis)/A.9409 (Wallace)**

This bill conforms the Election Law to the Electoral Count Reform Act of 2022. It requires the State to prepare seven lists of its certified and official slate of electors, as determined by the State Board of Canvassers. These lists must have the governor's signature and an official state seal affixed to them in order to ensure authenticity. The bill provides a specific list of recipients for these lists, including the Vice President and Archivist of the United States. It also requires New York's electors to meet on the first Tuesday after the second Wednesday in December rather than the first Monday after the second Wednesday in order to comply with the new federal law.

Proponents: New York State Board of Elections

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 56-3 (Martins, Murray, Rhoads)

Assembly Vote: 148-0

**Chapter Amendment to the Election Deepfakes Law
S.9678B (Gonzalez)/A.10402A (Otis)**

TEDE MM of the 2024-25 Adopted Budget required distributors or publishers of materially deceptive political communications to disclose the use of digitization, if it is indistinguishable from reality, depicts something that did not occur, and was created with software or other digital technology. It also gives candidates a private right of action to seek injunctive relief and court and attorneys' fees. This bill makes minor amendments. First, it requires those creating or disseminating a deep fake to have actual knowledge that it is materially deceptive. This ensures that anyone else fooled by the media will be free of litigation risk. It also creates exemptions for including deep fakes in bona fide news reporting as long as the material's authenticity is questioned, and exempts broadcasters who can show that they have disclaimer requirements similar to those included in the bill. Finally, it clarifies that no entity should be required to take any action that would require it to violate federal law.

Proponents: NY Broadcasters Association, Brennan Center

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 55-6 (Helming, Matterra, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: 141-0

Chapter 169

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY**Criminalizing Voter Suppression and Deceptive Election Practices
S.263 (Stewart-Cousins, Jackson, Webb)/A.8608 (Lavine)**

This bill provides that any person, political committee, labor organization, corporation, or other entity that knowingly communicates deceptive information and prevents or deters another person from voting in any election is guilty of a deceptive election practice.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Democracy Preservation Act**S.371 (Gianaris, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Ramos, Salazar)/A.2633(Walker)**

This bill prohibits contributions by foreign-influenced business entities in New York elections. Contributions to constituted committees, independent expenditure committees, political party committees, or disbursements for political communications are prohibited.

Proponents: NYPIRG, NYPAN, Federal Election Commissioner Ellen Weintraub

Opponents: Business Council

Senate Vote: 48-14 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Mandatory Training for Board of Elections Employees**S.617 (Myrie, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, May, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.10640 (Rules, Seawright)**

This bill would require the Board of Elections (BOE) to create a mandatory, uniform training curriculum for all election commissioners. It requires election commissioners, and other staff as determined by the SBOE, to complete a course of instruction within six months of their appointment. It also requires election commissioners, and other designated staff, to complete continuing education on an annual basis.

Proponents: NYPIRG

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 56-4 (Borello, Murray, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

New York City Board of Elections Reform**S.619A (Krueger, Hoylman-Sigal, May, Rivera) / A.662A (Rozic)**

This bill amends the exercise of powers and duties of the New York City Board of Elections and its executive management. It replaces the 10 NYCBOE commissioners with two and replaces the director/deputy director structure of the NYCBOE with one executive director, who may appoint a deputy at their discretion. The bill requires equal representation of the major political parties for BOE employees "charged with the duty of qualifying voters, distributing ballots to voters, or receiving, recording or counting votes at elections," but does not require equal representation for other tasks.

Proponents: Brennan Center for Justice, New York City Mayor's Office

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 37-21 (Ashby, Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Minimum Staffing Levels For Local Board Of Elections**S.644A (Mannion, Webb) / A.1258A (Hunter)**

This bill requires that local Boards of Election (BOE) employ at least four full-time employees in addition to the appointed commissioners. It also requires each BOE to employ two additional employees for every full allotment of 20,000 active registered voters beyond 40,000 active registered voters in the county. BOEs will have two years to hire the first two required additional staff members (if any) and four years to hire the next two.

Proponents: Democratic Elections Commissioners Association; Democratic Caucus of the NYS Elections Commissioner Association.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Codifying Right of Voter to Register at Second Residence**S.2349A (Myrie, Liu, Webb)/A.10549 (Carroll)**

This bill codifies long-standing case law that a voter may register to vote at any residence to which the voter maintains a continuous connection with an intent to return, including a second home or a vacation home, and clarifies that this also applies to students living at their college or university.

Proponents: NYDLC

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Requiring Disclosure of Paid Social Media Influencer Posts for Campaigns**S.4733A (Krueger)/No Same-As**

This bill requires that campaigns and political committees include payments to social media influencers who post on their behalf in their expenditure filings or political communications. It also requires that these posts clearly and prominently display "Paid for by:" language followed by the name of the political committee making the expenditure. It also clarifies that paid influencer social media posts are not exempt from the requirements that posts that are too small in size contain a full disclosure and provide a link to that disclosure.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Requiring New York to Join ERIC
S.6173B (Skoufis)/A.7052C (Sillitti)**

This bill requires the State Board of Elections to join ERIC, the multi-state voter list maintenance organization and to provide ERIC with certain voter information including voter names, addresses, voting activity dates, affirmative documentation of citizenship (however, no documentation affirming that a person is not a citizen may be sent to any multi-state voter list maintenance organization), and the type of documentation of citizenship presented. It also allows the Department of Motor Vehicles to share a voter's DMV ID number, last four digits of their social security number, date of birth, current record status, phone number, and e-mail address.

Proponents: NY Democratic Election Commissioners Association, Brennan Center, Protect Democracy, Let NY Vote, ERIC, Reinvent Albany

Opponents: DMV

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Secure Automatic Voter Registration
S.8752A (Gianaris)/A.9732A (Reyes)**

This bill changes NY's automatic voter registration system to a "secure" automatic voter registration system. In short, it would automate the process more and make it more secure, automatically enrolling and/or excluding people based on citizenship criteria. The bill establishes specific procedures for both DMV and Medicaid in order to ensure that non-drivers have avenues for automatic voter registration.

Proponents: Institute for Responsive Government, Immigration Coalition

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 37-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibiting Campaign Contributions to Statewide Campaigns by Large Statewide Vendors S.9697 (Myrie)/No Same As

This bill creates restrictions surrounding political donations from vendors seeking procurement contracts from state entities valued at \$50,000 or more. It prohibits vendors from making any contribution to a candidate for a statewide elected office or their authorized political committee during the restricted period. The restricted period is defined as the start of a procurement opportunity or lobbying to affect the procurement until six months after a final procurement contract award and approval by the State Comptroller (OSC) for the vendor or with the final procurement contract award and approval by OSC for all others. If OSC approval is not required for the contract, the restricted period ends six months after the final procurement contract award and execution to the procuring entity or after the final procurement contract award and execution for other vendors. Campaign contributions made by vendors during this restricted period to statewide campaigns would need to be returned.

Proponents: Office of the State Comptroller (Departmental Bill)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 56-3 (Lanza, O'Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Constitutional Amendment for Even Year Elections for, Judges, DAs, Sheriffs, County Clerks and Cities besides New York City S.9826 (Skoufis) / A.10538 (Jacobson)

This constitutional amendment moves all city elections to even-numbered years, aside from New York City's municipal offices. Additionally, it requires county judges, sheriffs, district attorneys, and county clerks across the state (including New York City) to have four-year terms with elections in even-numbered years. New York City's elected judges and district attorney offices are legally county offices so they would be moved by this amendment, but the elections for mayor, public advocate, comptroller, borough president, and city council would all remain in odd years. It also requires judicial vacancies to be filled until the next general election in an even-numbered year, to ensure that these elections always occur in even-numbered years. Finally, the bill creates an exception to the requirement that all general elections occur in even-numbered years in the situation where there is a simultaneous vacancy in the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor in order to ensure that there would not be an acting governor for more than 15 months.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 37-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Comrie, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Ensuring True Surpluses in the Public Campaign Finance Program S.9835 (Skoufis)/A.10539 (Magnarelli)

The Public Campaign Finance Law requires candidates to pay back all surplus funds received at the end of each campaign cycle. A candidate has surplus funds left over if all of the contributions and public matching funds received is greater than the money spent on qualified expenditures at the end of the campaign cycle. This portion of the statute incentivizes candidates to spend all of their money down to \$0 each cycle and ignores the fact that non-public funds can be put to a much wider array of uses, such as expenses involved in the execution of a member's public office. This bill allows candidates participating in the state matching funds program to prove they spent all of their public matching funds on qualified expenditures for all covered elections held in the same calendar year. So if a candidate received \$200,000 in matching funds and has documentation proving they spent \$200,000 on mailers (an eligible expense), they would not need to return any money at the end of the election cycle.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Brennan Center, Citizen Action

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Analyst: Grant Hart
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Comprehensive EV Fast Charging Station Implementation Plan****S.489A (Comrie, Chu, Cooney, Kavanagh, May) / A.8869 (Barrett)**

This bill directs the New York State Energy and Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) to establish a comprehensive electric vehicle fast charging station implementation plan. The plan will analyze and provide solutions for increasing the coverage and availability of fast chargers across the state. The "Fast Charge NY Working Group" shall consist of 13 members appointed by the Legislature and Governor.

Proponents: Independent Petroleum Makers of NY; New York State Auto Dealers Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-4 (Borrello, Oberacker, Ortt, Walczyk)

Assembly Vote: 132-12

Utility Complaint Response Time Reform**S.628A (Comrie, Bailey, Webb) / A.1745A (Dinowitz)**

This bill modifies the utility and municipal utility complaint procedures to include all ratepayers, building off the current limitation to residential ratepayers. Additionally, this bill eliminates Public Service Commission (PSC) discretion for determinations of complaints and requires every determination to be in writing with supporting documentation. The PSC must provide information to all complainants on the PSC's complaint handling procedures, regardless of whether their complaint was decided in favor of the utility. While a complaint is awaiting a PSC determination, late fees cannot be charged to the complainant. Complaints arising from disputes over payment plans now always place the burden of proof on the utility, unless it falls into a good cause exception determined by the PSC.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 49-12 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Helming, Martins, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Walczyk)

Assembly Vote: 96-48

New York State Grid Modernization Commission**S.1694B (Parker) / A.6253A (Barrett)**

This bill establishes the New York State Grid Modernization Commission (GMC) to study of research, development, and demonstrations of electric grid modernization that address the principal challenges identified in the New York Independent System Operator's 2021-2040 System & Resource Outlook, which focuses on transmission congestion and how patterns will change over time when the State's approximately 9,500 MW in contracted renewable projects are added to the system. The GMC shall consist of 20 members appointed by the Legislature and Executive.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Requires Electric Vehicle Charging Stations and Electric Vehicle Capable Parking Spaces**S.1736E (Krueger, Chu, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, May, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Sepulveda) / A.3780E (Fahy)**

This bill sets required standards for new construction that includes dedicated off-street parking. These parking areas must have electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicle capable parking spaces with appropriate wiring and space to install charging stations. These rules will apply to residential, commercial and industrial buildings, however, multi-family affordable housing has been exempted.

Proponents: GNYADA; New York Public Interest Research Institute; Environmental Advocates of New York; New York Automobile Dealers Association; Gravity Inc.

Opponents: Capital Region Chamber of Commerce

Senate Vote: 40-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Palumbo, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ort, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 90-55

Consumer Notice of Utility Rate Increases**S.1804 (Addabbo, Comrie, Mayer, Rolison, Webb) / A.4895 (Ardila)**

This bill requires electric and gas utilities to notify its customers within 60 days after the PSC's approval of any increase in electric or gas service rates. This notice must be in writing, and go to every customer impacted by the new rate increase.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 107-38

Model Procedures for Estimated Utility Bills**S.1851B (Hinchey, Liu, Murray, Rolison, Webb) / A.888C (Jacobson)**

This legislation clarifies that utilities have to use actual meter readings for billing in every instance unless there is a specific statutory exception allowing utilities to use estimated bills instead. The legislation also directs utilities to file a model procedure for calculating estimated bills with the PSC that includes and accounts for barriers to the use of actual meter readings. The bill directs the PSC to then promulgate rules and regulations to incorporate and adopt these model procedures by November 1, 2025.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 106-41

Civil Penalties for False Statements in Rate Cases**S.6710 (Skoufis, Comrie) / A.3746 (Eichenstein)**

This bill authorizes the PSC to impose civil penalties of up to \$250,000, per instance, upon any public utility company or corporation, or their officers, agents or employees that knowingly makes a false material statement, representation or certification to the Commission in any rate proceeding. This bill also imposes a "discovery" requirement which requires that, upon the discovery of a material false statement made, a public utility must within three days of discovery, disclose such information to the PSC. The failure to disclose such information will also trigger liability under this bill.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

Affordable Grid Enhancement Act**S.7868A (May) / A.9105A (Anderson)**

This bill directs the Department of Public Service (DPS) to consider and evaluate the viability of grid enhancement technologies before approving new transmission projects. Electric and combination electric and gas corporations may be required by the PSC to conduct an analysis into cost-effectiveness and timetable analysis of multiple strategies, including deployment of grid enhancing technologies and advanced reconductoring. DPS may approve the deployment of grid enhancing technologies and advanced reconductoring as part of an overall solutions strategy.

Proponents: Cornell University

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-2 (Griffo, Lanza)

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Utility Intervenor Reimbursement**S.8372 (Parker, Webb) / A.8611 (Solages)**

This bill establishes an intervenor account to provide funding for citizens and non-profits, who represent the interests of a significant number of residential or small business customers and participate in rate-case proceedings before the Public Service Commission. The intervenor account will be funded by the utility or utilities subject to the proceeding.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York; PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Tedisco, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 96-49

New York Utility Call Center Protection Act**S.8626A (Mannion, Addabbo, Gournardes, Harckham, Jackson, Parker, Ramos) / A.9444A (Cruz)**

The bill expands the tasks required to be handled by live telephone operators within the state for gas and electric utilities. These new tasks include any associated tasks related to receiving inquiries for customer assistance which will include any phone, in writing, email, texts, chats, or any other electronic communications related to customer service. Requests for initiating and terminating service, inbound and outbound requests for payment, shared metering, and collection assistance will have to be handled by a call center operator based in New York.

Proponents: IBEW Local 12

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 53-6 (Borrello, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Ortt, Rolison, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: 139-6

Critical Infrastructure Microgrid Study**S.8841 (Parker) / A.9123 (Cruz)**

This bill directs NYSERDA, in consultation with DHSES, to conduct a study and develop recommendations for connecting microgrids to critical infrastructure. These recommendations will be included in a final report due one year after this bill goes into effect. The final report will be sent to the Governor and Legislature.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: 136-0

Requires NYPA Electric Vehicle Charging Stations to have Wheelchair Accessible Parking Spots**S.8979 (Persaud, Cooney, Rolison) / A.7091 (Simon)**

This bill requires electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicle capable parking spaces created by the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to have accessible spaces that are large enough to accommodate wheelchair accessible electric vehicles, including but not limited to, vans and minivans. This bill does not explicitly require the parking spaces to be ADA compliant, however, under Title II of the ADA all public transportation projects commenced by state and local governments need to accommodate persons with disabilities.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

New York Utility Corporation Securitization Act**S.9339A (Comrie, Cooney, Harckham, Webb) / A.10346A (Paulin)**

This bill introduces a framework for utility corporations to issue recovery bonds for storm costs arrearages incurred up until July 1, 2024 and totaling over \$500 million dollars. Securitization in the context of the bill, transfers the ownership of the debt through a recovery bond from the utility to a subsidiary in exchange for interest. This interest will be paid by the ratepayers to the bond holders instead of to the utility resulting in potential savings to ratepayers and allowing for utilities to quickly recover prudently incurred costs.

Proponents: NYSEG; IBEW Local 10; IBEW Local 36; NYS Economic Development Council; Alliance for Manufacturing and Technology; Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA); Buffalo Niagara Manufacturing Association; Buffalo Niagara Partnership; Capital Region Chamber/Center for Economic Growth; Council of Industry; Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce; Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce; Insyte Consulting; Manufacturing Association of the Southern Tier; North County Chamber of Commerce; Putnam County Economic Development Corporation; Rochester Technology and Manufacturing Association; Saratoga Economic Development Corporation; Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce; Upstate United; Avangrid

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**NY Home Energy Affordable Transition Act (HEAT Act)**

S.2016B (Krueger, May, Addabbo, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Liu, Mayer, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Webb) / A.4592B (Fahy)

This bill aligns the Public Service Law, and state regulations and oversight of gas utilities, with the emissions reduction mandates in the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA), and removes the 100 foot rule for gas connections; it also establishes a goal that energy burdens shall not exceed six percent of household income.

Proponents: Earth Justice; NY League of Conservation Voters; WE ACT; 350 BK; 350 NY; New York Renews; All our Energy; Alliance for a Green Economy; Association for Energy Affordability; Catskill Mountain Keeper; Citizen Action of New York; Climate Solutions Accelerator; Environmental Advocates of New York; Environmental Defense Fund; Food & Water Watch; Fossil Free Tompkins; Hudson River Sloop Clearwater; Mothers Out Front; Natural Resources Defense Council; New York Geothermal Energy Organization; New Yorkers for Clean Power; Pace Energy & Climate Center; Seneca Lake Guardian; Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter.

Opposition: National Fuel; TWU; AFL-CIO Local 101; National Grid; UWUA

Senate Vote: 40-22 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Ryan, Tedisco, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Ride Clean Rebate Program

S.314A (Salazar, Addabbo, Ashby, Brisport, Cooney, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, May, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Rolison, Sepulveda, Tedisco, Webb) / A.275A (Carroll)

This bill directs the New York State Energy and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to establish the Ride Clean Rebate Program for electric bicycles and scooters. This program makes Class One, Class Two, and Class Three bicycles with an electric assist (e-bikes) eligible for a fifty percent rebate up to a maximum of \$1,100. Generally, e-bikes cost between \$600-4,000, and e-scooters range from \$350-2,500.

Proponents: NY League of Conservation Voters; NYC Office of the Mayor; Bird; Environmental Advocates of New York

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 39-19 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Krueger, Rhoads, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Proponents: None

Minimum Standards for Utility Payment Plans**S.1199B (Parker) / A.4497B (Cunningham)**

This bill directs the Public Service Commission (PSC) to set a new standard for utility payment plans for low-income and in-need customers by adding additional consumer rights protections and payment flexibility.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Utility Automatic Deferred Payment Plans**S.1200B (Parker, Addabbo, Chu, Fernandez, Gounardes, Kennedy, Webb) / A.2072B (Cunningham)**

This bill directs the PSC to require utility companies to automatically enroll qualifying low income individuals who provide documentation of their eligibility status into deferred payment plans. This bill will apply to all electric, gas and steam utilities.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Utility Discount Program for Veterans**S.1201C (Parker, Addabbo, Comrie, Fernandez, Hinchey, Jackson, Webb) / A.7475C (Cunningham)**

This bill directs the Public Service Commission (PSC) to require electric and gas utilities, municipal utilities, water corporations and municipal water systems, telephone corporations, and cable television companies to establish a discount program for veterans. The program must offer a yearly benefit to veterans equivalent to a 10% discount on their bills.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Limits on Utility Fixed Charges**S.1303B (Parker, Comrie, Webb) / A.295B (Carroll)**

This bill directs the Public Service Commission (PSC) to limit what utilities are able to charge as residential fixed charges to only the costs necessary to recover operation and maintenance expenses related to metering, billing, service connections, and the provision of customer service.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: Energy Coalition of New York

Senate Vote: 48-14 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Lanza, Martins, Murray, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: None

Small Water Utility Transparency**S.1791 (Hinchey, Webb) / No-Same-As**

This bill directs the PSC to conduct audits of small private water companies, defined as having gross annual revenues below \$250,000, every three to five years as determined by the PSC. The PSC's audits must focus on the private water company's capital investment plan, financial capacity, management ability, water adequacy, and its compliance with state and federal regulations and laws.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Economic Consideration in Utility Rate Setting**S.2432 (Comrie, Webb) / A.3998 (Eichenstein)**

This bill requires the Public Service Commission (PSC) to consider, before approving any rate increase and while determining whether a proposed rate increase is just and reasonable, the economic impact of the increase in the rates or charges on consumers in the area served by the applying public utility, where the rate increase would raise more than the greater of \$300,000 or 2.5% of the aggregate revenues of the public utility company. In its consideration the Commission is directed to account for unemployment data, median income information and the number of persons receiving social services assistance in the applicable service area. The bill further requires the Commission to consider the average monthly utility bill for each affected class of customers and their estimated increased utility bill, along with the latest cost and income statistics from the Federal Bureau of Labor.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-5 (Palumbo, Weber, Weik, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick)

Assembly Vote: None

Just Energy Transition Act (JETA)

S.2935D (Parker, Addabbo, Breslin, Brisport, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Krueger, Liu, Martinez, May, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Webb) / No-Same-As

This bill directs NYSERDA to develop a study of competitive options to facilitate the replacement and redevelopment of fossil fuel power plants with renewable energy systems or energy storage systems and transmission and distribution systems and equipment while maintaining reliability and resource adequacy. The study must prioritize the replacement and redevelopment of the oldest and most polluting power plants. These development projects must follow the recommendations issued by the Climate Action Council in its scoping plan and be aligned with requirements of the CLCPA. The Study shall address the phase-out of at least four gigawatts of fossil fueled generation and prioritize peaker plants for phase out.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York, New York League of Conservation Voters; RiseLight & Power, LLC;The Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter;Utility Workers Union of America Local 1-2

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 44-17 (Ashby, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Tedisco, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Electric Landscaping Equipment Rebate Program

S.5853A (Krueger, Hoylman-Sigal, May, Mayer, Parker, Ramos, Webb) / A.5681A (Otis)

This bill directs the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to award rebates at the point of sale for eligible lawn care devices. For institutional or commercial buyers, the rebate shall be no more than \$15,000 per year. For individual buyers, the rebate shall be no more than \$300 per year. NYSERDA must additionally conduct a public outreach campaign to inform buyers of the rebate program.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York;Natural Resource Defense Council;New York Climate Reality Chapters Coalition;Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 54-4 (Gallivan, Griffo, Murray, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Cellular Service Mapping Study**S.6318A (Hinchey, May, Myrie, Rolison, Webb) / A.7626A (Jones)**

This bill directs the Public Service Commission (PSC) to study the availability, affordability and reliability of cellular services in the state. The bill is largely modeled after the Comprehensive Broadband Connectivity Act of 2021, which directed PSC to conduct a similar study of access to wired or fixed wireless broadband services.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: Verizon

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Standardizing the Rate of Return on Equity for Utilities**S.6557A (Mayer) / A.7502 (Barrett)**

This bill directs the Public Service Commission ("PSC") to annually establish a standard methodology for calculating reasonable return on equity for the purposes of rate setting for electric, gas, steam, and water services.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York; PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 54-8 (Ashby, Borrello, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Consumer Utility Protections During Investigations (CUPDI) Act**S.6803B (Gonzalez, Brisport, Hinchey, Salazar, Thomas) / A.7537B (Shrestha)**

This bill provides that during PSC investigations, gas, steam, electric, water, telephone, cable or broadband service cannot be terminated for residential or commercial accounts due to non-payment of an overdue charge. This protection lasts from the beginning of the investigation until 120 days after the PSC publishes its findings and issues a determination. However, the service can still be disconnected if necessary to protect health and safety. All overdue charges will be passed onto shareholders and are not recoverable from ratepayers regardless of the investigation outcome.

Proponents: Communities for Local Power; PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 50-11 (Ashby, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Tedisco, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Utility Penalty Adjustment**S.7294 (Hinchey) / A.7074 (Shrestha)**

This bill increases statutory civil penalties for public utility corporations and combination gas and electric corporations for knowingly failing or neglecting to obey or comply with a provision of this Public Service Law or an order or regulation of the PSC. This bill adds an additional new penalty for combination gas and electric corporations for failing to satisfy its duty of candor with the public.

Proponents: PULP

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 40-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Tedisco, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibition of Utility Disconnections During Extreme Weather Events**S.7982A (Cleare) / A.7975A (O'Donnell)**

The bill prohibits utilities and municipalities that supply heat and/or electricity service from disconnecting customers during extreme weather forecasts. The moratorium on disconnections would go into effect for the day of the forecasted extreme temperature. Extreme weather forecasts for the purposes of this bill will be any National Weather Service forecast day or night that has an apparent temperature of 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below and 95°F or above.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-4 (Martins, Oberacker, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Go Green Schools Act**S.8402A (Parker) / A.10611 (Santabarbara)**

This bill directs NYSEERDA to create a mapping tool by December 31, 2026 that will assist schools in converting to renewable energy resources. The mapping tool must provide the following information: the types of renewable systems that would be effective options for each school, how much those would cost, geographical data specific to each school's location such as land types and if any of the soils are suited for agriculture. The mapping tool must contain siting information that reveals proximity to sensitive cultural sites and disadvantaged communities.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Fuel-Switching Program for Residential Homes**S.8504A (Harckham, Krueger) / A.8595A (Zebrowski)**

This bill directs the NYSERDA to administer a program to provide grants, loans or other services for the costs related to enabling fuel-switching for residences with propane or fuel-oil heating systems to efficient electric heat pumps. This program must provide resources for clean energy measures, energy efficiency measures, resiliency measures, heating and cooling, health and safety and other related energy improvements and expenses.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York; New York Geothermal Energy

Organization; Rewiring America

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Borrello)

Assembly Vote: None

Green Affordable Pre-electrification Program (GAP)**S.8535 (Gonzalez, Brisport, Cooney, Jackson, Salazar, Sanders) / A.9170 (Kelles)**

This bill directs the New York Energy State Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) to create the Green Affordable Pre-electrification Program (GAP) to assist owners and tenants in residential properties in curing structural and building code defects which render the properties ineligible for climate change adaptation and resiliency project grants. NYSERDA is directed to enter into contracts with eligible applicants to provide financial awards for the completion of rehabilitation projects that are necessary to bring a structure into compliance with applicable building codes and regulations or other improvements needed to make the building eligible for local, state, or federal assistance for implementing home improvements relating to climate change adaptation and resiliency.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 50-11 (Borrello, Canzoneri- Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Tedisco, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Home Utility Weatherization Jobs Act**S.8575A (Ryan) / A.9746A (Conrad)**

Directs each gas corporation, electric corporation, or combination gas or electric corporation to submit a pilot weatherization program plan to the Public Service Commission for review and approval.

Proponents: WNY Law Center

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

The Green Jobs-Green New York Act of 2024**S.9744 (Parker)**

The bill raises the maximum loan an applicant can receive from the GJGNY loans to \$50,000 (from \$25,000) and changes the payback period for loans over \$13,000 from 15 years to the useful life of energy efficiency measures installed. The bill modifies the transferability of loans to allow loans to be voluntarily assumed by a later purchaser of property by written agreement rather than requiring a written recording in a municipal office. The bill allows on-bill loan charges to survive ownership changes if NYSERDA records the security interest. The bill also removes disclosure requirements if a loan agreement does not require the purchaser or transferee to be responsible for the loan charges, providing borrowers greater flexibility.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-3 (Borrello, O'Mara, Ort)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Rebate Program for Used Zero-Emission Vehicles****S.4532 (Harckham) / A.5769 (Barrett)**

This bill directs NYSERDA to create a program that provides up to a \$2,000 rebate for previously owned zero-emission vehicles to provide an incentive for state and local government entities, businesses and individuals who purchase used or previously owned zero-emission vehicles.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 106-39

Water Notices Act**S.9052 (Comrie) / A.4403 (Zebrowski)**

This bill eliminates the Public Service Commission's (PSC) discretion in deciding whether or not waterworks corporations need to provide certain non-billable information, such as water quality reports. Waterworks corporations will be required by the PSC to identify all cooperatives, condominiums or multifamily dwellings with five or more residential units that use a master meter within their territory. Once waterworks corporations have identified all of the qualifying residences within their territory they will be required to send out written notices to all residents.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 146-2

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Zero Emission Public Transport Vessels****S.2966A (Kavanagh, Cooney, Gournardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, May Parker) / A.2246B (Simon)**

This bill requires all public airport ground support equipment to be zero emission by January 1, 2030 and that by January 1, 2035, all passenger trains operated by Metro-North Commuter Railroad Company and Long Island Rail Road, as well as all work trains in the subway system operated by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, to be zero-emission trains. All public water vessels must be zero emission or near zero emission by 2040. Additionally, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority is directed to study options for zero emission commercial vessels, zero emission public airports, and sustainable aviation fuel in order to comply with the requirements of this bill.

Proponents: Earth Justice; Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Climate Superfund**

S.2129B (Krueger, Addabbo, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Webb) / A.3351B (Dinowitz)

This bill establishes a climate change adaptation cost recovery program to require fossil fuel companies that have contributed significantly to greenhouse gas emissions to fund needed infrastructure investments to adapt to climate change. Each fossil fuel company that has contributed more than one billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions during the period 2000-2018 will have to pay their proportionate share of \$75 billion based on such polluter's emissions during that period relative to other covered polluters. The bill directs all proceeds to a newly established climate change adaptation fund to be spent on climate resiliency projects.

Proponents: 200+ environmental organizations, such as Environmental Advocates, NYPIRG, WE ACT for Environmental Justice and NY Renews; labor unions, such as District Council 37 and UAW Region 9A; municipal officials and municipalities including Elected Officials to Protect America; faith-based groups such as Sisters of Mercy and Interfaith Climate Justice Community of WNY; regional groups such as 350Brooklyn and the Long Island Progressive Coalition; and veterans groups such as New York State Council of Veterans' Organizations and Veterans of Foreign War NYS.

Opponents: American Petroleum Institute Northeast Region; NYS Chemistry Council; NY Business Council

Senate Vote: 43-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 92-49

Ban on Fishing for Horseshoe Crabs

S.3185A (Hoylman-Sigal, Harckham) / A.10140 (Glick)

This bill prohibits harvesting of horseshoe crabs other than for bona fide scientific or educational purposes.

Proponents: Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE); Coastal Research and Education Society of Long Island; Saw Mill River Audubon; Seatuck: Conserving Long Island Wildlife; South Shore Audubon Society; Suffolk County Legislator Englebright

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 53-7 (Griffo, Lanza, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Skoufis, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 102-39

Requires the Department of Transportation to Identify Potential Sites on Roadways for Wildlife Crossings

S.4198B (Comrie, Addabbo, Ashby, Brisport, Chu, Hareckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, May, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Tedisco, Webb) /

A.4243B (Carroll)

This bill directs the Department of Transportation and the Thruway Authority to conduct a study to identify potential sites along highways, thruways, and parkways in the state for wildlife crossings, to propose a top ten wildlife crossing priority list, and to identify funding for constructing wildlife crossings.

Proponents: Adirondack Council; NY League of Conservation Voters (NY LCV); The Humane Society; The Nature Conservancy; Adirondack Council; New York Legal Services Coalition; Sierra Club; Open Space Institute; Rewilding Institute; Project Coyote; Wildlands Network; The Hudson Highlands Land Trust; Parks and Trails NY; many other conservation organizations.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 55-4 (Gallivan, Oberacker, Ortt, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 136-9

Ban on Styrofoam Coolers

S.4414A (Krueger) / A.4943-A (Epstein)

This bill bans the sale of most unencapsulated polystyrene (Styrofoam) coolers, other than those used for raw meat, pharmaceuticals, and biological materials.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: 146-2

Food Scrap Recycling Program Expansion

S.5331A (Hareckham, Addabbo, Brouk, Cooney, Hoylman-Sigal, Kavanagh, May, Rhoads, Rolison) / A.5906A (Shimsky)

This bill follows the recommendations of the Food Donation and Food Scraps Recycling Law annual report for 2022 and the Climate Action Council by expanding the existing large food scraps generator recycling program to cover more generators of food scraps. The major changes are (1) scaling down the annual average tonnage threshold every two years until 2027 so that the law phases in compliance obligations for increasingly more generators; and (2) tightening the exception for generators that are more than 25 miles from an organics recycler to 50 miles. The bill leaves in place the availability of a waiver when compliance is prohibitively expensive or for unique circumstances, regardless of the location of the recycling facility.

Proponents: NY LCV; Earthjustice; Sierra Club

Opponents: NYS Restaurant Association

Senate Vote: 49-10 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: 99-46

Prevailing Wage for Construction Work on Brownfield Projects

S.5868B (Harcckham, Bailey, Brouk, Chu, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, Mattera, May, Mayer, Murray, Palumbo, Ramos, Rhoads, Rivera, Ryan, Sanders, Scarcella-Spanton, Sepúlveda, Skoufis, Stavisky, Webb, Weber) / A.7491B (Bronson)

This bill requires compliance with existing prevailing wage provisions of the Labor Law with respect to an enumerated list of brownfield remediation work activities, generally categorized as construction, interim remedial measures, and restoration of the environment. The bill excludes: pre-construction work; post-construction operation, maintenance, and monitoring; work performed under a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement with a labor union, a labor peace agreement, or project labor agreement; and affordable housing projects. To qualify, at least 30% of the project must be paid for with public funds, and the total project cost must exceed \$5 million.

Proponents: LIUNA Local 78; AFL-CIO; New York Foundation for Fair Contracting; Operating Engineers; Pipe Trades Association; Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative (ELEC 825)

Opponents: Various developers; National Federation of Independent Business; New York State Bar Association

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 140-6

Increasing the Availability of Brownfield Community Technical Assistance Grants

S.7195B (Kavanagh, May) / A.7396B (Lee)

This bill helps more host communities obtain technical assistance grants (TAGs) when a brownfield project is undergoing planning by: eliminating the Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) discretion regarding whether a TAG must be provided to a community in the event of a significant threat from toxic contamination, requiring a TAG if the site is located on or adjacent to a school or daycare, and giving DEC discretion to require that a TAG be provided for every affected community.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

Reconvening the Sea Level Rise Task Force**S.8110 (Martinez, Harckham, Murray) / A.9015 (Cruz)**

This bill reconvenes the Sea Level Task Force to review its 2010 recommendations, to provide an assessment of progress toward carrying out such recommendations, and to update and add recommendations, if appropriate. In addition, the bill expands the Task Force's mission to include consideration of flood insurance issues, a review of flood zone designations, analysis of threats to critical infrastructure, the need for a public awareness initiative regarding sea level rise impacts, enhanced consideration of highly urban areas in making recommendations, a review of complementary efforts, and a greater focus on cost impacts from sea level rise and resiliency policy choices.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: 126-19

Ban on Carbon Dioxide Fracking**S.8357 (Webb, Krueger, Addabbo, Breslin, Cleare, Gianaris, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, May, Skoufis) / A.8866 (Kelles)**

This bill extends the existing ban on hydraulic fracturing (fracking) for oil and gas to cover fracking using carbon dioxide.

Proponents: Alliance for a Green Economy; Citizen Action; NYS Council of Churches; Climate Reality Project; Concerned Health Professionals of New York; NRDC; Environmental Advocates NY; Food & Water Watch; League of Women Voters; Sierra Club; Mothers Out Front NY; NYC-EJA; NYPIRG; People for a Healthy Environment; Science and Environmental Health Network; Physicians for Social Responsibility; NY Communities for Change; Earthjustice; New Yorkers for Clean Power; Sane Energy Project; Seneca Lake Guardian; 350 Brooklyn; Frackbusters; Catskill Mountainkeeper; Long Island Progressive Coalition; NY Progressive Action Network; Green Education and Legal Fund; Hudson River Sloop Clearwater; Veterans for Climate Justice; and many other environmental groups.

Opponents: Southern Tier Solutions

Senate Vote: 46-16 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 98-50

**Augmenting Financial Assurance Requirements for Petroleum Storage and Transportation
S.8703A (Hinchey, Krueger, May, Sepúlveda) / A.9213A (Fahy)**

This bill augments the financial obligations for vessels and major petroleum facilities by (1) requiring that evidence of financial responsibility be provided to the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), and approved by DEC, prior to petroleum transportation vessel operation in the State, (2) imposing an inflation adjustment on the dollar amount of financial responsibility requirements for major petroleum facilities, and (3) specifying limitations on the adequacy of financial assurance for vessels and major petroleum facilities. In addition, the bill requires that railroads carrying crude oil submit information to DEC regarding a railroad's ability to pay for discharges resulting from a reasonable worst case discharge.

Proponents: Riverkeeper

Opponents: Empire State Energy Association

Senate Vote: 50-11 (Borrello, Griffo, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 99-46

**Local Authority to Ban the Application of Pesticides to Freshwater Wetlands
S.9379 (Harckham) / A.9712 (Burdick)**

This bill permits municipalities to enact a local law prohibiting the use of pesticides in freshwater wetlands connected to drinking water supplies. Such laws cannot prohibit pesticide applications for the control of invasive species, pests of significant public health importance, noxious weeds designated by the Department of Environmental Conservation as injurious to ecosystem health, or for the protection of critical native plant species.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates NY

Opponents: Farm Bureau NY; NYS Chemistry Council; New York Green Industry Council; RISE

Senate Vote: 49-9 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Weber)

Assembly Vote: 103-42

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

E-Bike & E-Scooter Battery Extended Producer Responsibility

S.643E (Kavanagh, Addabbo, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Parker, Rhoads, Rolison, Tedisco, Webb) / A.7339C (Glick)

This bill expands the existing Rechargeable Battery Law to include e-scooter and e-bike batteries. This expansion requires e-bike and e-scooter manufacturers to implement appropriate collection programs, which retailers must participate in, and prohibits selling these products absent such a collection program. In addition, the bill (i) provides for New York City to assume enforcement responsibility and collect any penalties, (ii) clarifies the responsibility of manufacturers to provide for the safe collection and disposal of damaged, defective, or recalled batteries, and (iii) requires the promulgation of safe handling and storage regulations for e-bike and e-scooter retailers.

Proponents: NY LCV; CCE; New York City Office of the Mayor; New York State Association of Counties; Product Stewardship Council; Sims Municipal Recycling of NY.

Opponents: People for Bikes

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibition on Leasing of Protected State Lands for Oil and Gas Production

S.724A (Serrano, Hoylman-Sigal, Kavanagh, May, Sepúlveda) / A.4003-A (Glick)

This bill prohibits the lease of State forests, wildlife management areas, and unique areas for oil and gas production.

Proponents: New York Climate Reality Chapters Coalition

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-2 (Oberacker, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Ban on PFAS in Eyeglasses Defogging Products**S.992B (Hoylman-Sigal, Brouk, May) / A.5363A (Gallagher)**

This bill prohibits selling anti-fogging products intended for eyeglasses that contain PFAS as intentionally added chemicals. The bill also provides for this class of products to be labeled as PFAS-free to the extent the products comply with the bill's provisions. The bill provides a safe harbor to the retailer if the manufacturer or distributor of the product provides written assurance to them of a product's compliance.

Proponents: Clean and Healthy NY; CCE; PfoaProject NY; Sierra Club; The Just Green Partnership

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 55-4 (Borrello, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: None

Clean Fuel Standard**S.1292A (Parker, Addabbo, Bailey, Breslin, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Gianaris, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, May, Mayer, Myrie, Persaud, Rivera, Ryan, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Thomas) / A.964B (Woerner)**

This bill establishes a clean fuel standard (CFS) for fuels used by on-road vehicles (including electricity) to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the transportation sector by at least 20% by 2032, with further reductions contemplated thereafter. The CFS is based on the GHG intensity of the fuel, but also incorporates consideration for other environmental effects such as those connected to crop displacement, and to require strict transparency and disclosure from fuel producers. The CFS employs a market-based mechanic such that fuels that are cleaner than the CFS generate credits for fuel producers, and higher GHG-intensity fuels that do not meet the CFS must purchase credits. DEC may defer the program in the event of emergency or forecasted conditions.

Proponents: Alliance for Clean Energy New York, Inc.; Clean Fuels Alliance America; Darling Ingredients; New York Farm Bureau; Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative; NY LCV
Opponents: Earthjustice; Environmental Advocates of New York; Long Island Progressive Coalition; NYCD16 Indivisible; NYPIRG

Senate Vote: 49-11 (Borrello, Brisport, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, May, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Salazar)

Assembly Vote: None

Tightening Limits on Use of Coal Tar in Pavement Products**S.1729 (Sanders, Harckham, Jackson, May) / A.1669 (Rosenthal L)**

In response to concerns regarding carcinogenic effects of coal tar, this bill lowers the allowable polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons limit in pavement products from 10,000 milligrams per kilogram (mg/kg) to 1,000 mg/kg.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 47-11 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weber)

Assembly Vote: None

Warehouse Emissions Regulation (Indirect Source Review)**S.2127C (Gianaris, Brisport, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, May, Myrie, Salazar, Skoufis, Webb) / A.1718 (Mitaynes)**

This bill establishes a Federal Clean Air Act (CAA) indirect source rule (ISR) for new and existing heavy distribution warehouses to regulate associated vehicle emissions and requires DEC to develop an associated permitting program. Existing warehouses will be required to develop an emissions reduction plan, and be subject to facility-by-facility review of operations by DEC and any new emissions reduction regulations that DEC determines to be appropriate. Permits for new heavy distribution warehouses will only be issued if the warehouse operation demonstrates that the warehouse will not cause or exacerbate CAA National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) violations and if the warehouse meets green building standards. Warehouse operators must communicate with employees and unions when developing emission reduction plans.

Proponents: Earthjustice; Teamsters Local 804; Legal Aid Society; Environmental Advocates NY; Jobs to Move America; Consumer Reports; Electrify NY; NYC Environmental Justice Alliance; Sierra Club; Tri-State Transportation Campaign; Long Island Progressive Coalition

Opponents: NY Business Council; Amazon; Prologis

Senate Vote: 50-9 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, O'Mara, Ortt, Rolison, Weber)

Assembly Vote: None

Environmental Justice Public Participation Requirements for Environmental Permit Applicants**S.2510A (Ramos, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Fernandez, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, May, Parker, Sepúlveda, Serrano) / A.6584A (Gallagher)**

This bill requires applicants for permits from DEC to comply with environmental justice requirements, including enhanced public notice and participation, and prohibits issuance of permits unless the applicant has complied with those requirements.

Proponents: Clean+Healthy NY; Riverkeeper; Environmental Advocates of New York; New York City Environmental Justice Alliance; New York Lawyers for the Public Interest; WE ACT for Environmental Justice

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Fenceline Monitoring for Toxic Air Contaminants**S.3328A (Fernandez, Harckham) / A.7363 (Septimo)**

This bill requires DEC to promulgate ambient air quality standards by December 31, 2026, for seven toxic air contaminants: benzene, formaldehyde, vinyl chloride, polychlorinated dibenzodioxins, polychlorinated dibenzofurans, trichloroethylene, and mercury. DEC must also establish major source fenceline monitoring for toxic air contaminants and promulgate regulations to ensure that, at a minimum, existing air quality and the major source's proximity to a location within or adjacent to a disadvantaged community are considered. The bill further requires DEC to incorporate toxic air contaminants into all major source air pollution permits beginning January 1, 2027.

Proponents: Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter; Clean+Healthy NY; Environmental Advocates of New York

Opponents: New York State Chemistry Council

Senate Vote: 47-13 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads,

Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act (Packaging EPR)

S.4246D (Harckham, Kavanagh, Addabbo, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Thomas, Webb) / A.5322D (Glick)

This legislation implements a regulatory framework to reduce waste and boost recycling by requiring producers of packaging and single-use plastics to ensure these products meet certain reduction, re-usability, and recycling requirements, engage in reforming waste system infrastructure, and reduce the use of toxic substances. The program will be producer-financed so that producers, rather than consumers, pay for all program requirements. The bill explicitly excludes chemical/advanced recycling from the definition of recycling. Most small businesses are exempt.

Proponents: Citizens Campaign for the Environment; Beyond Plastics; New York City Office of the Mayor; NYSAC; NYCOM; NYS Association of Towns; American Lung Association; NYC Comptroller; WE ACT; various other environmental justice advocates; Clean + Healthy NY; NYPIRG; Just Green Partnership; Natural Resources Defense Council; NY Product Stewardship Council; Pack Green Coalition; Product Stewardship Institute; Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter; Alliance for a Green Economy; Environmental Advocates NY; Blueland; Cup Zero; Deliver Zero; Earthjustice; Federated Conservationists of Westchester County; Frontenac Point; Glass Packaging Institute; Izzy; Meliora Cleaning Products; New York Sustainable Business Council; Oceana; Plaine Products; RE:Dish; Save the Sound; Town of Brookhaven, Town of Southampton, Town of Tonawanda, Village of Farmingdale, Village of Northport, Village of Patchogue, and various other municipalities

Opponents: American Cleaning Institute; American Forest & Paper Association; American Institute for Packaging and the Environment; Berry Global, Inc.; NY Business Council; Capital Region Chamber; Coca-Cola; Consumer Brands Association; Empire State Forest Products Association; EPS Industry Alliance; Foodservice Packaging Institute; International Bottled Water Association; Kraft Heinz; New York Farm Bureau; New York State Brewers Association; New York State Chemistry Council; Plastic Energy; Plastics Industry Association; Sealed Air Corporation; Sustainable Food Policy Alliance; SWD; EPR Leadership Forum; Air Conditioning, Heating and Refrigeration Institute; American Beverage Association; Braskem America; DuPont; Flexible Packaging Coalition; Food Industry Alliance; Long Island Association; Print & Graphic Communications Association; Reelex Packaging Solutions; Vinyl Institute; Teamsters Local 812; Household and Commercial Products Association

Senate Vote: 37-23 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Ryan, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Bans the Sale or Ownership of Exotic Wild Animals**S6211-C (Martinez, Comrie, Gounardes, May, Sepúlveda) / A.6836B (Rosenthal L)**

This bill adds a variety of exotic animals to the existing list of wild animals that cannot be possessed, harbored, sold, bartered, transferred, exchanged, or imported.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: United States Association of Reptile Keepers

Senate Vote: 58-4 (Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Mattress Extended Producer Responsibility**S.6419E (Kavanagh, Harckham, May) / Similar to A.6436B (Paulin)**

This bill provides for an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for mattresses by requiring mattress manufacturers (producers) to establish end-of-life collection and responsible disposal plans. Plans must include a description of how producers will collect, transport, recycle, process, and dispose of mattresses; what entities and facilities will participate in such processes; and how collection convenience standards will be met to limit consumer effort. The bill requires that manufacturers achieve significant mattress recycling goals, including 40 percent, 55 percent, and 70 percent recycling rates within three, seven, and ten years, respectively, after a manufacturer's plan is approved. Producers are responsible for covering all costs of implementing the program (including the State's administration costs) so that it is free to consumers.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York; Product Stewardship Institute; Renewable Recycling, Inc.

Opponents: American Chemistry Council; Business Agent Local 1714T Workers United; NYS Chemistry Council.

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Increases in Environmental Penalties and Environmental Enforcement Funding**S.7086B (Harckham, Helming, May) / A.8213B (Kelles)**

This bill increases the penalties for most Environmental Conservation Law violations by 50% and creates a new dedicated environmental enforcement account. Penalty revenue currently deposited in the General Fund is instead deposited in the newly-created enforcement account.

Proponents: Environmental Conservation Officers Police Benevolent Association

Opponents: NY Business Council

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Environmental Review of the Cayuga Lake Salt Mine
S.7736B (Webb, May, Harckham) / A.8250A (Kelles)**

The intent of this bill is to require a new environmental review of Cargill's salt mine beneath Cayuga Lake. The bill requires an environmental study similar to the review that would take place in preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). The bill also imposes new SEQRA review standards when the mining permit is renewed, modified, or transferred. In addition, the bill requires that any permit renewal application include an updated reclamation plan to address necessary post-closure environmental mitigation, and a 30-year monitoring plan to assess salinization threats. To address financial security concerns, the bill augments existing sufficiency standards to account not only for implementation of the reclamation plan, but also coverage of both direct and indirect damages resulting from mining activities.

Proponents: CLEAN; Tompkins County Environmental Management Council

Opponents: None available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Enhanced Standards for Lead Exposure in Soil, Dust, and Air
S.7985C (Cleare, Mannion, Rolison) / A.8452A (O'Donnell)**

This bill sets new, more protective standards for lead exposure in dust, air, and soil. Specifically, DEC, in consultation with the Department of Health (DOH) must revise the current standards to be fully protective of human health in all cases, but sets out statutory maximum thresholds. For dust, these standards are set to be consistent with recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency draft regulations.

Proponents: Working Group at Park West Village

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Harmful Algal Bloom Monitoring and Prevention Act (HABMAP)**S.8356A (May, Harckham, Mannion, Rolison) / A.8867A (Kelles)**

This bill augments existing data collection efforts to overcome uncertainty about harmful algal bloom (HAB) causes, requires new regulations to address pollution contributing to HABs, and directs a new funding stream towards a variety of HAB reduction and mitigation projects.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Re-Classification of Historic Sites in the Forest Preserve****S.495 (Stec) / A.2411 (Jones)**

This bill requires the Adirondack Park Agency (APA), when working with the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) in developing unit management plans for the Adirondack Forest Preserve, to consider for historical classification those lands and buildings located within the forest preserve that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (or eligible for such listing). Historical classification would prevent such sites from being classified as non-conforming Forest Preserve land under Article XIV of the State Constitution (non-conforming use classification requires a Constitutional Amendment for such properties to be developed).

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: Adirondack Council; Protect the Adirondacks; The Humane Society; Adirondack Wild

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 141-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**PFAS Surface Water Discharge Disclosure Act****S.227B (May, Comrie, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Sanders, Webb) / A.3296A (Kelles)**

This bill requires that holders of major Clean Water Act permits (SPDES permits) and industrial facilities discharging liquid wastes into publicly owned water treatment works conduct quarterly monitoring and reporting for one year on their water discharges for 40 PFAS chemicals. If any PFAS are detected, permittees will have to continue such quarterly monitoring. Permittees would also be required to indicate on the permit application whether discharges will or may contain any PFAS.

Proponents: Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper; Earthjustice; Environmental Advocates NY; NYPIRG; Riverkeeper.

Opponents: NY Business Council; American Waterworks Association; New York Water Environment Association Inc.; NY Rural Water Association; Empire State Forest Products.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

The Bigger, Better Bottle Bill**S.237C (May, Breslin, Brisport, Cleare, Gonzalez, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sepúlveda, Webb) / Similar to A.6353 (Glick)**

This bill expands the existing Bottle Bill to increase its environmental benefits, support redemption centers, and boost the financial incentives for participating in the deposit and redemption cycle. Prominent features include adding most containers of drinkable liquids to the program as of April 1, 2029, increasing the deposit amount from \$0.05 to \$0.10 as of April 1, 2026, and increasing the redemption center/dealer handling fee from \$0.035 to \$0.05 immediately, to \$0.06 as of April 1, 2026, and to \$0.065 as of April 1, 2031. The bill would also implement recycling and reuse performance standards, enhance consumer and redemption center protections, and improve program integrity.

Proponents: New York City Council; NYPIRG, et al; Beyond Plastics; Earthjustice

Opponents: Teamsters; AFL-CIO; NY Business Council; Coca-Cola; Pepsi; International Bottled Water Association; New York Farm Bureau; New York State Bottlers Association; New York State Brewers Association; NFIB; NYS Liquor Store Association

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Climate Corporate Data Accountability Act**S.897C (Hoylman-Sigal, Gounardes, Harckham, Jackson, May, Ramos) / A.4123B (Glick)**

This bill imposes greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reporting and public disclosure requirements on large corporate entities to better understand their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and to identify the full amount of those emissions. Specifically, the bill would require business entities with annual revenues in excess of \$1 billion, at least \$1 million of which is in New York, to disclose and verify three categories of GHG emissions for which they are responsible: (1) Scope One Emissions - direct GHG emissions derived from sources owned or directly controlled by the business; (2) Scope Two Emissions - indirect GHG emissions from electricity, steam, heating, and cooling; and (3) Scope Three Emissions – other indirect GHG emissions from sources that the business does not own or directly control, such as emissions associated with the business’s supply chain, business travel, employee commutes, procurement, waste, and water usage.

Proponents: Earthjustice; NY LCV; Environmental Advocates NY

Opponents: American Chemistry Council

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Ban on Toxic Substances in Cosmetics and Personal Care Products

S.4265B (Webb, Rivera, Salazar, Addabbo, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, May, Mayer, Persaud, Ryan, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Thomas) / A.6969B (Glick)

This bill bans the intentional use of toxic substances in cosmetics and personal care products, and the unintentional presence of such substances above feasible limits of reduction. The bill provides an additional regulatory process for formaldehyde-releasing products to determine appropriate chemical restrictions. Retailers are relieved of liability if they sell products in reliance on a manufacturer's certificate of compliance.

Proponents: Clean + Healthy; Beauty Justice Coalition; BeautyCounter; Campaign for Safe Cosmetics and Breast Cancer Prevention Partners; Green Inside and Out; Huntington Breast Cancer Action Coalition; Just Green Partnership; NY Healthy Nail Salons Coalition; NY League of Conservation Voters; PFOA Project; Sierra Club; Silent Spring Institute; Women's Voices for the Earth; WE ACT; Earthjustice; NRDC; NY Sustainable Business Council; Environmental Advocates of New York

Opponents: Fragrance Creators Association; Personal Care Products Council; American Chemistry Council; Consumer Health Products Association; New York State Chemistry Council; Personal Care Products Council; LANXESS Corporation; Independent Beauty Association; Household Commercial Products Association; Professional Beauty Association; Retail Council

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Safe Water Infrastructure Action Program

S.4350A (Hinchey, Ashby, Helming, Kavanagh, Mattera, May, Murray, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Thomas, Webb, Weber) / A.6155 (Gunter)

This bill would establish a funding program similar to CHIPS for the replacement and rehabilitation of municipal drinking water, stormwater, and sanitary sewer systems that are not under the maintenance and/or operational jurisdiction of a private entity or New York City. The funding would be distributed based on a variety of factors including length and width of pipes, infrastructure age, the nature of other water system assets, and socioeconomic factors, in order to achieve an equitable distribution of aid.

Proponents: NYSAC; NYCOM; American Waterworks Association; New York Water Environment Association Inc.; NY Rural Water Association; Engineers Labor-Employer Cooperative (ELEC 825)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Senate and Assembly Environmental Conservation Committees. *Joint Public Hearing: To examine legislative solutions to increase the effectiveness of the Bottle Bill.* (October 23, 2023)

Joint Hearing of the Senate and Assembly Environmental Conservation Committees. *Joint Public Hearing: To examine effective legislative solutions to reduce packaging.* (October 24, 2023)

ETHICS AND INTERNAL GOVERNANCE

Analyst: Julianna Glassanos
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

Prohibits State Reimbursement for Legal Fees Paid by a Political Campaign

S.150A (Gianaris, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Webb) / A.148A (Cruz)

This bill prohibits the State from reimbursing a state employee for their legal fees which were paid for with money from a campaign committee or legal defense fund. A version of this language was included in the Senate One-House budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits Public Servants and Political Party Chairs from Receiving Compensation for Work Performed by an Industrial Development Agency (IDA) or Economic Assistance Corporation

S.3310A (Skoufis) / A.4670A (Solages)

This bill prohibits public servants and political party chairs from receiving State or local compensation for legal fees, consulting, or other work performed for an industrial development agency (IDA) or economic assistance corporation. This bill applies to statewide elected officials, state officers and employees, members of the Legislature, legislative employees, political party chairmen and municipal officers.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 42-19 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Removes an Outdated Question from the Annual Financial Disclosure Form**S.6817 (Fernandez) / No Same As**

This bill removes Question 8(b) from the long-form Financial Disclosure Statement (FDS), which inquires about services the filer provided outside of state service to clients and customers between July 1, 2012 and December 31, 2015.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Concerning Appointments to Senate-Confirmed Positions**S.7883 (Gianaris, Brisport, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson) / A.8618 (McDonald)**

This bill requires disclosure of lobbying activities concerning appointments of high State officials, such as commissioners of State agencies and judges of the Court of Appeals, who are nominated by the Governor and then confirmed or rejected by the Senate.

Proponents: Citizens Union of the City of New York et al.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 44-17 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Sepulveda, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Requires COELIG to Post Financial Disclosure Statements for Statewide Office and Candidates for the Legislature****S.3574A (Skoufis, Hoylman-Sigal) / A.2507A (Paulin)**

This bill requires the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (COELIG) to post online, for public review, any financial disclosure statement (FDS) filed by candidates for statewide office and for state legislature candidates. Currently, COELIG is only required to publish the FDS forms it receives from elected officials.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

Senate Finance Committee
Analysts
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Francis Amoassah	Beckan Gehan
Rocio Chanez	Giovanni LoPiccolo
Malik Dare	Arianna Macio
Tyler Del Giudice	Shamyr McCain
Priya Dhanraj	Kelly Mendoza
Victor Diaz	Sean Orrr
Jacqueline Donaldson	Alexander Rawley
Emilia Sacco	

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Enacted State Operations Budget Bill****S.8300D / A.8800D**

The State Operations Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 included an All Funds appropriation of \$59.7 billion, an annual decrease of \$1.1 billion or 1.82 percent. State Operations spending is for all State agency operating costs including salaries, wages, fringe benefits and non-personal service costs (e.g., supplies, utilities, etc.).

Senate Vote: 51-9 (Borrello, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: 102-44

Chapter 50

Enacted Aid to Localities Budget Bill**S.8303D / A.8803D**

The Aid to Localities Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 included All Funds spending of \$188.6 billion, an annual increase of \$9.2 billion or 5.1 percent. Local assistance spending includes but is not limited to payments to local governments, school districts, health care providers, managed care organizations, and not-for-profit organizations.

Senate Vote: 41-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 91-55

Chapter 53

Enacted Capital Projects Budget Bill**S.8304D / A.8804D**

The Capital Projects Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 included All Funds appropriations of \$21.8 billion, a decrease of \$1.5 billion or 6.5 percent. The spending amount includes both State and federal funds associated with capital projects funding.

Senate Vote: 51-9 (Borrello, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: 117-29

Chapter 54

Enacted Debt Budget Bill **S.8302 / A.8802**

The Debt Service Budget Bill provides the necessary appropriations to fulfill legal requirements in the retirement and payment of interest on outstanding and new State-related debt. For SFY 2024-25, State appropriations for debt service totaled \$13.5 billion and cash disbursements are projected to net at \$3.1 billion. The bill also included authorization to issue up to \$3 billion in short term bonds or notes. The State currently has no plans to access these emergency tools.

Senate Vote: 43-16 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 111-37

Chapter 52

Enacted Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill **S.8919 / A.9667**

The Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill enacted into law sufficient appropriation authority to make State payments for the period April 1, 2024 through April 4, 2024.

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 148-0

Chapter 111

Enacted Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill **S.8970 / A.9762**

The Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill enacted into law sufficient appropriation authority to make State payments for the period April 1, 2024 through April 8, 2024.

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Chapter 113

Enacted Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill **S.8986 / A.9771**

The Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill enacted into law sufficient appropriation authority to make State payments for the period April 1, 2024 through April 11, 2024.

Senate Vote: 51-0

Assembly Vote: 135-0

Chapter 114

**Enacted Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill
S.9036 / A.9845**

The Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill enacted into law sufficient appropriation authority to make State payments for the period April 1, 2024 through April 15, 2024.

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 137-0

Chapter 115

**Enacted Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill
S.9055 / A.9851**

The Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill enacted into law sufficient appropriation authority to make State payments for the period April 1, 2024 through April 18, 2024.

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Chapter 116

**Enacted Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill
S.9083 / A.9852**

The Emergency Appropriation Budget Bill enacted into law sufficient appropriation authority to make State payments for the period April 1, 2024 through April 19, 2024.

Senate Vote: 57-2 (Helming, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 149-0

Chapter 117

**Enacted Legislature and Judiciary Budget Bill
S.8301A / A.8801A**

The Legislature and Judiciary Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 included a total appropriation of \$4.1 billion. The Legislature received an All Funds appropriation of \$295 million, an increase of \$11.2 million or 4 percent over last year. The Office of Court Administration (OCA), the administrative agency for the Judiciary, received a total appropriation of \$3.8 billion, an increase of \$339.8 million or 9.7 percent over SFY 2023-24.

Senate Vote: 53-7 (Borello, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 104-42

Chapter: 51

Enacted Article VII Public Protection and General Government Budget Bill
S.8305C / A.8805C

The Public Protection Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 enacted into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state public protection and general government budget.

Senate Vote: 44-15 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 120-29

Chapter 55

Enacted Article VII Education, Labor and Family Assistance Budget Bill
S.8306C / A.8806C

The Education, Labor, and Family Assistance Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 enacted into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state education, labor, housing and family assistance budget.

Senate Vote: 36-24 (Addabbo, Ashby, Borrello, Brisport, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gonzalez, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 93-53

Chapter 56

Enacted Article VII Health and Mental Hygiene Budget Bill
S.8307C / A.8807C

The Health and Mental Hygiene Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 enacted into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state health and mental hygiene budget.

Senate Vote: 40-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chu, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Sepulveda, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 99-47

Chapter 57

Enacted Article VII Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation Budget Bill
S.8308C / A.8808C

The Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 enacted into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state transportation, economic development and environmental conservation budget.

Senate Vote: 42-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 106-43

Chapter 58

Enacted Article VII Revenue Budget Bill**S.8309C / A.8809C**

The Revenue Budget Bill for SFY 2024-25 enacted into law major components of legislation necessary to implement tax and revenue changes in the State budget.

Senate Vote: 39-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Ramos, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 103-46

Chapter 59

Chief Sustainability Officer**S2003A (May) / A5909A (Epstein)**

This bill directs the Governor to appoint a Chief Sustainability Officer to coordinate and collaborate with all State agencies' climate change mitigation and sustainability efforts in New York State.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 52-7 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, Rhoads, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 133-12

Directs State Police to Establish Child-Sensitive Arrest Policies**S.2747 (Bailey, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, Myrie, Ramos, Salazar, Stavisky, Webb)/A.3502 (Vanel)**

This legislation directs the Superintendent of State Police to develop and institute child-sensitive arrest policies for instances where police are arresting an individual who is a parent, guardian, or other person(s) legally charged with the care or custody of a child.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-4 (Oberacker, Ortt, Weik, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 85-63

Establishes the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board**S.5532 (May) / A.1273 (Kelles)**

This bill establishes the LGBTQ+ Advisory Board to advise the Governor and Legislature regarding the development of economic, professional, cultural, educational, and governmental links between the State and the LGBTQ+ community.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 135-6

Requires State Agencies to Disaggregate Demographic Data for Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) Groups When Collecting Certain Demographic Information**S.6584C (Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Liu, Stavisky, Webb)/ A.6219B (Gonzalez-Rojas)**

This bill requires every state agency, board, or commission that directly collects demographic data on the ancestry or ethnic origin of residents of the State to add and use separate collection and tabulation categories for "White," "North African," "Middle Eastern," and "Other Middle Eastern and North African groups."

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 101-45

Lithium-Ion Battery Safety Program**S6809B (Cleare) / A6811C (Tapia)**

This bill directs the New York State Energy & Research Development Authority (NYSERDA) and the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to establish a safety program to provide new lithium-ion batteries at reduced cost or no cost to eligible individuals.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 97-46

Establishes the Tropical Rainforest Economic and Environmental Sustainability “TREES” Act**S.8898 (Krueger, Cooney, May, Breslin, Brisport, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Salazar, Sanders, Sepulveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Webb) / A.9711 (Zebrowski)**

This bill implements changes to decrease New York State's procurement of tropical hardwoods, reduce deforestation of tropical hardwoods, impose sanctions on non-compliant contractors and subcontractors, and establish a Supply Chain Transparency Assistance Program. The bill requires State contracts entered, extended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027, for products composed of a tropical forest-risk commodity to include a certification that the goods were not extracted from land where tropical forest degradation occurred either on or after January 1, 2023.

Proponents: Environmental Advocates of New York; Friends of the Earth Action; The National Wildlife Federation; Tonys Chocolonely

Opponents: Northern Retail Lumber Association

Senate Vote: 38-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 101-44

Implements an Agreement between the State and the Members of the Collective Negotiating Unit Designated as the Agency Police Services Unit (APSU)**S.9818 (Jackson) / A.10525 (Pheffer Amato)**

This bill implements the terms of a collective bargaining agreement between the executive branch of the State of New York and the Police Benevolent Association of New York State, Inc. The employee organization certified to represent members of the APSU, which was entered into pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law which covers the period April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2026. The bill provides appropriations totaling approximately \$21.3 million to pay for the cost of the agreement during the period April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2025.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61 - 0

Assembly Vote: 142 - 0

Implements the Terms of a Collectively Bargained Agreement between the State and the New York State Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association

S.9819 (Jackson) / A.10526 (Pheffer Amato)

This bill implements the provisions of a collective bargaining agreement binding the State and the New York State Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association ("NYSCOPBA"), representing members of the collective negotiating unit designated as the Security Services Unit for the period covering April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2025. This bill provides appropriations totaling approximately \$259 million to pay for the cost of the Agreement during the period April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2025. The cost of the Agreement is expected to be offset by reserves previously included in the Financial Plan.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61 - 0

Assembly Vote: 142 - 0

Implements the Terms of a Collectively Bargained Agreement between the State and Council 82

S.9820 (Jackson) / A.10527 (Pheffer Amato)

This bill implements the terms of a collectively negotiated agreement between the executive branch and Council 82, the employee organization representing members of the collective negotiating unit designated as the Security Supervisors Unit (the Unit), entered into pursuant to Civil Service Law (CSL) Article 14 (the Agreement). This bill would provide appropriations totaling approximately \$10.3 million to pay for the cost of the Agreement during the period of April 1, 2023 to March 31, 2025.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61 - 0

Assembly Vote: 142 - 0

Implements the Terms of a Collectively Bargained Agreement between the State and District Council 37

S.9821 (Jackson) / A.10528 (Pheffer Amato)

This bill implements the terms of an agreement entered into pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law between the executive branch and the employee organization which represents members of the collective negotiating unit designated as the Rent Regulation Services Unit. The bill would provide appropriations totaling approximately \$6.2 million to pay for the cost of the agreement during the period April 2, 2023, to April 1, 2025

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61 - 0

Assembly Vote: 142 - 0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY**Diversity and Inclusion Training for Police, Firefighters, Corrections Officers, and First Responders****S.1211 (Persaud) / A.7449 (Buttenschon)**

This bill requires the Division of Criminal Justice Services to implement diversity and inclusion training in the basic training and pre-employment course curricula for police officers, corrections officers, firefighters, and first responders.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 52 - 8 (Helming, Oberacker, O'Mara, Lanza, Ortt, Stec, Borrello, Rhoads)

Relates to Equal Pay Disclosure with Respect to State Contracts**S.2481 (Hoylman-Sigal, Addabbo, Comrie, Jackson, Krueger, Rivera, Sepulveda, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill would require State contractors to submit reports on the average pay of their workforce broken down demographically and by job titles, and it would require the Comptroller to aggregate the data and produce a report. The Comptroller would also develop guidelines to assess the equal pay practices of contractors.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 51-8 (Borrello, Griffo, Helming, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Rolison, Stec)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes "Overdose Awareness Day" in New York State**S.2675 (Fernandez, Gounardes, Harckham)/A.5143 (Gunther)**

This bill would designate August 31st as "Overdose Awareness Day."

Proponent: None

Opponent: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishing Fines for Violations of Fair Housing Laws and Directing Revenues to the Anti-Discrimination in Housing Funds

S.2919 (Cleare) / A.5459 (Solages)

This bill establishes penalties related to the violation of State and federal Fair Housing policies and laws by State-certified licensed real estate appraisers and directs 50% of all monies received through these fines or forfeitures to the Anti-Discrimination in Housing Fund.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 47 - 11 (Asby, Griffo, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Provides Technical Assistance to Any Municipality That Has Had a College or University Close Within Such Municipality

S.5234 (May) / A.5256 (Stirpe)

This bill directs the Department of State, in cooperation with the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Education, to provide technical assistance to any municipality that has had a college or university close within such municipality.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution"

S.8331 (Mayer) / A.9163 (Lee)

This bill would establish January 30th of each year as a day of commemoration known as "Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution". Fred Korematsu was a civil rights leader who refused to comply with orders of internment of Japanese Americans during the Second World War, whose case made it to the United States Supreme Court. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066, which authorized the removal of individuals of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast from their homes and their mandatory imprisonment in incarceration camps.

Proponents: Japanese American Association of New York; Westchester County Legislator David Imamura

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Relates to the investment of funds in the Opioid Stewardship Fund**S.8412A (Fernandez)/A.9981 (Gonzalez-Rojas)**

This bill requires at least ten percent of funds from the opioid stewardship fund be invested in recovery services and supports. The bill also requires an annual financial report be submitted to the legislature and makes the opioid stewardship fund permanent.

Proponent: None

Opponent: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

COVID-19 Memorial Fund**S.8483 (Bailey) / A.2592 (Cruz)**

This bill establishes the permanent COVID-19 memorial & a permanent COVID-19 memorial fund. The fund will consist of appropriated money from the State, with allowance for private grants and gifts from outside donations. Money from the fund will be disbursed solely for establishing and maintaining COVID-19 memorials through a grant program administered by the State Comptroller in conjunction with the Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Relates to Authorizing Certain Municipalities to Establish an Emergency Repair Pilot Program**S.8500A (Skoufis) / A.9160 (Hunter)**

This bill, subject to appropriation, directs the Secretary of State, with assistance from the Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR), to establish an emergency repair program with certain municipalities. Municipalities selected for the pilot program must enact a local law to enable the municipality to immediately repair hazardous code violations in buildings where the owner has not undertaken such repairs in a reasonable time. The municipality then bills the owner for the repair costs. The program would be administered and enforced by the Department of State (DOS) and the Division of Housing and Community Renewal (DHCR). In addition, the Secretary of State, with assistance from DHCR, must prepare a model local law that municipalities may adopt to satisfy the local law requirement of the pilot repair program. The model local law must be published on the DOS and DHCR websites.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 53-7 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Oberacker, Ortt, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Reserves IOLA Funds for Civil Legal Services**S.9130A (Ryan) / A.10253A (Solages)**

This bill restricts how funds in the State Interest on Lawyer Account (IOLA) Fund may be used. Under the bill, the IOLA Fund may not use its money for any purpose other than "stable, economical and high quality delivery of civil legal services to the poor throughout the state."

Proponents: NYC Bar Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Directs that Moneys in the Veterans' Home Services Fund Shall Be Payable on Vouchers Certified by the Commissioner of Veterans' Services**S.9641 (Scarcella-Spanton, Ashby) / A.9900 (Walsh, Byrnes, Simpson, E. Brown, Blankenbush, Tague, Manktelow, Slater, Maher, Hawley, McDonough, Angelino, Goodell, K. Brown).**

This bill would shift responsibility for approving and certifying spending from the veterans' home services fund from the Commissioner of Health to the Commissioner of Veterans' Services. This bill would also allow the Commissioner of Veterans' Services to certify payments in the military family relief funds. In addition, this bill would require the Commissioner of Veterans' Services to write the annual expenditure report instead of the Commissioner of Health.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires State Translation Services for Multiple Languages**S.9754 (Chu) / A.7235A (De Los Santos)**

This bill requires counties and state authorities to provide certain documents and forms in the twelve most common non-English languages spoken by limited English proficient immigrants of five years or less according to the United States Census Bureau. Additionally, this legislation requires State Agencies, authorities, and counties to translate certain documents into three additional languages based on the most common languages spoken within that region that are not one of the twelve most common languages in the State.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 50-9 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Helming, Martins, Murray, O'Mara, Rhoads, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Renames the New York State Musical Instrument Revolving Fund**S.9743 (Serrano) / No Same As**

This bill would allow currently unused funds designated for the use of NYSCA to issue loans for the purchase of musical instruments to be used to award grants to not-for-profit music entities (e.g., symphony orchestras, music performance ensembles, music presenting organizations, music education organizations) incorporated in New York State.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED NEITHER HOUSE**Establishes a Coordinator for Asylum Seeker Services to Oversee the Integration of Services and Benefits Available to Asylum Seekers.****S.8558 (Cleare)/A.7493 (Rajkumar)**

This bill will establish a Coordinator of Asylum Seeker Services to implement a statewide plan for the intake and resettlement of asylum seekers.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: Died in the Senate

Removes Tax Cap Requirement for Raise the Age Funding and Establishes Youth Justice Innovation Fund S.9312A (Cleare, Gounardes, Harckham, Jackson, Krueger, Liu, Parker, Salazar)/A.10290A (Solages, Hevesi, McDonald, Gonzalez-Rojas, Bronson, Cruz, Taylor, Clark, Kelles, Lunsford, Simon, Chandler-Waterman, Bichotte Hermelyn, Dinowitz).

This bill would remove the tax cap limitation from the calculation of reimbursement of local share of expenditures for the implementation of raise the age provisions and establish the youth justice innovation fund to make funds available to community-based organizations for services and programs with the purpose of youth development, preventing youth arrest, and incarceration. In addition, this bill would require DCJS to submit a report to leaders of the Legislature; including to the chairs of the Senate Committee on Codes, Senate Committee on Finance, Assembly Ways and Means Committee, and Assembly Committee on Codes; the State Comptroller; and the public. The report must include the amount of money disbursed from the fund, amount awarded to each recipient, purposes of each award, and a summary financial plan.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: Died in the Senate

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

HEALTH

Analysts: Jorge Rivera-Agosto, Jamie Salm, Abisha Vijayashanthar, and Elena Kilcullen
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Designates Physician Assistants as Primary Care Practitioners for Medicaid Managed Care S.2124 (Rivera, Brouk, Hinchey, Sepúlveda, Skoufis, Webb) / A.7725 (Paulin)

This bill allows physician assistants to act as primary care practitioners and provide primary care to and management of the medical and health care services of a participant served by a managed care provider. Currently only physicians or nurse practitioners can serve as primary care practitioners for purposes of Medicaid managed care. Physician Assistants are currently authorized to practice as primary care physicians for the purpose of private or other insurance coverage.

Proponents: Bassett Healthcare Network; Family Health Centers Long Island FQHC, Inc.; Larchmont Family Medicine; Medicaid Matters New York; Mount Sinai Health System; St. Peter's Health Partners; Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State; University of Rochester; Urban Health Plan

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association

Senate Vote: 59-1 (Griffo)

Assembly Vote: 142-3

Requires Community Engagement Prior to A Nursing Home Closure**S.2984 (Kavanagh, Sepúlveda, Webb) / A.3703 (Epstein)**

This bill creates new procedures for the closure of nursing homes. The operator must notify the Department of Health (DOH) in writing at least 90 days before the closure and include a proposed plan for the closure of the nursing home. The Commissioner and the nursing home operator must also create a plan for the maintenance, storage, safekeeping, and disposition of patient records and provide for the transfer of the documents. No closure can move forward until the Commissioner of Health approves the closure and the operator cannot close the nursing home until all residents have been transferred to appropriate alternative settings. The operator cannot increase fees or charges before the approval of the closure plan. Failing to comply with these closure procedures will subject the nursing home operator to regulatory penalties as determined by the Commissioner.

Proponents: None

Opponents: The Healthcare Association of New York State (HANYs); New York State Health Facilities Association (NYSHFA); New York State Center for Assisted Living (NYSCAL)

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 97-50

Provides Continuity of Care for Medically Fragile Young Adults**S.5969A (Harckham) / A.3674A (Pretlow)**

The bill requires the Department of Health (DOH) to allow medically fragile young adults who reside in pediatric specialized nursing facilities to remain in those facilities until the age of 36. These pediatric specialized nursing facilities would receive the enhanced rate for treating medically fragile children, including a daily per diem rate and coverage for bed holds unless DOH sets a higher rate.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 140-0

Allows Blood Storage and Distribution on Ambulances**S.6226A (Hinchey, Comrie, Webb) / A.5789A (Woerner)**

This bill allows ambulance services and advanced life support first response services to store and distribute blood and blood products. Under current law, non-air-based ambulance services can only provide blood or blood products to patients transported between hospitals. In 2021, the Legislature authorized air transport ambulance service providers to store and distribute blood, distribute blood and blood products, and initiate and administer transfusions while providing air transport services. This bill would extend these provisions to all forms of ambulance services, including ground ambulances.

Proponents: United New York Ambulance Network

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Authorizes Dispensing of a Three-Day Supply of Buprenorphine for Detox Treatment**S.7177B (Fernandez, Addabbo) / A.5984B (McDonald)**

This bill allows practitioners in a hospital without a full-time pharmacy to dispense a three-day supply of a controlled substance such as Buprenorphine, unless the federal Drug Enforcement Administration authorizes a longer time limit, to a patient in a hospital emergency room for use off of the premises. The bill only allows its use to be for the purpose of initiating maintenance treatment, detoxification treatment, or both.

Proponents: Coalition of Medication Assisted Treatment Providers & Advocates

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 135-2

Expands Notice and Communication of HIV Testing**S.7809 (Hoylman-Sigal, Gounardes, Kavanagh, Salazar, Sepúlveda, Webb) / A.8475 (Paulin)**

The bill expands notice and communication requirements for HIV tests. The bill would require that patients are notified about HIV testing beforehand in a way they understand and in multiple languages. This notification will clarify that the test is voluntary and their decision will be documented in the medical record. The notice for the test can be made orally, in writing, by electronic means, or by displaying a sign.

Proponents: Amida Care; Montefiore; Housing Works; Ending the Epidemic (ETE) Coalition

Opponents: Bronx Defenders; New York Civil Liberties Union; Center for HIV Law and Policy

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Martinez, May)

Assembly Vote: 148-0

Allows Patients to Register in the Donate Life Registry Through their Electronic Health Records

S.8456 (Rivera, Breslin, Parker, Scarcella-Spanton) / A.7079 (Gunther)

This bill allows patients to register in the Donate Life registry through their electronic health records (EHR). Every EHR vendor must include and integrate components into their EHR products to allow patients to register in the Donate Life registry for organ, eye and tissue donations. EHR vendors must provide integration and deployment of these elements without additional cost to the hospital or hospital systems.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Provides Medicaid Reimbursement to Ambulance Services for Treatment in Place and Transport to Alternative Care Settings

S.8486C (Hinchey, May, Webb) / A.9102C (Kelles)

This bill allows for Medicaid reimbursement to ambulance service providers for ground transportation to include treatment in place and transportation of an individual to an alternate health care setting. Treatment in place is the provision of authorized emergency medical services (EMS) by an employee or volunteer of an ambulance service provider, including Medicaid-approved telehealth visits, without transporting the individual to the hospital for further treatment. Transportation to an alternate health care settings is ambulance transportation to settings that accept Medicaid recipients for care other than a hospital including urgent care centers, crisis stabilization centers/community behavioral health clinics, Federally-Qualified Health Centers, recovery and treatment center or other locations where treatment can be administered in a less acute setting that is most-appropriate to the patients immediate needs.

Proponents: United New York Ambulance Network; New York State Association of Counties; New York State Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Requires Community Engagement Prior to a Hospital Closure

S.8843A (Rivera, Kavanagh, Gonzalez, Myrie, Hinchey, Webb, Krueger, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Ramos, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton) / A.1633B (Simon)

This bill would require community engagement and notice of a hospital closure before the hospital closes. This includes the closure of the entire hospital, an emergency department, a maternity unit, a mental health or substance use service, or any other specialty service if it will reduce services as determined in relation to inpatient capacity. Current law requires such notice and engagement after the hospital has closed. The bill will not apply to hospitals currently undergoing a closure plan with the Department of Health.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-4 (Gallivan, Griffo, Oberacker, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 106-39

Prohibits PBMs from Penalizing Pharmacies for Providing Cost Information

S.9040 (Gounardes, Skoufis) / A.9764 (Rosenthal)

This bill expands the restrictions placed on pharmacy benefit managers' (PBMs) interactions with pharmacies by prohibiting or penalizing a pharmacy or pharmacist from disclosing the cost of services provided to the individual. The bill also limits PBMs from prohibiting or penalizing a pharmacist or pharmacy from disclosing the cost of the prescription medication or service to the pharmacy and the pharmacy's reimbursement for the medication or service.

Proponents: Pharmacists Society of the State of New York

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Murray)

Assembly Vote: 140-5

Prohibits the Waiver of Certain Regulations Under the Hospital-Home Care-Physician Collaboration Program**S.9049 (Scarcella-Spanton) / A.9204 (Paulin)**

This bill allows the waiver of certain regulations under the Hospital-Home Care-Physician Collaboration Program if applicants follow publication and public comment requirements in the register. It prevents organizations from circumventing the certificate of need process which prevents public comment or review of the collaboration. The Hospital-Home Care-Physician Program was created to promote innovative collaborations within health care to create care models and expand access to needed services. The purpose is to improve care synchronization between hospital and home care for inpatient and post-acute care care as well as recovery and long term support.

Proponents: Hospice & Palliative Care Association of New York State (HPCANYS); LeadingAge New York; Visiting Nurse Service of New York (VNS); and New York State Association of Home Care Providers, Inc. (HCP).

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Allows Undocumented Individuals to Enroll in the 1332 State Innovation Program Health Plan**

S.2237A (Rivera, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Thomas, Webb) / A.3020A (González-Rojas)

This bill allows undocumented individuals to enroll in the 1332 State Innovation Program if they meet all other eligibility criteria. The person would need to be a State resident, have a household income below 250 percent of the federal poverty level, and be eligible for the program in all other ways save for their immigration status. The Health Commissioner is directed to develop income eligibility restrictions to limit enrollment for undocumented individuals if program costs to deliver services to this population exceed revenues.

Proponents: Make the Road New York; Medicaid Matters New York; New York Immigration Coalition; Citizen Action New York; New York State Association of Health Underwriters; Business Council of New York State; Greater New York Hospital Association; New York City Office of the Mayor; New York Health Plan Association.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 40-21 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Expands the Department of Health’s Review Over Correctional Facility Health Services
S.505 (Rivera) / No Same As**

This bill requires the Department of Health (DOH), in collaboration with the Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), to annually review any policy or practice, put in place in facilities operated by the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) and in all local correctional facilities, related to Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS), Hepatitis C (HCV), COVID-19, emerging infectious diseases, women's health, transgender health, chronic health conditions, health care services for individuals 50 years of age or older, discharge planning of health care services, and substance use disorders. DOH's oversight of health care services provided at these facilities will aid in prevention, prevention of transmission and success in treatment of various infections and diseases.

Proponents: Legal Action Center and Correctional Association of New York

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O’Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Regulates False or Misleading Advertising of Food Targeted at Children
S.213B (Myrie, Bailey, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Hoylman-Sigal, Ramos, Skoufis, Webb) /
A.4424B (Reyes)**

This bill regulates the advertising of food or food products by prohibiting false or misleading advertising with special consideration for advertising targeted to children. This bill further requires the Department of Health (DOH), in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Markets, to add access to locally grown foods within the guidelines and framework of DOH’s Childhood Obesity Prevention Program.

Proponents: Center for Science in the Public Interest; The Campaign Against Hunger; 1199SEIU

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 45-13 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Murray, Oberacker, O’Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Pharmacist Administration of CLIA-Waived Tests**S.3467A (Rivera, Addabbo, Breslin, Gounardes, Krueger, May, Salazar, Sepúlveda, Skoufis, Webb) / A.6627B (McDonald)**

This bill includes pharmacists in the list of qualified health care professionals able to administer certain Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) waived tests. Currently, physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, physician assistants, specialist assistants, nurse practitioners, and midwives are able to administer CLIA-waived tests for certain illnesses and conditions such as respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), strep throat, HbA1c (blood sugar levels), hepatitis C (Hep C), and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV).

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Martinez)

Assembly Vote: None

Allows Establishment of Comprehensive Medication Management Agreements**S.3591A (Breslin, Addabbo, Webb) / A.6564 (McDonald)**

This bill allows physicians to establish a comprehensive medication management agreement with a qualified pharmacist to provide comprehensive medication management services (CMMS) to patients in which the pharmacists and physicians individually assess a patient's medications. CMMS ensures a patient's medications are individually assessed to determine that each is appropriate for that patient, effective for the medical condition, safe given potential risks for comorbidity and other medications being taken, and able to be taken by the patient as intended.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Medicaid Coverage for Medically Tailored Meals**S.4790 (Rivera, Brouk) / A.7244 (Simone)**

This bill provides for Medicaid reimbursement of medically tailored meals and medical nutrition therapy when ordered by a healthcare professional and provided by a certified dietician nutritionist, including the provision of any food indicated by the assessment, to individuals limited in activities of daily living by one or more chronic conditions.

Proponents: God's Love We Deliver

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association

Senate Vote: 53-6 (Borrello, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the Statewide and New York City Fetal Infant Mortality Review Boards
S.6044B (Bailey, Comrie, Fernandez) / A.9140B (Jackson)

This bill establishes a statewide Fetal Infant Mortality Review Board within the Department of Health and the New York City Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Board within the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to review fetal infant mortality and morbidities, disseminate findings, and make recommendations on the best practices to contribute to the prevention of fetal infant mortality.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Expands Telehealth Services and Creates Payment Parity for FQHCs
S.6733 (Rivera, Gounardes, Sepúlveda, Skoufis, Webb) / A.7316 (Paulin)

This bill requires that health care services delivered via telehealth by clinics designated as Federally Qualified Health Centers be reimbursed on the same basis and rate as equivalent on-site services. The bill also requires all services offered by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, Office of Mental Health, and the Office of Addiction Services and Supports via telehealth to be reimbursed at the same rate as on-site services.

Proponents: Callen Lorde; Open Door Family Medical Center, Inc.; Primary Care Development Corporation

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Codifies Medicaid Dental Coverage Standards
S.7667A (Cleare, Rivera, Webb) / A.8983 (Paulin)

This bill codifies the coverage of dental implants, implant-related services, prosthetic appliances, replacement prosthetic appliances, crowns and root canals as medically necessary dental care under the state's Medicaid program. These changes, resulting from a settlement agreement reached in *Ciaramella et. al. v. Bassett*, went into effect on January 30, 2024 but were implemented through the state's regulatory process.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establish a State Frontotemporal Degeneration Registry**S.7874 (Hinchey, Cooney, Gianaris, Gonzalez) / A.9938 (Paulin)**

This bill directs the Department of Health (DOH), in conjunction with the Office for Aging to establish a state frontotemporal degeneration registry which will collect data on the incidence of frontotemporal degeneration and dementias (dementia related conditions) in New York. The bill also directs DOH, in collaboration with the advisory committee, to issue annual reports to the Governor and legislature on the incidents and prevalence of dementia related conditions in the State and requires DOH to create and maintain a public webpage with relevant resources.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Notice of Adult Care Facility Closures**S.8933A (Hinchey) / No Same As**

This bill requires the Department of Health to provide copies of all written materials pertaining to the revocation or suspension of the operating certificate or proposed revocation, suspension or limitation of the operating certificate of an adult care facility to the governor, state comptroller, attorney general, state legislature and county executives, and where applicable the community board of the district in which the facility is located. These materials will include, but not be limited to, the hearing notice and notice of charges served upon the operator of the adult care facility.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Creates a Wholesale Prescription Drug Importation Program**S.9838 (Skoufis) / A.7954A (Simon)**

This bill establishes a wholesale prescription drug importation program to import prescription drugs from Canada. Only FDA-approved drugs meeting safety, effectiveness, and labeling standards can be imported and must be acquired from Canadian suppliers regulated by Canadian law. Additionally, only drugs expected to generate substantial cost savings for consumers can be imported through the program.

Proponents: NYS Trial Lawyers Association; AARP

Opponents: PhRMA; Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA)

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Borello, Gallivan)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Allows a Close Friend to Make Decisions Regarding Organ and Tissue Donation****S.6690 (Rivera, Breslin, Fernandez, Parker) / A.7703 (Paulin)**

This bill adds "close friend" to the list of individuals who can make a decision about organ and tissue donation on behalf of a deceased person. "Close friend" is defined as an adult, who is a friend or a relative of the patient (other than the previously outlined relations) who has maintained regular contact with the patient and is familiar with the individual's activities, health, and religious or moral beliefs, and is able to provide a signed statement to that effect to the attending practitioner. Under the Family Health Care Decisions Act, a "close friend" is already allowed to serve as a surrogate decision-maker for an incapacitated individual. By allowing this same individual to consent to making decisions about organ and tissue donation once the patient passes away, the hospital would not have to restart the surrogate decision-making process to look for another person to make decisions specifically for that purpose.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Creates an Allergen Warning on Food Items Prepared, Packed, and Sold on the Same Premises**S.6820B (Harcckham, Cleare, Gounardes, Webb) / A.7494B (Lunsford)**

The bill requires covered establishments to affix a written notification on the package or label attached to the food item identifying all ingredients and labeling for "major food allergens". This bill further codifies the federal definition of a "major food allergen" which includes: milk, egg, fish, Crustacean shellfish, tree nuts, wheat, peanuts, soybeans and sesame as well as any ingredient that contains proteins or oils from any of those products. This provisions of the bill apply to "prepackaged food" that is prepared, prepacked, and offered or sold to customers on the same premises from places where the food is intended for off-premises consumption such as grocery stores, delis, bakeries, sandwich shops, ice cream parlors, cafeterias, and food trucks operating within the State. The bill would not apply to food that is not in packaging or is packaged after a customer has ordered.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Food Industry Alliance of New York, Inc.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 130-18

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Requires Adult Immunizations Reporting to the City or Statewide Vaccine Registry****S.1531 (Hoylman-Sigal, Comrie, Jackson, Krueger, Persaud, Rivera) / A.7154 (McDonald)**

This bill requires adult vaccination reporting to the New York City or state immunization registries. Healthcare professionals will have 14 days from the vaccine administration to report it. Adult persons (19 or older) can opt out of this reporting if they choose to do so.

Proponents: New York State Academy of Family Physicians; New York State Association of County Health Officials; New York State Immunization Information System; New York Chapter of the American College of Physicians; The New York eHealth Collaborative; American Cancer Society Action Network; Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development, Inc.; Gainwell Technologies; Medical Society of the State of New York; New York City Mayor's Office; New York State Public Health Association

Opponents: New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

**Requires Hospitals to Develop Policies Regarding Psychiatric Care for Victims of Firearms
S.5894A (Bailey, Chu, Comrie, Hoylman-Sigal, Kennedy) / A.6125A (Pretlow)**

This bill directs general hospitals to develop and disseminate written policies and procedures for the identification, assessment, treatment, and referral for treatment of cases of firearm violence, both suspected and confirmed, and establish and implement an ongoing training program for all nursing, medical social work and other clinical staff and security personnel working in service units on these policies. Hospitals are further directed to notify victims of firearm violence of the psychiatric services available to them upon discharge from treatment. If a victim of firearm violence directly requests psychiatric services, hospitals are directed to coordinate the requested services.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

**Presumptive Medicaid Eligibility for Individuals Leaving Incarceration
S.6668 (Rivera) / No Same As**

The bill provides presumptive Medicaid eligibility to an individual previously incarcerated in a State prison or local correctional facility. The presumptive eligibility will begin on the date of their release, and will only be available if the State has secured federal financial participation, which it must take all necessary steps to secure. The presumptive eligibility will last until the day eligibility is determined if the person has applied for Medicaid coverage or 60 days after the release of incarceration if the person has not applied yet, whichever is earlier.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Authorizes Camp Employees to Administer Medication and Treatment**S.8641 (Webb, Fernandez, Harckham, Thomas) / A.7618 (Paulin)**

This bill allows camp operators and employees of children's overnight, summer day, or traveling summer day camps to administer certain medications and treatment to children. Camp operators and employees may only administer medications or perform treatment to the child under direction and authorization of the parent, legal guardian, legal custodian, or entrusted adult authorized to consent. Currently, only camp nurses or physicians are authorized to administer medications and treatment to children, including over the counter treatments.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES**Prohibits Industry Discrimination Against 340B Providers****S.8992 (Rivera)/No Same As**

This bill prohibits pharmaceutical manufacturers, pharmacy benefit managers, wholesalers, outsourcing facilities, and other third-party logistics providers from taking actions that would restrict, deny access, or otherwise limit the dispensing of drugs by covered entities and contract pharmacies participating in the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program. This includes placing limiting conditions on these entities related to dispensing the drugs, denying them access to the medications, and imposing additional constraints that differ from the requirements exclusions, reimbursement terms, fees, audits, claim identification, or conditions applied to entities that do not participate in the program.

Proponents: Greater New York Hospital Association; AIDS Healthcare Foundation; Callen-

Lorde; Mt. Sinai Health System; Trillium Health; The Healthcare Association of New York State

Opponents: PhRMA; Life Sciences NY; ADAP Advocacy; AiArthritis; American Senior

Alliance; Biomarker Collaborative; Coalition of Hematology & Oncology Practices; Coalition of

State Rheumatology Organizations; Community Access National Network (CANN); Community

Liver Alliance; Derma Care Access Network; Exon 20 Group; HEALS of the South; ICAN -

International Cancer Advocacy Network; Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.; MET

Crusaders; Neuropathy Action Foundation; PD-L1 Amplifieds.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Analyst: Elena Kilcullen
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Student Lifeline Act**

S.1865B (Brouk, Addabbo, Cleare, Fernandez, Gounardes, Jackson, Mannion, Myrie, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.6563A (Clark)

This bill establishes the "Student Lifeline Act" which requires all higher education institutions to undertake an educational campaign to inform students, faculty, and staff about the 9-8-8 suicide and crisis text lifeline.

Proponents: SUNY

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Experiential Learning Plans at SUNY and CUNY

S.7808A (Stavisky, Chu, Jackson) / A.8346A (Fahy)

This bill requires, by June 1, 2025, the State University of New York (SUNY) and City University of New York (CUNY) to adopt a plan to make approved experiential or applied learning activities available to students beginning in the 2025-26 school year. In addition, the plan shall have each college examine the feasibility of including experiential or applied learning activities as a degree requirement.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Physician Assistant Standards

S.9038A (May) / A.8378A (Paulin)

This bill modifies physician assistant (PA) standards to provide PAs with independent prescriptive authority for certain tests and immunizations. This bill also increases the number of PAs that a physician may oversee within a private practice at one time. Currently, a physician may oversee a maximum of four PAs (4:1 PA to physician ratio). This bill increases this number to six PAs (6:1 PA to physician ratio)

Proponents: NYS Society of Physician Assistants; 1199 SEIU; HANYS; NYC Health and Hospitals; Community Health Care Association of NYS; Primary Care Development Corporation; Wellnow Urgent Care.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 52-7 (Griffo, Liu, Martinez, Oberacker, Rhoads, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 145-2

Shared Pharmacy Services**S.9186 (Stavisky) / A.9729 (McDonald)**

This bill establishes conditions under which resident or non-resident pharmacists and pharmacies may participate in shared pharmacy services. The bill defines "shared pharmacy services" to mean a system that allows a registered pharmacist or a registered pharmacy, pursuant to a request from another registered pharmacist or pharmacy, to process or fill a prescription or order, pursuant to regulations developed by the Commissioner of Education.

Proponents: State Education Department; Community Pharmacy Association of New York State

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

Permissible Uses of College Choice Savings Accounts (529 Accounts)**S.9701 (Stavisky, Chu) / A.10209 (McDonald)**

This bill expands permissible withdrawals from 529 Accounts to include the cost of principal and interest associated with student loan payments, as well as contributions to Roth IRAs.

Proponents: Office of the State Comptroller (Departmental #10)

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Allows Pharmacy Technicians to Practice in All Pharmacies****S.1050B (Cooney, Jackson, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.8115B (Solages)**

This bill expands the authorization of pharmacy technicians to practice in all pharmacies under the supervision of a pharmacist in the areas of compounding, preparing, labeling, or dispensing of drugs used to fill prescriptions. Currently, pharmacy technicians are only able to conduct these tasks in hospital-settings, registered under Public Health Law Article 28.

Proponents: Pharmacists Society of NYS (PSSNY)

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

Notice of Tuition Liability Policies**S.1396 (Liu, Addabbo, Chu, Jackson, Webb) / A.1882 (Clark)**

This bill requires all institutions of higher education to provide written notice to enrolled students of their tuition liability policy so students are informed of their institution's withdrawal policy, exceptions to that policy and the financial obligations that can result from withdrawing from school after a specified date.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the School Psychology Practitioner Licensure**S.3036A (Brouk, Addabbo, Bailey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, May, Scarcella-Spanton, Skoufis) / A.2033A (Rosenthal, L.)**

This bill provides licensure for school psychologist practitioners, defines their scope, and sets forth the education and experience requirements for licensure.

Proponents: New York Association of School Psychologists; Nassau County Psychological Association; NYS School Boards Association; Westchester County Psychological Association; Mental Health Association of New York State; New York State Alliance for Children with Special Needs

Opponents: New York State Psychological Association; New York State Association of Neuropsychologists

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Emergency Contraceptive Vending Machines on SUNY and CUNY Campuses**S.4400C (Webb, Breslin, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gounardes, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, May, Myrie, Salazar, Sepulveda, Skoufis) / No Same As**

This bill requires each institution within SUNY and CUNY to have at least one vending machine making emergency contraception available for purchase.

Proponents: NY Birth Control Action Fund

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffio, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SUNY Black Leadership Institute**S.4743 (Webb, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson) / A.1988 (Jean-Pierre)**

This bill codifies the Black Leadership Institute within the State University of New York (SUNY) as an initiative for Black leaders in higher education with a mission to retain and grow from within SUNY a greater proportion of Black professionals at SUNY campuses and in the workplace.

Proponents: SUNY

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Adds a Faculty Member to The Board of Trustees of Community Colleges**S.6342A (Stavisky, Harckham, Jackson) / A.6782A (Bronson)**

This bill provides for the inclusion of a faculty member on the board of trustees of community colleges elected by peer faculty and staff at the respective community college.

Proponents: NYSUT

Opponents: NY Community College Trustees

Senate Vote: 53-8 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SUNY Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Leadership Institute**S.7684 (Chu, Comrie, Cooney, Gounardes, Harckham, Jackson, Kavanagh, Liu, Martinez, Myrie, Ramos, Thomas, Webb) / A.8262 (Lee)**

This bill establishes an Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) leadership institute within the State University of New York (SUNY) as an initiative for Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) leaders in higher education with a mission to retain and grow from within SUNY a greater proportion of Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (AANHPI) professionals at SUNY campuses.

Proponents: SUNY

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

Independent Practice of Dental Hygienists

S.8759B (May) / A.488C (Paulin)

This bill authorizes dental hygienists to practice without supervision of a dentist provided that there is a collaborative practice agreement between the dental hygienist and dentist in place.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 147-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Analysts: Bobbi Barnett and Nayram Gasu
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

HOPP Codification

S.7297C (Kavanagh, Brisport, Chu, Cooney, Gounardes, Hinchey, Jackson, Myrie, Ryan) / A.7636C (Solages)

This bill would codify the Homeownership Protection Program (HOPP) to ensure that these protections remain available to homeowners across the state. HOPP serves as a vital resource to property owners facing foreclosure, connecting homeowners with necessary legal services and information.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Short-Term Rental Registry

S.885C (Hinchey, Krueger, Hoylman-Sigal, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar)/ A.4130C (Fahy)

This legislation establishes a registration and regulatory framework and taxation scheme for short-term residential rental units in the state. Short-term residential rentals are defined as dwelling units or portions thereof rented to guests for less than 30 consecutive days.

Municipalities with existing short-term rental registries prior to this legislation may continue operating their local systems, but they must submit quarterly data on registered rentals to the Department of State, which will maintain a comprehensive statewide database. After the law takes effect, no new municipal rental registries can be created.

The bill mandates that booking services register with the Department of State and submit quarterly reports on the short-term rentals they facilitate. Booking services are prohibited from charging fees (e.g., booking fees, service fees, taxes) for transactions involving unregistered short-term rentals in New York. Both hosts and booking services are subject to penalties: first violations receive warning notices, third violations incur \$200 fines, and subsequent violations may result in fines of up to \$500 per day for non-compliance with the law's provisions.

Proponents: New York State Conference of Mayors; New York State Association of Counties; Ski New York; Discover Albany; American Hotel & Lodging Association; Association of Towns of the State of New York; Business Council of Westchester; Emerson Resort & Spa; Explore Steuben; Hart Hotels Incorporated; Ithaca/Tompkins County Convention; Lake George Regional Chamber of Commerce; Mohonk Mountain House; New York State Hospitality and Tourism Association; New York State Tourism Industry Association; Oneida County Tourism; Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism; Rochester Hotel Association; Saratoga Convention and Tourism Bureau; Sullivan County Visitors Association; This Is Cooperstown; Tompkins County Tourism Planning Board; Visit Binghamton; Visit Buffalo Niagara; Visit Schoharie County.

Opponents: TravelTech; Airbnb; Bookings.com

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Cooney, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 101-40

Requires Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in New Construction

S.1736E (Krueger, Chu, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, May, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Sepulveda)/A.3780E (Fahy)

This bill requires that new construction with dedicated off-street parking include electric vehicle charging stations and electric vehicle capable parking spaces. One to three family homes must have at least one space and multi-unit residential buildings of more than three units must have all off-street parking be electric-vehicle capable. Privately-owned commercial buildings with between one and ten parking spaces must have at least one electric vehicle charging station and those with more than ten parking spaces must have at least 20% of their spaces be electric vehicle capable. Buildings containing affordable housing are exempted from the requirements in this bill. The bill allows a local buildings department to waive the requirements of the legislation if an owner can show that the requirements of the bill would be overly burdensome to the owner or local utility provider.

Proponents: Greater New York Automobile Dealers Association; New York Public Interest Research Group

Opposition: Capital Region Chamber

Senate Vote: 40-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 90-55

Mobile and Manufactured Home Replacement Program

S.3141A (Mannion, Hinchey, Jackson, May, Rolison, Webb)/ A.9158A (Barrett)

This legislation establishes the mobile and manufactured home replacement program to support replacing old mobile and manufactured homes with new manufactured, modular or site-built homes. This bill authorizes the Housing Trust Fund Corporation (HTFC) to enter into contracts with eligible applicants to provide grants from the program to be used to provide assistance to eligible property owners to replace dilapidated mobile or manufactured homes across the state.

Proponents: Enterprise; NY Housing Association; Rural Housing Coalition of New York.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61 - 0

Assembly Vote: 146 - 0

Restoration of Vital Services at NYCHA**S.220B (Myrie, Bailey, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Scarcella-Spanton)/ A.3866B (Jackson)**

This legislation requires entities responsible for the provision of vital services to the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) , such as utilities, to coordinate and work expeditiously to restore service whenever such service is interrupted. This includes, but is not limited to applying for emergency permits, coordination with relevant agencies on a plan, communicating plans with residents, and mitigating the effects of the interruption.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: NYCHA

Senate Vote: 54-7 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Rhoads, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY**NYCHA Utility Accountability Act****S.546 (Gianaris, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Ramos, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Sepulveda, Stavisky) / A.2573 (Anderson)**

This bill requires that whenever there is a disruption of heat, water, gas, or electricity in New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) housing unit/units, NYCHA will be required to reduce the amount of rent to be paid by tenants for whose services are disrupted for the following month by the greater of (a) \$75 per month, on a prorated daily basis for each day the tenant(s) experienced a disruption of heat, water, gas, or electricity service; or (b) the amount equal to 10% of the tenant's prorated daily cost of rent for each day the tenant experienced a disruption of utility services.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: NYCHA

Senate Vote: 43-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Localities to Share Zoning and Construction Data with the State**S.688 (May, Jackson, Kavanagh, Webb) / S.4990 (Thiele)**

This bill requires that localities report housing production and zoning data to the Department of State (DOS) annually. Such data includes the number of units and any associated government funding for such housing and zoning maps and requirements. Under this bill, DOS is required to make such information publicly available on its website.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 39-18 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Regulations For The Use Of Smart Access Systems In Dwellings**S.2078B (Kavanagh, Krueger) / No Same As**

This bill establishes a set of regulations related to the use of smart access systems and the data which is potentially collected by such a system. This proposal requires that where an owner installs, or plans to install, a smart access system on any entrance from the street or other common area, the smart system cannot solely rely on a web-based app to facilitate the entrance. No new smart access system that relies on biometric information may be installed for up to 3 years following the effective date of this legislation. An entity may not capture biometric information to gain access to a dwelling unless the person is a tenant/occupant or person authorized by a tenant/occupant who is informed of such information being captured and gives their express consent. Owners must have clearly established procedure and guidelines provided to tenant/occupants regarding data collection and understanding the smart access system.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 43-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Mayer, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Ensuring Proper Code Enforcement**S.3372A (Skoufis, Jackson) / No Same As**

This bill expands the powers of the Department of State (DOS) to compel municipalities to comply with and enforce the state Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and State Energy Conservation Construction Code. Under this bill, DOS has the power to investigate reports of a failure of municipalities to enforce the state's codes. The bill also gives DOS the ability to appoint an oversight officer for local code enforcement and delegate code enforcement and certain functions like permit review to an adjacent municipality or the county.

Proponents: Department of State

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 42-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Preventing the Naming of Dependent Children in Petitions to Recover Real Property and Eviction Warrants

S.5905 (Brisport, Brouk, Jackson, Webb) / A.3827 (Rosenthal L)

The bill amends the article dealing with summary proceedings to recover possession of real property and the section covering the contents of petition to explicitly prevent the naming of a dependent child under the age of 18 on any petition or warrant for eviction. The bill also seals any mention of dependent children under the age of 18 in any eviction records and prohibits any future use of that information. The current law does not specify specific treatment for dependent children under 18 in property recovery and eviction proceedings. The purpose of this legislation is to prevent the listing of children in eviction warrants and proceedings, which can appear on such an individual's rent history and negatively affect his or her ability to rent or buy a home or acquire a loan at a future date, regardless of whether such a dependent child was responsible for issues and/or circumstances that resulted in the petition or warrant for eviction.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 39-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Increases The Bonding Authority Of The New York State Housing Finance Agency

S.9698 (Kavanagh) / A.10345 (Rosenthal L)

This bill would increase the bond cap for the New York State Housing Finance Agency ("HFA") by \$3.1 billion from \$31.28 billion to \$34.38 billion. HFA is a New York State public authority that sells bonds and uses the proceeds to make mortgages to affordable housing developers. Developers can take advantage of several financing resources when they obtain HFA financing. The bond caps for this authority has been extended or raised every 2 years since they were created, with HFA historically receiving an increase of bonding authority of between \$2 billion and \$3 billion every two years.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 43-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP)**

S.568B (Kavanagh, Bailey, Brisport, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Rivera, Ryan, Salazar, Sanders, Scarcella-Spanton, Sepulveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Webb) / A.4021A (Rosenthal L)

This bill creates a new housing access voucher program administered by the New York State Department of Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) to provide a cash subsidy to eligible low income individuals and families that are homeless or facing imminent loss of housing and have an income of no more than 50% of the area median income (AMI). Funding would be distributed through HCR to counties based on the number of households in each county that are severely rent burdened. Preference would be given to individuals or families that are homeless. The bill was amended to allow for the payment of up to five months of rent arrears.

Proponents: New York City Council; Coalition for the Homeless; Community Voices Heard; Cooper Square Committee; Housing Justice for All; New York Legal Assistance Group; Osborne Association; Partnership for the Public Good; Chinese-American Planning Council; Neighbors Together; New York State Tenants and Neighbors; Nobody Leaves Mid-Hudson; Southside United HDfC Los Sures; United Neighbors Organization; Vocal New York

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Martin Act Amendment for Condo Conversion to Preserve Affordable Housing

S.3566B (Cleare, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Krueger, Myrie) / A.6921B (Epstein)

This bill would preserve expiring affordable housing units in New York City by converting those buildings to condominiums with the permanently affordable units remaining under the stewardship of a non-profit housing organization. The bill aims to permanently preserve affordable units that would otherwise exit their regulatory agreements while creating new opportunities for homeownership in New York City. Those units exit their regulatory agreements when a contract requiring those units to be affordable expires, typically at the end of a tax benefit or subsidy. The bill gives certain rental buildings with at least 100 units built with tax or bond financing after 1996 the ability to convert to ownership if 15% of the units are purchased, rather than the 51% required under existing law.

Proponents: Allen Blitz; Habitat for Humanity of NYC and Westchester; L+M Development; New York Housing Conference; Real Estate Board of New York (REBNY); Skylight Real Estate Partners; the Cheshire Group; the NHP Foundation

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Faith-Based Affordable Housing Act**S.7791A (Gounardes, Bailey, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, May, Mayer, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Ryan, Salazar, Sepulveda, Stavisky, Webb)/A.8386A (Cunningham)**

This bill would create a process to streamline the development of permanently affordable housing on land owned by religious institutions. Under this proposal, any municipality must allow the construction and occupation of residential buildings with permanently affordable housing on covered sites owned by religious corporations up to the specific densities detailed in the bill. Residential buildings may be new construction, enlargements of existing buildings, or conversions of existing buildings and may be rental or ownership units.

Proponents: Open New York; Bricks and Mortals; Interfaith Affordable Housing Collaborative; Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing; New York State Association for Affordable Housing (NYSFAH); New York State Council of Churches.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Affordable Housing Relief Fund**S.9380A (Kavanagh, Jackson)/A.10293 (Rosenthal L)**

This bill would establish a relief fund for existing affordable housing developments experiencing financial distress. The funds could be utilized for capital needs including deferred maintenance. Owners would be eligible to apply for up to \$50,000 per unit from the fund. The purpose of this fund is to address the loss of rental revenue and increase in expenses experienced by affordable housing providers following the COVID-19 pandemic.

Proponents: New York Association for Affordable Housing (NYSFAH); Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD).

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

Right to Counsel/ Office Civil Representation

S.2721 (May) would establish a civil right to full representation by counsel for eligible individuals in certain covered proceedings statewide. An eligible individual means an individual who is at risk of losing their housing accommodation in a proceeding covered by this legislation. A covered proceeding means any proceeding to evict an individual or otherwise terminate a tenancy, any other proceeding likely to result in an individual losing their housing accommodation. This includes eviction proceedings, foreclosures, administrative proceedings to terminate a housing subsidy. In the 2024 Senate One-House, the Senate advanced an amended version of S.2721 that resulted from a two-way agreement with the Assembly.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

INSURANCE

Analyst: Jorge Rivera-Agosto
(518) 455-2821

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Maintains Supplemental Spousal Liability Coverage for Individuals Who Are Married S.9021A (Breslin) / A.9407A (Weprin)

This bill would maintain supplemental spousal liability (SSL) insurance coverage for individuals who have indicated that they are married unless they decline such coverage. All other individuals will have the option to request this coverage if they wish to do so. Married policyholders who opted for SSL will receive a notification in every policy renewal or amendment indicating that their policy includes SSL. Once declined, the married policyholder will not be notified of the availability of such coverage unless they subsequently request coverage. For all other policyholders, the insurer shall notify them upon issuance of the policy and at least once a year of the availability of SSL coverage. SSL insurance provides liability coverage under an auto policy when a person is injured or killed in an accident caused by the negligence of the policyholder's spouse.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Creates Protections for Consumers Going Through a Step Therapy Protocol S.1267A (Breslin, Addabbo, Fernandez, May, Skoufis) / A.901A (McDonald)

This bill limits how insurance companies can use step therapy. Step therapy often requires patients to try cheaper medications first before their insurance covers the more expensive drug their doctor prescribed.

- Patients will not have to try more than two medications before getting coverage for the prescribed drug.
- There is a 30-day limit on using a step therapy medication before coverage for the prescribed drug kicks in.
- Patients who received coverage for a specific medication in the past year are exempt from step therapy for that drug.
- If a patient switches insurance and has already completed step therapy for a medication, they will not have to do it again with their new health plan.

This law also makes it easier for patients to appeal coverage decisions and get the medication their doctor prescribed more quickly.

Proponents: Aimed Alliance

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association; New York State Conference of BlueCross

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Borrello, Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Allows Insurance Companies to Offer Bundled Cell Phone Protection Plans**S.7748C (Breslin, Addabbo) / A.8304B (Weprin)**

This bill allows insurance companies licensed in this state to offer a bundled cell phone equipment protection plan that includes: equipment insurance (loss and theft), a service contract (mechanical issues), and device upgrades for a single price. Consumers can still purchase one of those protections if they wish to do so. The bill also requires carriers to recycle, reuse, or dispose of phones in accordance with existing state environmental laws during the claims process. Currently, consumers need to buy these plans separately, sometimes unbeknownst to them that a cell phone plan does not include full protection.

Proponents: American Property Casualty Insurance Association; Assurant

Opponents: Asurion

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Expands Eligibility to the Coastal Market Assistance Program for Homeowners**S.8320A (Mayer, May) / A.9821 (Otis)**

This bill expands eligibility to the Coastal Market Assistance Program (C-MAP) in Long Island's North Shore, the Bronx, and Westchester from the current 2,500 feet from the shore eligibility requirement to one mile. It also expands C-MAP to Lake Erie, Lake Ontario, the Saint Lawrence River, and the Niagara River. C-MAP is available when homeowners cannot find an insurance company to cover a homeowner's or tenant's policy in flood-prone areas. It provides wraparound coverage in the form of the cost of replacing the building.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Borrello, Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Authorizes Pet Insurance**S.7845 (Breslin, Cooney) / A.8276 (Hunter)**

This bill authorizes pet insurance in this state. Insurance companies that sell pet insurance will be able to limit or exclude coverage for a preexisting condition, a hereditary disorder, a congenital anomaly, or a chronic condition as long as they disclose those exclusions prior to a consumer buying the policy. The companies will have to provide certain disclosures to consumers. Pet insurance is similar to health insurance for humans but designed specifically for pets (typically dogs and cats). It helps manage the costs of unexpected illnesses or injuries a pet might face.

Proponents: North American Pet Health Insurance Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

**Requires Insurance Coverage for the Tattooing of the Nipple-Areola Complex
S.6146A (Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Webb) / A.5729A (Paulin)**

This bill requires commercial insurance to cover the tattooing of the nipple-areola complex as part of a reconstruction. Breast reconstruction after a mastectomy is the standard way to treat breast cancer. The nipple-areola complex is the last part of breast reconstruction. It gives the breast a natural, symmetrical look. Tattooing can fix the nipple areola for people who have been damaged by radiation or do not want surgery.

Proponents: None

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association; New York State Conference of BlueCross BlueShield Plans

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 148-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

Allows Risk Retention Groups to Offer Auto Insurance Coverage to Commuter Vans, Pre-arranged For-hire Vehicles, and Accessible Vehicles

**S9516A (Comrie, Bailey, Cleare, Fernandez, Jackson, Liu, Myrie, Parker, Sanders, Webb)
/ A.10316A (Cook)**

This bill allows an alternative form of liability coverage - risk retention groups (RRGs) - to offer auto insurance coverage for commuter vans, pre-arranged for-hire vehicles, and accessible vehicles. RRGs are a federally recognized alternative form of insurance provider that are typically industry-specific entities that form liability insurance companies that are owned by the members being covered. RRGs let businesses with similar insurance needs pool their risks and start their own insurance company, which they run according to guidelines set by the state where they are registered

Proponents: New York City Commuter Van Association

Opponents: New York Insurance Association

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Allows DFS to Authorize More Incentive-Based Programs Through Health Plans
S.2684 (Breslin) / A.791 (Hunter)**

The bill would provide the Department of Financial Services (DFS) with greater statutory discretion to allow health plans to offer voluntary rewards-based programs to members. Incentives cannot amount to more than \$600 per year for the member. The goal is to provide flexibility for health plans to offer short-term programs, like pricing discounts (e.g., vendor discounts for a fixed term) or other discounts that reward or encourage specific behaviors without the need to modify policy form language.

Proponents: New York Health Plan Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Removes Limitations to Access Treatment for Serious Mental Health Conditions
S.6688A (Breslin) / A.7522 (Gunther)**

This bill requires health plans to cover outpatient prescription drug treatments for serious mental health conditions. It also prohibits limitations like fail-first or step therapy or prior authorization for serious mental health conditions. Fail-first, step therapy, and prior authorization are insurance practices that control costs and ensure patients receive appropriate treatments or prescription drugs. Fail-first requires trying cheaper prescription drugs or services first. Step therapy requires patients to go through certain services or prescription drugs before moving on to others, and prior authorization requires insurer approval before dispensing certain drugs or getting certain services.

Proponents: Alliance for Patient Access; Callen-Lorde Community Health Center; Community Healthcare Network; Greater NY Hospital Association; Legal Action Center; Mental Health Association in New York State; National Alliance on Mental Illness NYC Metro; National Alliance on Mental-Illness-New York State; NYS Coalition for Children's Behavioral Health; Vibrant Emotional Health; Vocational Instruction Project Community Services, Inc.; VIP Community Services;

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

Allows Insurance Companies to Provide Programs or Tools to Mitigate Risk
S.8889 (Breslin) / No Same-As

This bill would allow insurance companies to provide their policyholders with programs or tools free of charge or at a reduced cost to help mitigate risk and reduce loss. A number of different tools or programs are available to help a policyholder manage risk, which could ultimately minimize the extent of a loss or decrease the chances of a loss occurring. Examples include a water leak sensor, which alerts a property owner when water is detected in an area where there is not normally water.

Proponents: New York Insurance Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits Health Insurers from Denying Coverage Due to Differences in Gender Indication
S.3234A (Hoylman-Sigal) / No Same-As

This bill prohibits health plans from denying coverage:

- because of the gender on a claim form,
- because the gender on a claim form is different from the member's assigned sex at birth or their recorded gender or
- because the requested service or treatment is not provided to that gender.

While plans are prohibited from requiring additional documentation regarding a person's gender, plans can ask for additional documentation to check for fraud or clinical appropriateness.

Proponents: The New Pride Agenda

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 53-7 (Borrello, Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Exc. Brouk and Walczyk)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Repeals Anti-Arson Provisions of the Insurance Law****S.3547 (Sanders) / A.8831 (Berger)**

This bill would repeal the provision of the Insurance Law related to anti-arson applications and direct the Superintendent of the Department of Financial Services (DFS) to repeal all rules and regulations that implement that provision of the Insurance Law. Current law requires that, for any insurance policy covering fire damage or explosion in New York City, applicants must fill out a paper anti-arson application as well as the standard insurance coverage application. The anti-arson application is intended to give insurers information about the ownership of the property and property valuation information to assist in the investigation of arson for profit. The anti-arson application also requires disclosure of whether anyone with a financial interest in the property has a conviction relating to arson, fraud, or other crimes related to a loss of property in the previous five years.

Proponents: State Farm; Nationwide; Professional Insurance Agents of New York State, Inc.; Council of Insurance Brokers of Greater New York, Inc.; New York Insurance Association; Insurance Brokers Association of the State of New York

Opponents: The City of New York

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 148-0

Prohibits Insurers from Excluding Lead-Based Paint Coverage**S.88 (Ryan) / A.1687 (Rivera)**

This bill prohibits insurers who provide rental property coverage from excluding coverage for damages caused by exposure to lead-based paint. Liability coverage is a standard offering in most landlord insurance policies. It helps pay for expenses if the landlord is found legally responsible after someone is injured on the landlord's property. Current law allows insurers to exclude coverage for lead-based paint exposure. The Department of Financial Services approved this exclusion in the 1990s after the marketplace was almost destabilized because of the frequency of lead paint litigation.

Proponents: None

Opponents: Big I New York; New York Central Mutual Fire Insurance Company; New York Insurance Association; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; State Farm

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 140-47

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Changes Insurance Utilization Review and Prior Authorization Process

S.3400 (Breslin, Addabbo, Cleare, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Jackson, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, May, Rivera, Webb) / A.7268A (Weprin)

This bill requires every insurance company to include evidence-based and peer-reviewed clinical review criteria that consider the needs of an atypical patient population when developing utilization review criteria. Utilization review is when an insurance company reviews a request for medical treatment to determine whether the health plan covers a particular health service. The bill also shortens the time a utilization review agent must make a prior authorization determination from three business days to 72 hours. This time frame is also reduced to 24 hours if the request is for an enrollee with a medical condition that seriously jeopardizes their health if they do not receive the services. Prior authorization, also called prior approval or recertification, is a decision from the health insurance company regarding the medical necessity of a healthcare service, treatment plan, prescription drug, or durable medical equipment. The plan can mandate pre-authorization for specific services before receiving them, excluding emergency cases. Prior authorization approvals will be valid for the duration of the prescription and its refills and the duration of the treatment for the specific condition that warrants that prescription.

Proponents: New York State Bleeding Disorders Coalition; Suburban Hospital Alliance of New York State; New York State Academy of Family Physicians; Healthcare Association of New York State; Medical Society of the State of New York.

Opponents: New York Health Plan Association; New York State Conference of Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

INTERNET AND TECHNOLOGY

Analysts: Nayram Gasu
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Notification Of A Data Breach****S.2659B (Comrie) / A.8872A (Sayegh)**

This legislation sets a timeline for disclosure of a security breach by requiring any person or business that owns or licenses computerized data that maintains private information to disclose the discovery of a breach of system security within 30 days of discovering the breach. This legislation further maintains an exception for law enforcement but removes the provision allowing for delay for determining the scope of the breach and restoring the integrity of the system. The bill also adds a requirement that the notification of breach should go to the Department of Financial Services (DFS), in addition to the existing notice requirement for the Attorney General, Department of State and Division of State Police.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 140-5

**Legislative Oversight of Automated Decision-making in Government Act (LOADinG Act)
S.7543B (Gonzalez, Brisport, Comrie, Cooney, Gounardes, Harckham, Jackson, Krueger,
Liu, Myrie, Parker, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Sepulveda, Thomas, Webb) / A.9430B
(Otis)**

This legislation mandates state agencies using or procuring automated decision-making systems (ADS) to engage in meaningful human review when use of ADS: a) is related to public assistance benefits; b) impacts rights, civil liberties, safety, or welfare; or c) affects statutory or constitutional rights. Automated decision-making systems are defined as software employing algorithms or artificial intelligence to automate or support decisions, excluding basic processing tools. Meaningful human review involves oversight by trained human individuals with authority to intervene in ADS decisions. Agencies must conduct impact assessments biennially or with system changes, submitting findings to key officials and publishing them, and can redact sensitive data. Discriminatory findings must result in a pause in ADS use, with disclosures mandated for existing ADS implementations within a year, ensuring worker protections.

Proponents: CSEA; NYS AFL-CIO; Surveillance Technology Oversight Project; Talking Points;

Opponents: TechNet

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 113-34

Stop Addictive Feeds Exploitation (SAFE) For Kids Act

S.7694A (Gounardes, Ashby, Bailey, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, Martinez, Martins, May, Mayer, Murray, Myrie, Palumbo, Parker, Ramos, Rhoads, Rivera, Rolison, Ryan, Salazar, Sepulveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Tedisco, Webb, Weber) / A.8148A (Rozic)

The SAFE for Kids Act prohibits addictive social media feeds for minors using such feeds within New York State. The bill identifies a covered minor as a user whose device communicates their age to the operator of an addictive feed as being under 18 years old. Addictive feeds are defined as websites, online services, or applications that generate multiple pieces of media concurrently or sequentially and recommend, select, or prioritize content for display based on information associated with the user or their device. These feeds utilize algorithms to analyze user behavior and preferences to deliver personalized content, including features such as endless scrolling, push notifications, and gamification like likes and badges.

Proponents: APSAC; Brooklyn Law Incubator and Policy Clinic; Common Sense Media; Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors; NAMI-NYS; NY Foundling; NY Junior League; NY Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children; NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; NYSUT; OAG; Talking Points; The Children's Agenda; Various Technologists

Opponents: TechNet

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 143-1

Chapter 120

New York Child Data Protection Act

S.7695B (Gounardes, Ashby, Bailey, Borrello, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Comrie, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Kennedy, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, Martinez, Martins, May, Mayer, Murray, Myrie, Palumbo, Parker, Ramos, Rhoads, Rivera, Ryan, Salazar, Sepulveda, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Tedisco, Webb, Weber, Weik) / A.8149A (Rozic)

The bill establishes a comprehensive regulatory framework aimed at restricting the collection and processing of data concerning minors by operators of websites, online services, and applications. This regulation applies to entities that either directly collect personal data from users or facilitate its collection by integrating with other platforms, allowing third-party data collection, or enabling users to publicly disclose personal information. Exceptions to these restrictions are granted for data collection permitted by federal law under the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), and for instances where a user is at least 13 years old and the data collection is strictly necessary for an activity initiated by the user, or when the user has provided informed consent.

Proponents: APSAC; Brooklyn Law Incubator and Policy Clinic; Common Sense Media; NAMI-NYS; NYSPCC; NYSUT; OAG; Talking Points; The Children's Agenda.

Opponents: TechNet

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Chapter 121

Financial App Security Act**S.8677B (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.9340A (Lee)**

This legislation mandates peer-to-peer mobile services to implement a requirement for users to create a personal identification code (ID code) of at least four characters, linked to their account for identity authentication, with biometric methods such as fingerprints or facial recognition not allowed as substitutes. Users are required to opt-in to fraud protections, which activate ID code verification under specific conditions: when a payment transaction exceeds the user's predetermined monetary limit, when transactions initiated by the user within 24 hours surpass this limit, when transactions are sent to a recipient whose account is less than 24 hours old, when the user initiates four payment transactions within 60 minutes, when attempting to sign in from a new or unrecognized device, or after resetting the account or device password. Users are empowered to cancel transactions suspected of fraud after promptly notifying the service.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

Publication of Social Media Terms of Service and Reporting Violations**S.895B (Hoylman-Sigal, Fernandez, Myrie, Salazar, Sepulveda) / A.6789B (Lee)**

This legislation requires the terms of service to include contact information where the users can ask questions about the terms of service, a description of the process that users must follow to flag content or users in violation of the terms, and a list of potential actions the social media company may take against a user or the published content. The terms of service must be available in the 12 most common non-English languages spoken by limited-language proficient individuals in the state, in which the platform offers product features for.

Proponents: Anti-Defamation League; New Pride Agenda

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 47-13 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffio, Helming, Martins,

Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber)

Assembly Vote: 103-44

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

New York Health Information Privacy Act

S.158E (Krueger, Brouk, Comrie, Fernandez, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, May, Webb) / A.4983D (Rosenthal L)

This bill establishes data privacy standards in the General Business Law for entities handling health-related personal data. It mandates that all communications from regulated entities use clear, non-technical language accessible to individuals with disabilities, delivered through familiar interfaces. A regulated entity includes those controlling health information of New York residents, individuals present in the state, or located within New York. Regulated health information encompasses data linkable to an individual's physical or mental health, excluding obscured data preventing identification.

Proponents: Healthcare Trust Institute

Opponents: State Privacy and Security Coalition; TechNet

Senate Vote: 49-11 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Businesses to Offer Identity Theft Prevention In Event Of A Security Breach S.700 (Comrie) / A.1725 (Dinowitz)

This legislation requires that where there is a security breach from a person or business that includes social security numbers, and the person or business has given the appropriate notice to harmed consumers of the breach, that person or business must offer to each resident of the state whose social security number was disclosed in the breach, or was reasonably believed to have been disclosed, reasonable credit report monitoring, identity theft prevention services, and, if applicable, identity theft mitigation services at no cost to the resident for a period of no less than 24 months. The bill additionally adds that notices of breaches must include information that these mitigation services are available to the harmed consumer.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Secure Our Data Act**S.5007B (Gonzalez, Salazar, Webb) / A.5736B (Solages)**

This bill requires the establishment of a plan to set up comprehensive cybersecurity resiliency and recovery procedures for State entities. This bill directs the Director of the Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) to, within one year, develop data protection standards for State agencies. The bill requires ITS to consult stakeholders and other interested parties and hold at least one public hearing before promulgating regulations that design and develop standards for data protection standards. The bill provides that data protection standards created by ITS must include protection for critical information systems and personal information, creation of backup data storage, system recovery using backups, and annual workforce training.

Proponents: New York State Public Employees Federation

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Recovery of Online Accounts**S.6323B (Gonzalez, Webb) / A.7048A (Shrestha)**

This legislation requires persons or businesses that provide consumers with online accounts to access services to allow consumers to provide physical proof of their identity to recover their identity online where the consumer cannot access their online account due to identity theft or where someone unlawfully possessed their personal information.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 43-17 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

State Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer**S.9104 (Gonzalez, Gounardes, Jackson) / A.10231 (Solages)**

This proposal establishes the position of Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer (CAIO) and such person's functions, powers and duties. The CAIO will head the Office of Artificial Intelligence and shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Disclosure On Generative Artificial Intelligence Systems S.9450A (Gonzalez) / A.10103B (Vanel)

This legislation requires owners, licensees, or operators of generative artificial intelligence (AI) systems to conspicuously display a warning on the system's interface that alerts the user that the responses of the system may be inaccurate and/or inappropriate. Non-compliant owners, licensees, or operators will be penalized the lesser of \$25 per system user or \$100,000.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: TechNet

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

Disclosures In Advertisements Involving Virtual Tokens No Same As / A.938A (Vanel)

The bill mandates that any advertisement, publication, or broadcast concerning virtual tokens for consideration must disclose the amount and nature of the consideration, whether past or prospective, direct or indirect. The legislation prohibits any false, misleading, or deceptive statements or representations in advertisements related to virtual tokens or other financial products and services.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Clear And Conspicuous Disclosure Of Collection Of Social Security Numbers On Websites S.4377 (Sanders) / No Same As

This legislation requires any internet website, online service, application or mobile application that collects social security numbers from individuals to clearly and conspicuously post a notice of the service's privacy policy on the respective website's homepage.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits Use of Biometric Identifying Technology in Schools**S.7944 (Hoylman-Sigal, Salazar) / A.8853 (Wallace)**

This proposal bans public and nonpublic elementary and secondary schools, including charter schools, from purchasing or utilizing any biometric information technology, for any purpose, with exceptions. Schools may still utilize biometric identifying technology for the following purposes:

- (i) fingerprint identification or prospective school employees where utilization is to be in compliance with the education law, or,
 - (ii) to exclusively identify employees that have consented in writing to the use of the technology.
- The proposal further removes provisions that authorized the Commissioner to allow for the use of the biometric identifying technology if the Commissioner engaged in a report on the technology's use first.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Liability For Misleading, Incorrect, Contradictory Or Harmful Information Provided To A User By A Chatbot**S.9381 (Gonzalez) / A.10494 (Vanel)**

This bill imposes liability to a deployer of an AI chatbot for misleading, incorrect, contradictory or harmful information to a user by a chatbot that results in financial loss or other demonstrable harm.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

INVESTIGATIONS & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Makes it An Unlawful Discriminatory and Unfair Educational Practice to Demand Individuals Disclose their Confidential Criminal Record

S.940 (Bailey, Fernandez, Jackson, Myrie) / A.6637 (Septimo)

This bill bars employers from being able to request that applicants provide their full Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) record by making this an unlawful discriminatory practice under the Human Rights Law. The bill also bars educational institutions from requiring applicants to provide a full DCJS record by making it an unfair educational practice to require such a record.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 39-22 (Addabbo, Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 82-65

Intrastate and Interstate Shipping of Liquor, Cider, Mead & Braggot

S.2852A (Skoufis, Bailey, Breslin, Comrie, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hinchey, May, Myrie, Persaud, Rivera, Salazar, Sanders, Scarcella-Spanton, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.3132A (Lupardo)

This bill authorizes the State Liquor Authority to create new licenses allowing for the direct interstate and intrastate shipment of certain amounts of liquor, cider, braggot and mead to customers in New York State.

Proponents: Farm Bureau NY; Frontenac Point; NFIB; NYS Distillers Guild

Opponents: Metro Package Store Association; Retailer's Alliance; Teamsters

Senate Vote: 47-13 (Addabbo, Ashby, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chu, Fernandez, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Ortt, Ramos, Rhoads, Thomas)

Assembly Vote: 128-14

Requires that Public Agencies Develop A Policy to Notify Employees When Replying to a FOIL Requests for the Employee's Disciplinary Records**S.5500B (Skoufis, Scarcella-Spanton) / A.6146B (Buttenschon)**

This bill amends the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) to require that covered agencies create policies for the notification of employees in the event an agency is responding to a FOIL request for that employee's disciplinary records.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Removes the Two-Year Lookback for a Temporary Retail Permit in New York City**S.8203 (Ramos) / A.8427A (Epstein)**

This bill removes the current requirement that a temporary retail permit may not be issued to a location in New York City subject to the 500-foot rule unless there was an active retail license at the location in the past two years. The State Liquor Authority would not be allowed to issue a temporary permit for a location that had two previous licensees in a row see their license suspended, canceled or revoked, unless that same location then had a subsequent active retail license and that license had not been suspended, canceled or revoked within the previous five years.

Proponents: NYC Hospitality Alliance

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 141-5

Allows Licensed Cannabis Distributors to File Cannabis Excise Tax Annually**S.9359 (Cooney, Hinchey) / A.10196 (Lupardo)**

This bill allows licensed cannabis distributors to elect to file the adult-use cannabis distribution level excise tax annually, through an electronic return, instead of having to file quarterly. Licensed distributors are responsible for collecting the distribution-level excise tax on adult-use cannabis of nine percent when they sell product to licensed retailers.

Proponents: NY Cannabis Retail Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 52-9 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Stec, Tedisco, Weber)

Assembly Vote: 117-27

Allows for Cannabis Showcase Event Permits**S.9679A (Hinchey, Cooney) / A.10398A (Lupardo)**

This bill authorizes the Cannabis Control Board to issue cannabis showcase event permits to retail licensees, in partnership with licensed cultivators or processors, to sell and promote adult-use cannabis away from their licensed location at farmer's markets and public markets.

Proponents: NY Cannabis Retail Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 46-15 (Ashby, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Palumbo, Rhoads, Ortt, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 103-38

Expands the List of Possible Representatives at the Division of Tax Appeals**S.9713 (Gounardes) / A.10222 (Fahy)**

This Departmental bill expands the individuals who can serve as a representative on behalf of a petitioning taxpayer who petitions the Division of Tax Appeals. These new individuals that are allowed to represent a petitioner include any adult designated by the taxpayer, including but not limited to a family member, and a registered tax preparer.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Fair Housing Enforcement Measures and Penalties****S.532 (Thomas, Harckham, Kavanagh, Mannion, May) / A.5956 (Solages)**

This bill gives the Commissioner of the Division of Human Rights the authority to award compensatory damages to victims of violations of the State fair housing laws. The proposal also authorizes the Attorney General to assess civil penalties against entities in violation of the State's fair housing laws.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 48-10 (Borrello, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: None

**Directs the Committee on Open Government to Conduct a Proactive Disclosure Study
S.623 (Kavanagh, Addabbo, May, Webb) / A.1436 Rozic**

This bill directs the Committee on Open Government to study proactive disclosure as a means to increase transparency and access to public information and requires the study, and requires an accompanying report on the findings of the study, be submitted to the Executive and the Legislature no later than January 31, 2026.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Allows for Electronic Signing of Tax Documents by Those with Power of Attorney
S.758 (Liu, Fernandez) / A.182 (Magnarelli)**

This bill allows a person who has been granted power of attorney by a taxpayer following the procedures established by the Department of Tax and Finance and the New York City Department of Finance to have the ability to use an electronic signature. Such a signature will have the same validity as a physical signature, and if required by law may also be acknowledged by a Notary.

Proponents: NY Society of CPAs; Notaries

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Restrict Insurrectionists from Office Taking (RIOT) Act
S.888 (Hoylman-Sigal, Sanders) / A.3289 (Bores)**

This bill adds a conviction of rebellion or insurrection against the authority of the United States or the laws thereof under 18 U.S.C. Section 2383 to the list of convictions that make an individual permanently ineligible to hold civil office in New York State.

Proponents: Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 42-15 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Lowers In-Person Participation Requirements for Advisory Bodies That Use Videoconferencing for Public Meeting

S.1647A (Hoylman-Sigal, Chu) / A.10276A (Bores)

This bill lowers in-person participation requirements for public meetings of advisory bodies held by videoconferencing to one quarter of the members in addition to the relevant presiding officer.

Proponents: Office of the Manhattan Borough President

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Martins)

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits Discrimination on the Basis of Height or Weight

S.2440B (Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Webb) / A.7170B (Rosenthal L)

This bill adds height and weight to the protected characteristics under the State's Human Rights Law (HRL). Discrimination against individuals based on height or weight would be illegal in areas of employment, obtaining housing, and accessing public places. The proposal exempts discrimination based on height or weight if such preferential treatment is required by federal law or regulation. In the case of amusement parks, they could discriminate based on weight and height when allowing people to use certain rides, but only if those limits are based on reasonable industry safety standards.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 49-8 (Griffo, Helming, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Allows for Limited Retailer to Retailer Sales of Alcoholic Beverages

S.2853A (Skoufis) / A.9112 (Stirpe)

This bill allows on-premises retailers like restaurants and bars to purchase up to an aggregate of twelve bottles of wine or liquor a week from an off-premises retailer. Off-premises retailers are allowed to sell up to 12 bottles on aggregate a week to on-premises retailers.

Proponents: Empire State Restaurant & Tavern Association

Opponents: Liquor and Wine Distributors

Senate Vote: 59-1(Martinez)

Assembly Vote: None

Facial Hair and Religious Attire Anti-Discrimination Protections in Public Accommodations**S.4407 (Fernandez, Brouk, Webb) / A.1312 (Sillitti)**

The bill clarifies and extends the prohibition on workplace discrimination against religious attire and accessories, including facial hair, in the Human Rights Law (HRL) to apply the protection to any place of public accommodation and would also include patrons of places of public accommodation.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Clarifies the Standard for Intentional Discrimination and Retaliation Claims**S.4467C (Mayer, Webb) / A.1396B (Bichotte Hermelyn)**

This bill clarifies that under the Human Rights Law (HRL), intentional discrimination and retaliation claims can succeed if the individual bringing the claim can prove that an unlawful motivation was a motivating factor of the challenged treatment. This bill also clarifies that it is not required to show that the unlawful motivation was the sole motivating factor or a but-for cause of the challenged treatment.

Proponents: National Employment Lawyers Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 54-7 (Ashby, Borello, Helming, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec)

Assembly Vote: None

Awards Attorneys' Fees in Open Government Cases When the Plaintiff Prevails**S.5801A (Liu, Brisport, Fernandez, Gounardes, Skoufis, Webb) / A.5357A (Steck)**

This bill requires the Courts to award reasonable attorneys' fees and litigation costs when an individual prevails against a government body in an open government-based wrongful denial of access proceeding and lowers the requirements for assessment of attorney's fees and litigation costs in successful wrongful denial proceedings.

Proponents: Advocacy for Principled Action in Government, et al; New York Coalition For Open Government; NYPIRG et al;

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 56-3 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Rhoads)

Assembly Vote: None

Feathered Lives Also Count Act**S.7098A (Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Salazar) / A.7808A (Kelles)**

This bill directs the Office of General Services (OGS) to take certain measures during all construction phases of State-owned and, where practicable, State-leased buildings, to prevent bird fatalities resulting from bird collisions. OGS is required to create a design guide for reducing bird fatalities and disseminate it to all state agencies and update it every five years.

Proponents: Audubon; NY League of Conservation Voters; NYSBA Committee on Animals and the Law

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 54-7 (Borrello, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Weber)

Assembly Vote: None

Liquor Licenses for Private Membership Establishments**S.9464 (Gianaris) / A.10381 (Stirpe)**

This bill defines a new type of club, a private membership establishment, and allows such clubs to obtain liquor licenses. Private membership establishments are for-profit entities operated solely for recreational, social, communal workspace or athletic purposes with at least 100 members. These clubs would only be able to serve alcohol to members or guests of members.

Proponents: Soho House New York

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Requires State and Municipal Agencies to Report FOIL Requests to the Committee on Open Government****S.8671A (Hoylman-Sigal, Brisport, Fernandez) / A.9621A (McDonald)**

This bill requires state and municipal agencies that perform governmental or proprietary functions to share with the Committee on Open Government (COOG) their Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request logs which would include information about each request. COOG is required to publish this information online once a year and to publish a report by 2027 that provides FOIL request recommendations to the agencies.

Proponents: Advocacy for Principled Action in Government, et al; City of Syracuse City Auditor; NY Coalition for Open Government; NYPIRG et al; Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly: 144-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**ABC Law Reform Commission Recommendations Omnibus Bill****S.6785B (Skoufis, Jackson, Sepulveda) / A.9244 (Stirpe)**

This omnibus bill includes several proposed changes to the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Law recommended by the temporary State Commission to Study Reform of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law created in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget along with other changes to licensing fee structures and the number of liquor licenses and individual may control not recommended by this Commission. Some of the proposals in this omnibus bill moved independently as stand-alone bills.

Proponents: Empire State Restaurant and Tavern Association

Opponents: New York Alliance of Fine Wine Wholesalers

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction, Procurement and Contracts, and Investigations and Government Operations Committees. *Joint Public Hearing to Examine the Economy, Efficiency, Equitability, and Effectiveness of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's Division of Correctional Industries (aka Corcraft)* (February 12, 2024).

Joint Hearing of the Corporations, Authorities & Commissions and Investigations and Government Operations Committees. *Public Hearing to examine the procedures and practices of the State Liquor Authority, assess recent changes to the Alcoholic Beverage & Control laws, and gather recommendations to improve the efficiency, responsiveness and transparency of the SLA to businesses across the state)* (March 1, 2024).

JUDICIARY

Analyst: Steven Koch
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Jury Service after Felony Conviction**

S.206B (Cleare, Addabbo, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Krueger, Liu, Mannion, May, Myrie, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Ryan, Salazar, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Thomas) / A.1432C (Aubry)

This bill allows a person who has been convicted of a felony to serve on a jury upon completion of their sentence, including any term of imprisonment, probation, or community supervision. Current law imposes a categorical lifetime ban on jury service for convicted felons.

Proponents: NYCLU

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 39-22 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 92-52

Supreme Court Justice Cap Constitutional Amendment

S.5414 (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.5366 (Bores)

Under the State Constitution, there may be no more than one Supreme Court justice for every fifty thousand residents in each of the State's judicial districts. This proposal amends the Constitution to remove that cap. If enacted, the Legislature would be free to add as many Supreme Court justices as it wants.

Proponents: NYC Bar Association, Reinvent Albany, Business Council of NY State

Opponents: Supreme Court Justices Association

Senate Vote: 45-16 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber)

Assembly Vote: 102-45

Digital Replica Contract Protections for Performers**S.7676B (Ramos) / A.8138B (Weinstein)**

This bill, the result of a nationwide agreement between the actors' union and the motion picture industry, mandates protections for performers related to the creation of digital replicas. Under the bill, if a contract authorizes the creation of a digital replica of a performer's voice or likeness, then the contract must, among other things, describe in detail how the replica will be used, and the performer must have been represented by counsel or a labor union.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO, Screen Actors Guild

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Grieving Families Act**S.8485B (Hoylman-Sigal, Ashby, Gallivan, Lanza, Murray, Ortt, Palumbo, Tedisco, Weber) / A.9232B (Weinstein)**

This bill authorizes the recovery of non-economic damages for a wrongful death claim. Under current law, a wrongful death plaintiff may recover only pecuniary damages. This bill expands possible relief to include, among other things, compensation for grief caused by the death of a loved one. The bill also extends the statute of limitations for a wrongful death claim from two to three years after the decedent's death.

Proponents: NYS Trial Lawyers Association, NYPIRG

Opponents: Healthcare Association of NYS

Senate Vote: 51-8 (Borrello, Breslin, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Chu, Cooney, Griffo, Oberacker, Stec)

Assembly Vote: 124-22

New Family and Civil Court Judges**S.9839 (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.10540 (Dais)**

Following a November 2023 joint hearing of the Committees on Judiciary and Children & Families on Family Court operations, the Legislature appropriated \$12 million to create new Family Court judgeships across the State. This bill implements that appropriation. The bill creates 12 new Family Court judgeships outside of New York City and 16 Family and Civil Court judgeships in New York City. The Office of Court Administration intends to assign the new Civil Court judges to the Family Court.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 53-8 (Borrello, Helming, Lanza, O'Mara, Ortt, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco)

Assembly Vote: 129-15

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

Minimum Education Requirements for Judges of High-Volume Justice Courts

S.139C (Ryan) / A.1358C (Thiele)

This bill requires judges of the busiest Town and Village Courts to be licensed attorneys with at least five years of legal experience. Current law imposes no minimum education requirement on Town and Village Court judges except for a basic training course administered by the Office of Court Administration. Under this bill, judges in high-volume courts must be admitted to practice for at least five years. A court is high volume if it is in the top 100 of Town and Village Courts by caseload as determined by OCA in consultation with the Division of Criminal Justice Services.

Proponents: NYS Bar Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 44-15 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Cameras in Courtrooms

S.160B (Hoylman-Sigal, Ramos, Webb) / A.712B (Weprin)

This bill permits audio-visual recording and still photography of proceedings in most of the State's trial and appellate courts. Under the bill, journalists may record judicial proceedings subject to the discretion of the presiding judge, who may limit AV coverage to ensure safety and the fair administration of justice. Some matters, including cases in Family Court, may not be recorded.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany, National Press Photographers Association

Opponents: Chief Defenders Association of New York, NYS Defenders Association

Senate Vote: 57-2 (Martinez, Scarcella-Spanton)

Assembly Vote: None

Constitutional Amendment to Ban Forced Prison Labor

S.225C (Myrie, Bailey, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Krueger, May, Mayer, Parker, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Stavisky, Webb) / A.3412C (Epstein)

This concurrent resolution amends the State Constitution to prohibit involuntary prison labor. Under the proposal, no incarcerated individual may be "compelled or induced to to provide labor against his or her will by actual or threatened force[.]" The Thirteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits slavery unless it is "punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted[.]" State law, meanwhile, currently allows the State to compel prisoners to work for the benefit of the State and local governments. Prisoners are typically paid pennies per hour for their labor.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 48-13 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco ,Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Judicial Financial Disclosure Publication

S.1571 (Gianaris, Thomas, Breslin, Brisport, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, May, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Sepúlveda, Stavisky) / A.7739 (Simon)

This bill requires the court system to publish judges' annual financial disclosure forms on the internet. Under current law, legislators and judges must file annual financial disclosures, but only legislator disclosure forms are published online.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Bar Application Criminal History Question
S.1646 (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.2184 (Dinowitz)**

This bill limits the ability of the court system to ask aspiring attorneys about their criminal history. As part of the current bar application, the court system asks candidates if they have ever been “arrested, taken into custody, charged with, indicted, [or] convicted” of “any felony or misdemeanor or the violation of any law,” even if the relevant criminal matter is sealed. Under this bill, a bar applicant must disclose a criminal case only if it is pending or if it is not otherwise sealed.

Proponents: NYS Bar Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 39-21 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Voluntary Gun Purchase Waiver Program
S.2086A (Kavanagh) / A.565A (Paulin)**

This bill establishes a voluntary gun purchase waiver program. Under the bill, a person who is at risk of self-harm or other dangerous behavior may waive their right to purchase a gun by filing a waiver form with the State Division of Police. The waiver may be revoked at any time, subject to a 21-day waiting period.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 46-15 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Judicial Conduct Commission Reform
S.4398 (Hoylman-Sigal, Gianaris, Ryan) / A.4908 (Lavine)**

This bill expands the powers of the Commission on Judicial Conduct. Most notably, it expands the Commission's jurisdiction to investigate and sanction judges who leave office during ongoing misconduct investigations. Under current law, the Commission typically loses its jurisdiction over judges who leave State service even if an investigation is pending. The bill also unseals Commission records that, under current law, are typically confidential, and it grants the Commission independence from the governor when preparing its annual budget request.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

Champerty Reform/Distressed Sovereign Debt Relief**S.5623A (Krueger, Brisport, Cleare, Harckham, Ramos, Salazar) / A.5290A (Gonzalez-Rojas)**

When foreign countries issue debt, the debt contracts are often governed by New York law. New York City is the world's preeminent hub for sovereign debt transactions, and New York law takes on global significance when disputes arise. This bill addresses sovereign debt in two ways. First, it brings foreign sovereigns under the protection of New York's "champerty" statute. Second, it reduces the post-judgment interest rate for claims arising out of sovereign debt. Both measures are meant to protect indebted (typically poor or developing) countries from so-called "vulture funds," investors that buy distressed sovereign debt at a steep discount and then litigate aggressively to extract as much money from the debtor country as possible.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Lieutenant Joseph Banish Mental Health Act**S.6709B (Skoufis, Gallivan, Gounardes, Martins, Mayer, Ramos, Rolison)/A.1310C (Sillitti)**

This bill creates a new testimonial privilege for communications between police and "peer support specialists." A peer support specialist is a police officer who 1) receives special training in counseling; and 2) is designated by their police department to help fellow officers confront mental health problems related to their work. The goal is to encourage police to seek help from their colleagues without fear that what they say might later be revealed or used against them.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Nomination Lobbying Disclosure**S.7883 (Gianaris, Brisport, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal) / A.8618 (McDonald)**

This bill requires disclosure of lobbying activities concerning appointments to Senate-confirmed State positions. Current law requires lobbyists and lobbying clients to disclose information about attempts to influence legislation and other government activity, but the law does not reach attempts to influence appointments of high State officials, such as commissioners of State agencies and judges of the Court of Appeals. This bill closes that loophole.

Proponents: Citizens Union, Common Cause, NYPIRG, League of Women Voters, Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 44-17 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Sepúlveda, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Criminal Court Opinion Transparency Act**S.9674 (Gianaris)/A.10394 (Wallace)**

This bill requires the judiciary's Law Reporting Bureau to collect and publish trial court opinions on specified criminal matters. The bill's publication mandate applies to, among other things, orders on motions to suppress, motions to dismiss an indictment, and other similar (and often case-determinative) motions. The bill also imposes new data collection and reporting mandates on the Office of Court Administration concerning criminal court judges and defendants.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany, Scrutinize, NYCLU, BetaNYC, Common Cause, NY News Publishers Association

Opponents: None available

Senate Vote: 42-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Martins, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Lead-Based Paint Disclosure Act**

S.2353 (Kavanagh, Bailey, Breslin, Brouk, Cleare, Cooney, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, Mannion, May, Myrie, Parker, Rivera, Ryan, Salazar, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Skoufis) / A.4820 (Rivera)

This bill requires the seller of residential real property to certify to any prospective buyer that the property has been tested for lead paint. The seller must provide the certification, plus a copy of test results, to the seller before any sale contract is signed. The bill separately requires a landlord to disclose lead-based paint test results to residential tenants.

Proponents: Clean and Healthy New York, Coalition to Prevent Lead Poisoning, Environmental Advocates of New York, New York League of Conservation Voters, New York Sustainable Business Council, Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation, PUSH Buffalo, The Children's Defense Fund-New York, WE ACT For Environmental Justice.

Opponents: NYS Association of Realtors, Rent Stabilization Association.

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 97-47

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Employment Discrimination Remittitur**

S.17A (Gounardes, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Hoylman-Sigal, Myrie, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sepúlveda) / A.2865A (Seawright)

This bill modifies the standard by which courts evaluate whether jury awards are excessive in employment discrimination cases. Under current law, an appellate court must consider whether a jury award "deviates materially from what would be reasonable compensation." That standard requires the court to look at how other courts have historically handled claims involving similar facts. Under this bill, a court hearing an employment discrimination claim must presume that a jury award is correct. A court may reduce a jury award only if the complaining party proves by "clear and convincing evidence" that the jury was influenced by partiality, prejudice, mistake or corruption, and that remittitur is necessary to avoid "a complete miscarriage of justice."

Proponents: National Employment Lawyers Association- NY Chapter, NYS Trial Lawyers Association, Legal Aid Society, Sexual Harassment Working Group

Opponents: None available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Senate Standing Committees on Judiciary and Children and Families. *To conduct oversight of the Family Court throughout the State, including its resources, operations, and outcomes.* (Nov. 1, 2023)

LABOR

Analyst: Rachel Eisenberg
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Requires Training to Reduce Public Workplace Bullying and Abusive Conduct

S.3065B (Ramos, Brouk, Cooney, Jackson, Rivera) / A.8934A (Bronson)

This bill requires public employers to conduct training to reduce abusive conduct and bullying in the workplace. Under the provisions of this bill, every public employer is required to evaluate its workplace or workplaces to determine the presence of factors or situations in such workplace or workplaces that might place employees at risk of occupational assaults and homicides. Every public employer with at least twenty full time permanent employees is further required to develop and implement a written workplace violence prevention program for its workplace or workplaces.

Proponents: The Public Employees Federation (PEF)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 53-4 (Borrello, Oberacker, Murray, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 142-2

Establishes the Warehouse Worker Injury Reduction Program

S.5081C (Ramos, Addabbo, Breslin, Brisport, Chu, Comrie, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Mannion, May, Parker, Rivera, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Webb) / A.8907A (Bronson)

This bill establishes the Warehouse Worker Injury Reduction program which requires employers to establish an injury reduction program designed to identify and minimize the risks of musculoskeletal injuries among workers who perform manual tasks in warehouse settings.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO; New Yorkers for a Fair Economy (NYFE)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 50-12 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Oberacker, Palumbo, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 141-0

Retention of Certain Call Center Workers

S.6328B (Ramos, Breslin, Brouk, Chu, Cleare, Cooney, Fernandez, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Martinez, Rivera, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Serrano, Skoufis, Webb) / A.8939B (Bronson)

This bill requires that when political subdivisions of New York State decide to procure new contracts for call center services, they must require bidders to agree to retain the existing workforce for a period of 90 days during which the employees may demonstrate their fitness for continued employment.

Proponents: Communications Workers of America Union (CWA)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 46-12 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber)

Assembly Vote: 142-3

Extends PTSD Coverage to all Workers Under Workers' Compensation

S.6635 (Ramos, Jackson, Skoufis, Webb) / A.5745 (Reyes)

In many cases where a worker is claiming injury based on extraordinary work-related stress, the Workers' Compensation Board will automatically disallow the claim if there is a factual finding that the stress was not greater than that which usually occurs in the normal work environment.

The workers' compensation law was amended in 2017 to provide that this test cannot disallow a claim if the claim was made by a police officer, firefighter, EMT, paramedic, or other emergency medical care provider or dispatcher if the claim was rooted in a work-related emergency. This bill prohibits such a test for all workers and permits claims for stress related injuries, such as PTSD, to be heard through the normal process without being immediately disallowed if the stress was not greater than that which usually occurs in the normal work environment.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO, PEF

Opponents: New York Insurance Association, National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB)

Senate Vote: 40-18 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rollison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 101-44

Establishes the Retail Worker Safety Act

S.8358C (Ramos, Brisport, Chu, Cleare, Cooney, Fernandez, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, Mayer, Rivera, Salazar, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Webb) / A.8947C (Reyes)

This bill establishes the Retail Worker Safety Act, which requires the Department of Labor to create a model workplace violence prevention training program to be utilized by employers. Every employer of at least 10 retail workers is required to conduct violence prevention training at the time of hire and annually thereafter. This bill also requires every employer of 500 or more retail employees nationwide to provide access to panic buttons in the workplace.

Proponents: The Retail, Wholesale, and Department Store Union (RWDSU)

Opponents: The Retail Council of New York State

Senate Vote: 41-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rollison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 102-43

Electronic Certified Payroll System For Prevailing Wage Projects

S.8608A (Ramos, Chu, Cleare, Hoylman-Sigal, Parker, Sanders, Skoufis, Webb) / A.9265A (Bronson)

This bill creates an electronic certified payroll system applicable to all prevailing wage projects and requires contractors and subcontractors working on covered projects to submit their payrolls or transcripts to the Department of Labor or, in the case of New York City, the City Comptroller. fiscal officer.

Proponents: North Atlantic States Regional Council of Carpenters (NASRCC); New York State Building and Construction Trades Council (NYS BCTC)

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE

Annual Sick Leave for Domestic Workers

S.1801 (Ramos, Comrie, Fernandez, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson) / No Same As

This bill requires all employers of one or more domestic workers to provide such domestic workers with paid sick leave.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rollison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Wage Theft Attachment Act

S.7539 (Ramos, Bailey, Brisport, Comrie, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, Mayer, Myrie, Rivera, Salazar, Serrano, Stavisky, Webb) / A.7752 (Rosenthal)

This bill provides that an order of attachment may be granted in an action where the plaintiff (worker) would be entitled to a money judgment against a defendant (employer) when the cause of action is based on wage theft claims, and allows employees to hold corporation shareholders personally liable for wage theft.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 40-22 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Fernandez, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rollison, Stec, Tedisco, Walczyk, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Increases and Expands Temporary Disability Insurance (TDI)

S.9840 (Ramos, Cooney) / A.10561 (Solages)

This bill increases the weekly TDI benefit over a five year period, tied to the New York State Average Weekly Wage (SAWW), to eventually align with the Paid Family Leave (PFL) program. This bill also provides temporary PFL coverage for birthing parents who experience stillbirth in order while the TDI benefit is phased in. This bill also provides that TDI benefits may be taken in daily increments.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO; The New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU); A Better Balance

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 55-5 (Borrello, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec)

Assembly Vote: None

**The Wage Payment Integrity Act
S. 4973A (Gounardes)/A5348-A (Simon)**

This bill enacts the Wage Payment Integrity Act to amend provisions of the labor law to specify that the definition of wages also includes any form of compensation such as a bonus not payable at the employer's sole and absolute discretion. This bill has been introduced in response to courts holding that the definition of "wages" in Section 190 of the Labor Law does not include bonuses, even if promised ahead of time by the employer, so long as the bonus can be tied to any factor other than the individual employee's performance. This bill seeks to require that, if the bonus is truly discretionary, the employer must notify the employee in a clear, prominent, uncontradicted manner that such compensation is only payable, if at all, in the employer's sole and absolute discretion.

Proponents: Catholic Migration Services;National Employment Law Project;NELA NY;

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Misappropriation of Payroll Funds
S.7205 (Comrie)/A.3280 (Dinowitz)**

This bill establishes a Class E felony, punishable by up to four years in prison, for misappropriation of payroll funds. A person would commit this crime by intentionally preventing funds that are designated for payroll or payroll taxes from being used for this purpose. The person must know that the funds are so designated.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY**Includes Certain Off-Site Custom Fabrication Projects as Public Works****S.5475B (Jackson, Addabbo, Chu, Comrie, Fernandez, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Kavanaugh, Krueger, Mattera, Mayer, Palumbo, Parker, Ramos, Serrano, Skoufis, Stavisky, Weik) / A.373B (Bronson)**

This bill provides that contractors or subcontractors engaged in custom fabrication will not be regarded as material suppliers, and therefore will receive the same prevailing wage rates as laborers, workers, and mechanics working on the same project. The bill further requires that contractors who employ workers off-site for work on a public work project must maintain certified payrolls to the contracting agency at least once every thirty days.

Proponents: Mason Tenders District Council of Greater New York; NYS Council of the Sheet Metal Workers; Plumbers and Gasfitters Local No. 1

Opponents: National Electrical Contractors Association; MTA

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 131-14

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Restricts the use of Automated Employment Decision Tools****S.7623C (Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson) / A.9315B (Alvarez)**

This bill requires that an impact assessment be conducted and notice to employees and candidates must be given before an employer may use an Automated Employment Decision Tool (AEDT) to screen candidates or make any employment decision which affects hiring, wages, benefits and other compensation, work schedules, performance evaluations, discipline, promotion, termination, assignment of work, access to work opportunities, and workplace health and safety. All public and private employers of more than 100 employees are subject to the provisions of this bill.

Proponents: National Employment Lawyers Association; New York Civil Liberties Union; Surveillance Technology Oversight Project

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

**Lowers the Suspension Period for Striking Workers
S.9460 (Ramos) / A.1443A (Wallace)**

This legislation reduces the "suspension period" from two weeks to one week in order for striking workers to be eligible for unemployment benefits.

Proponents: AFL-CIO; Hotel Trades Council; Communications Workers of America Union (CWA)

Opponents: National Federation of Independent Businesses (NFIB)

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Hearing of the Senate Standing Committee on Labor. *To discuss the current state of workers compensation and to bring light to areas for improvement (May 15, 2024).*

LIBRARIES

Analyst: Maria Morrissey
(518) 455-2714

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Restructures Library Construction Aid for Libraries in Economically Disadvantaged Communities****S.7093A (Chu) / A.9076A (Santabarbara)**

This bill restructures the library construction aid for library systems serving economically distressed communities and economically disadvantaged communities, by combining both levels of need into one which may receive total project costs of up to 90%, and removes the 50% total construction aid cap for these communities, enabling these libraries to substantially fund construction projects.

Proponents: State Education Department

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 146-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY**Freedom To Read Act****S6350B (May, Chu, Comrie, Harckham, Hinchey, Webb) / A.6873B (O'Donnell)**

This bill requires the Commissioner of Education, through its current authority to establish rules over the management of public school libraries, to include policies to ensure that school libraries and library staff are empowered to curate and develop collections that provide students with access to the widest array of developmentally appropriate materials available to such school districts. This bill further provides that it is the function of school library systems to ensure that school libraries and library staff are empowered to curate and develop collections that provide students with access to the widest array of developmentally appropriate materials available to participating schools.

Proponents: NYSUT

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 53-4 (Borello, Murray, O'Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

**Regulates Contracts Between Libraries and Publishers for Electronic Materials
S.6868A (Chu, Fernandez, May, Ryan, Scarcella-Spanton) / A.6873B (Santabarbara)**

This bill allows library access to electronic books and digital audiobooks by regulating requirements for contracts between libraries and publishers for access to electronic literary material pursuant to unfair and deceptive practices.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Analyst: David Bissember
518-455-2848

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Limits Interest Rate on Delinquent Property Taxes****S.967A (Ryan, Harckham) / A.1489A (Thiele)**

This bill limits the delinquent property tax interest rates imposed by municipalities to between 2% and 16% based on the prime interest rate.

Proponents: None

Opponents: New York State Conference of Mayors; New York State Association of Counties

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 96-45

Requires Consideration of Onsite Child Daycare Facilities in IDA Uniform Tax Exemption Policies**S.2498A (Mannion) / A.5248A (Hunter)**

This bill requires consideration of the inclusion of onsite daycare facilities when evaluating payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) projects, as part of industrial development agencies' (IDAs) uniform tax exemption policies.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 140-1

Neighboring Municipality Update to Volunteer Firefighter and Ambulance Real Property Tax Exemption**S.2862A (Martinez, Ashby, Borrello, Cooney, Harckham, Helming, Hinchey, Mattera, Rhoads, Weber) / A.2121A (Stern)**

This bill authorizes municipalities to offer the volunteer firefighter and ambulance worker real property tax exemption to fire and ambulance volunteers who live in one municipality but serve in neighboring municipalities.

Proponents: New York State Association of Counties (2022)

Opponents: 2023 New York State School Boards Association (Amendment Requested)

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Requires Municipalities to Maintain Websites

S.3353A (Skoufis, Fernandez) / A.2852A (Zebrowski)

This bill requires municipalities to maintain local, municipal websites.

Proponents: Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 53-6 (Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Helming, Oberacker, Rhoads)

Assembly Vote: 96-49

Requires the Due Dates on Tax Statements for Installment Plans

S.3604A (Webb) / A.7813A (Shimsky)

This bill requires assessing units that authorize installment plans for the payment of real property taxes to include the due dates on tax statements mailed to taxpayers.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Amends IDA Membership Composition

S.4040B (Mayer, Skoufis) / A.7532B (Solages)

This bill changes the membership composition of industrial development agency (IDA) boards by requiring at least one member to be from a local labor organization and at least one school board representative or superintendent of a school district, or a school district designee.

Proponents: AFL-CIO; CSEA; NYS School Boards Association

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Adds Lakes to Adopt-a-Municipal Park, Shoreline or Roadway Programs

S.4636 (May) / A.4563 (Stirpe)

This bill permits lakes to be included in adopt-a-municipal park, shoreline, or roadway programs.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Palumbo)

Assembly Vote: 148-0

Green Roof Tax Abatement for NYC**S.6409A (Liu, Hoylman-Sigal) / A.6901A (Rozic)**

This bill extends and amends the Green Roof Tax Abatement in New York City.

Proponents: New York City Office of the Mayor; NY League of Conservation Voters; Riverkeeper, et al; The Nature Conservancy; NYC Soil and Water Conservation District (2023)

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 136-0

Climate Change Property Tax Relief Act**S.7515A (Stewart-Cousins, Helming, Jackson, May) / A.7748B (Shimsky)**

This bill gives the local option to provide additional real property tax relief to property owners in eligible municipalities whose properties were impacted by significant forces of nature.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

Use of Monies from the Water Quality Restoration Fund**S.8473 (Martinez) / A.8993 (Thiele)**

This bill amends the revenue distribution of the Suffolk County Water Quality Restoration Act (TEDE Part TT of the 2023-2024 Adopted Budget), after deducting administrative and planning costs, by requiring the remaining 50% of collected revenues be dedicated to funding individual septic systems and 50% be dedicated to funding projects related to wastewater treatment facilities. This bill further clarifies that of the 25% of the County Drinking Water Protection Program revenues that are apportioned for sewer taxpayer protection, a portion of the net collections must be transferred to the Water Quality Restoration Fund to fund individual septic system projects. Prior to enactment of this law, there was a requirement of 75% of annual collected revenues to fund individual septic system projects.

Proponents: NY League of Conservation Voters; Save the Sound; The Nature Conservancy;

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-1 (Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Chapter 118

Property Tax Exemption for Public and Non-Profit Municipal Fiber Optic Broadband Companies in Erie County
S.8978A (Ryan) / A.9964A (Rivera)

This bill provides a real property tax exemption for public fiber optic broadband companies and infrastructure in Erie County.

Proponents: None
Opponents: None
Senate Vote: 61-0
Assembly Vote: 136-4

Reduces Down Payment Amount and Increases Duration of Installment Plans for Delinquent Taxes in the City of Mount Vernon
S.9047 (Bailey) / A.9939 (Pretlow)

This bill reduces the down payment to 10% of delinquent taxes and increases the duration period for installment plans in the City of Mount Vernon.

Proponents: None
Opponents: None
Senate Vote: 59-1 (Skoufis)
Assembly Vote: 140-0

Period of Probable Usefulness for Zero-Emission School Buses
S.9292A (Mayer, Mannion) / A.9238A (Woerner)

This bill reduces the period of probable usefulness of zero-emission school buses from 12 years to eight years, which allows districts to continue receiving school aid for shorter term leases or financing agreements.

Proponents: NYS Educational Conference Board; NYS School Boards Association
Opponents: None
Senate Vote: 59-0
Assembly Vote: 135-10

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Directs the State Board of Real Property Tax Services to Conduct a Study on Real Property Tax Saturation****S.60 (Harckham) / A.309 (Burdick)**

This bill directs the State Board of Real Property Tax Services to conduct a study on real property tax saturation (the impact of high percentages of tax exempt real property in municipalities).

Proponents: None (New York State School Boards Association - No Position)

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Expands Eligibility for the SONYMA Low Interest Rate Program**S.935 (Kennedy, Borrello, Helming, Hinchey) / A.379 (Cruz)**

This bill expands eligibility for the State of New York Mortgage Agency (SONYMA) Low Interest Rate Program for graduates of post-secondary education or a comparable apprenticeship or workforce training programs, for a period of seven years after graduation.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Permanent Extension of the Presumption Related to Lung Disease Under the Volunteer Firefighters' Disability Law**S.1176 (Harckham) / A.5364 (Levenberg)**

This bill permanently extends provisions creating a presumption relating to certain lung disabilities incurred by volunteer firefighters. It is currently scheduled to expire June 30, 2025.

Proponents: New York State Association of Fire Chiefs; Association of Fire Districts of the State of New York

Opponents: New York State Conference of Mayors

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Prevents Elected Officials from Serving on IDA Boards

S.1716 (Skoufis, Krueger, Mattera, Mayer) / A.255 (Magnarelli)

This bill prohibits certain local elected officials from being a member of the local industrial development agency (IDA) board.

Proponents: None

Opponents: New York State Conference of Mayors

Senate Vote: 51-9 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Martins, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Rolison, Ryan)

Assembly Vote: None

Notice Requirement on Changes to a Health Insurance Plan for Retirees

S.2690 (Breslin) / No Same As

This bill requires 45-day prior notice of a change in health insurance contracts for retired officers, employees, and their families.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Training Requirements for Sheriffs and Undersheriffs

S.2695B (Harckham, Webb) / A.7086A (Jones)

This bill clarifies that elected and appointed sheriffs and undersheriffs do not have to comply with municipal police officer training requirements.

Proponents: NYS Sheriff's Association (2023); Undersheriff of Chemung County

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Brisport)

Assembly Vote: None

Authorizing Property Taxes on For-Profit Businesses Operating on Tax-Exempt Land

S.2774A (Skoufis, Gounardes, Krueger) / A.6328A (Thiele)

This bill allows municipalities to impose property taxes on for-profit businesses operating on tax-exempt land.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-16 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Helming, Lanza, Mannion, Mattera, Murray, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Closes the "Tourism Loophole"**S.2863 (Martinez, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill closes the "tourism loophole," which allows retail businesses (i.e., car dealerships and self-storage facilities) to receive tax benefits originally intended to enhance tourism destinations.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 45-15 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Matins, Murray, Oberacker, Ortt, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber)

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Notification to Adjacent Municipalities Under Certain Circumstances**S.3409 (Skoufis, Harckham) / A.2830 (Zebrowski)**

This bill requires that a municipality notify adjacent municipalities of any public hearings scheduled for the purpose of enacting a new local law or zoning ordinance that concerns property situated within 500 feet of those bordering jurisdiction(s).

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 43-19 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Matins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Declares Emergency Medical Services an Essential Service and Provides for Additional Training and Regional Planning**S.4020C (Mayer, Hinchey, Chu, Fernandez, Kavanagh, Martinez, May, Persaud, Skoufis, Webb) / A.3392C (Otis)**

This bill defines EMS as essential services, expands the benefits available to emergency medical services personnel and sets standards for emergency medical services.

Proponents: New York State Association of Counties; NYS Volunteer Ambulance & Rescue Association, District 7; UNYAN

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Expands Training Time for Open Meetings Law Compliance for Local Municipalities**S.8410A (Mayer) / A.9988A (Otis)**

This bill increases the training time for local municipal officials in relation to providing Open Meetings Law training.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-1 (Gallivan)

Assembly Vote: None

Expands Training Time for Environmentally Conscious Planning Training for Local Municipalities

S.8931 (Hinchey) / A.10239 (Clark)

This bill requires municipal planning boards and zoning boards of appeals to receive an additional hour of training on environmentally conscious planning.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Next Generation 911 System

S.4583A (Martinez) / A.5942A (Jean-Pierre)

This bill amends the County Law to create the next generation 911 system, an emergency services internet protocol network. It would be subject to appropriation.

Proponents: New York State Association of Counties

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

MENTAL HEALTH

Analyst: Jamie Salm
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Establishes the Rural Suicide Prevention Council****S.3587A (Helming, Brouk, May, Webb) / A.7188 (Gunther)**

This bill establishes a Rural Suicide Prevention Council that will examine, evaluate, and determine how to improve mental health, substance use treatment, and suicide prevention in rural areas of the state. The Council will identify vulnerable populations in rural areas, including farm and agricultural workers, and the prevalence of suicide within them, as well as policies, practices, resources, and services available that aim to reduce suicide and suicide attempts while acknowledging the demographic and cultural differences of rural communities.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 140-0

Creates the Definition of and Qualifications for Peer Advocate Title Series**S.9787 (Brouk) / A.7395 (Darling)**

This bill defines the terms Mental Health Peer, Family Peer Advocate, Youth Peer Advocate, New York State Certified Peer Specialist, Credentialed Family Peer Advocate, and Credentialed Youth Peer Advocate. The bill also expands the Office of Mental Health's (OMH) scope of responsibilities in training these individuals to work within the OMH system. OMH is directed to train and qualify individuals to service in this capacity and allow the Commissioner to approve peer credentialing programs for this purpose.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Requires Identifying Barriers to Participation in Geriatric Service Demonstration Program
S.5516A (Brouk, Mannion, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill allows the Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the Department of Health (DOH) to waive the rules or regulations of OMH or DOH if the Commissioners deem them to create barriers to collaboration by mental health providers and providers of home care services, including barriers related to Medicaid reimbursement, service procedures, care coordination and direct care worker training applicable to the providers. Regulations that affect or put patient safety at risk cannot be waived.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Prohibits Automation of Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Hotlines
S.7776 (Serrano, Webb) / A.3944 (Jackson)**

This bill directs the Commissioner of Mental Health to promulgate rules and regulations prohibiting any suicide prevention or mental health services hotline operated or sponsored by the state from being automated.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Establishes the Black Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force
S.8659 (Brouk, Jackson, Kennedy, May, Sepúlveda, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill establishes a Black Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force that will examine, evaluate, and determine how to improve mental health and suicide prevention for Black New York residents between the ages of five and 18. The Task Force will study current mental health practices and suicide prevention efforts, recommend mental health practices and suicide prevention efforts for the age group to increase effectiveness across the State, and identify potential reasons for the high number of Black youth suicides.

Proponents: Legal Aid Society; New York State Coalition for Children's Behavioral Health

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the Latina Suicide Prevention Task Force**S.8488 (Fernandez, Addabbo, Martinez, Ramos, Webb) / A.9637 (Davila)**

This bill establishes a Latina Suicide Prevention Task Force to examine, evaluate, and determine how to improve mental health and suicide prevention for Latina New Yorkers. The task force will study current mental health practices and suicide prevention efforts, recommend mental health practices and suicide prevention efforts to increase effectiveness across the State and determine potential reasons for the high number of Latina suicides.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Restricts Access to Court Records Relating to Appointment of a Guardian**S.9017 (Brouk, Harckham, Hinchey) / A.9448 (Thiele)**

This prohibits a court from allowing the disclosure of court records relating to guardianship procedures related to personal needs and/or property management to anyone other than the parties involved, counsel, the appointed guardian, court evaluator, or court examiner except by order of the court. Records will not be available for perusing, examination, disclosure or copied to any other person. The bill also removes a provision that requires the court to inform an incapacitated person that they have a right to have their court records sealed, as all records will preemptively be sealed except for the limited exceptions listed above. In addition, these provisions apply to all past, present and future guardianship proceedings.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Establishes the LGBTQ+ Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force****S.1250 (Salazar, Addabbo, Brisport, Cleare, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, Liu, May, Myrie, Ramos, Sepúlveda, Skoufis) / No Same As**

This bill establishes a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) youth and young adult suicide prevention Task Force that is tasked with examining, evaluating, and determining how to improve mental health and suicide prevention for New York's LGBTQ+ youth and young adults up to age 24. The Task Force will study current mental health practices and suicide prevention efforts, recommend mental health practices and suicide prevention efforts to increase effectiveness across the state and identify potential reasons for the high number of LGBTQ+ youth and young adult suicides.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes a Community Behavioral Health Social Worker Residency Pilot Program**S.8597A (Brouk) / A.9039A (Gunther)**

This bill authorizes the Office of Mental Health to establish a residency pilot program to provide postgraduate clinical social workers with the experience required for licensure as Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW). Under this authorization, the Commissioner of Health is directed to create up to three three-year programs in community behavioral health organizations and develop applicable standards for the programs.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

NEW YORK CITY EDUCATION

Analyst: Maria Morrissey
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Provides a Formula to Increase Transportation Aid to NYC for the Transportation of Nonpublic Students After 4pm****S.9349 (Salazar, Felder, Weber) / A.10274 (Eichenstein)**

This bill provides a formula to increase the state transportation aid to New York City for the transportation of nonpublic students after 4pm.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-2 (Mayer, Liu)

Assembly Vote: 144-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY**Requires All Special Education Students in NYC Schools to be Assigned to New Schools that are Able to Accommodate the Student's Needs Prior to School Closure****S.911A (Liu, Chu) / A.1062A (Epstein)**

This bill requires that all special education students attending schools scheduled to be closed or to undergo a significant change be assigned to new schools that can accommodate the students prior to the implementation of the closing or change.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Includes Citywide Council on High School in the Selection of Certain PEP Members**S.9336A (Liu) / No Same As**

This bill allows the president of the Citywide Council on High Schools to participate in the selection of the members of the board of education elected by the Community Education Council presidents.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-2 (Lanza, Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS

Analyst: Julianna Glassanos
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Requires State Operated Parking Facility Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

S.1535B (Hoylman-Sigal, Brouk, Chu, May, Mayer) / A.4871B (Kelles)

This bill requires the State to provide electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at State-owned and -operated parking facilities which offer at least 50 parking spaces for public, state and employee use, and pay-per-usage.

Proponents: Previously supported by Livingston Energy Group; New York League of Conservation Voters; Alliance for Clean Energy; State Automobile Dealers Association; IBEW; New York State Council of NECA Chapters

Opponents: Previously opposed by National Right to Work Committee

Senate Vote: 51-9 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Lanza, Oberacker, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 109-38

Establishes Endpoint Device Security Procurement Standards

S.5615 (Thomas) / A.2833 (Otis)

This bill mandates the Office of General Services (OGS) and all State agencies to adhere to specific procurement standards for endpoint device security.

Proponents: James Nolan, Westchester County Board of Legislators

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Establishes Alternative Values-Based Procurement Standards for Food Purchase Contracts

S.6955A (Hinchey, Bailey, Cooney, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, May, Myrie, Parker, Ryan, Webb) / A.7264A (Peoples-Stokes)

This bill establishes a set of seven values-based procurement standards for food purchase contracts and allows for a bidding preference of up to 10% for an otherwise qualified bidder who meets at least one of the standards.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: New York Farm Bureau

Senate Vote: 44-16 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 96-49

Requires Exempted and Emergency Contracts Otherwise Subject to OSC Approval to Be Posted Online**S.9171 (Cooney) / A.10281 (Solages)**

This bill requires any state agency, department, board, officer, commission, state authority, or institution to post information on any exempted or emergency contracts on their website within 30 days of executing that contract. OSC must publish the emergency declaration that an emergency contract pertains to, or the provision of law that suspended or exempted the contract from pre-approval if it is an exempted contract.

Proponents: Office of the State Comptroller; Reinvent Albany

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Extends Various Local Cooperative Procurement Authorizations**S.9233 (Cooney) / A.10283 (Conrad)**

This bill extends various General Municipal Law provisions allowing local governments to use cooperative purchasing and piggybacking agreements with respect to IT and telecom purchases and services, allows for piggybacking for various equipment, food products, supplies or services, and allows for locals to make purchases through a county. These authorizations are extended for five years.

Proponents: BOCES; Ulster County Executive

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Contracting Agencies' Three-Year Growth Plan Requirements to Increase MWBE Participation****S.1424A (Bailey, Webb) / A.7810A (Cruz)**

This bill requires State agencies to provide a more detailed three-year growth plan to determine how the agency can increase participation, build capacity, and increase transparency of contracts awarded to Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises (MWBE).

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 50-8 (Borrello, Griffo, Helming, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes a Rebuttable Presumption for MWBE Recertification**S.1687A (Hinchey, Cooney, Fernandez, Parker, Webb) / A.1621B (McDonald)**

This bill establishes a rebuttable presumption for an MWBE seeking recertification. The rebuttable presumption is applied as long as there have not been any changes in the ownership of the enterprise and no material changes have been made in the nature or management of the enterprise since its last certification and they have demonstrated compliance with MWBE regulations.

Proponents: Capital Region Chamber of Commerce

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly Vote: None

New York State Food Product Procurement Goals**S.3125A (Hinchey, Helming, May, Murray, Rolison, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill requires State agencies contracting for the purchase of more than \$50,000 of food or food products pursuant to competitive bidding requirements to set annual local food procurement percentage goals.

Proponents: Previously supported by the Farm Bureau

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires the Submission of a Human Trafficking Statement in Bids**S.4235 (Cleare, Webb) / A.6423 (Solages)**

This bill requires all parties submitting bids for a competitive bid to affirm under penalty of perjury that the goods, work, or services contracted will be supplied or performed without doing business with any organization, person, or entity engaged in human trafficking.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Time Period to Cure Defects in an MWBE Certification Application**S.7836A (Mannion) / A.8468A (Stirpe)**

This bill increases the amount of time that a business seeking MWBE certification has to cure an omission or technical error on its statewide certification application from 30 days to 60 days.

This also applies to MWBEs seeking recertification. This bill also increases the amount of time to request a hearing after a denial.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: None

Reciprocal State and Local MWBE Certification**S.8139A (Sanders, Fernandez, Parker, Webb) / A.10324A (Septimo)**

This bill seeks to facilitate the authorization for State and local governments to enter into reciprocal MWBE certification Memorandums of Understanding (MOU). This bill also provides for the local government and the DMWBD to establish procedures to simultaneously apply for both certifications.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Authorizes Losing Bidders to Receive a Written Debriefing**S.8498A (Comrie) A.10254 (Jackson)**

This bill provides unsuccessful state contract bidders with an opportunity to request a written explanation comparable to a debriefing within 60 days of the bidder's request, and increases the amount of time that a debriefing can be requested from 15 to 30 days after the bid is found unsuccessful.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Authorizes Boards of Education and BOCES to Consider Additional Factors Essential to Safety and Nutrition for Food Service Contracts**S.8781A (Cooney, Webb) / A.9510A (McDonald)**

This bill authorizes boards of education and BOCES to consider factors essential to a safe and nutritious food service program when awarding contracts on behalf of a school district for goods, services, or management within their food service contracts, which would be an alternative to lowest responsible bid being the sole consideration.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Electronic Reporting by Contractors and Subcontractors****S.6979A (Cooney) / A.6505B (McDonald)**

This bill requires contractors and subcontractors to file an electronic annual employment report for each service contract. This bill also requires the electronic report to be searchable and transferable.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Crime Victims, Crime, and Correction, Procurement and Contracts, and Investigations and Government Operations Committees. *Joint Public Hearing to Examine the Economy, Efficiency, Equitability, and Effectiveness of the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision's Division of Correctional Industries (aka Corcraft)* (February 12, 2024).

RACING, GAMING AND WAGERING

Analyst: Paul McCarthy
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Accelerates Downstate Casino Licensing

S.9673A (Addabbo, Parker) / A.10572 (Pretlow)

Places deadlines on the downstate casino license evaluation and award process.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 50-10 (Brisport, Gonzalez, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Lanza, Oberacker, Ramos, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: 140-0

Warning Notices Regarding Gambling's Harmful and Addictive Effects

S.1550 (Comrie, Krueger, Sepulveda) / A.1118 (Vanel)

Requires all advertisements for gambling and sports betting to include warnings about the potential harmful and addictive effects of gambling.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY

Prevents Involuntary Disclosure of Lottery Winners' Identities

S.1807 (Addabbo) / No Same As

Requires the State to keep state lottery winners' identities anonymous unless they consent to their identity being revealed.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 50-10 (Brisport, Gonzalez, Hoylman-Sigal, Krueger, Lanza, Oberacker, Ramos, Salazar, Scarcella-Spanton, Skoufis)

Assembly Vote: No Same As

**Dedicates 1 Percent of Mobile Sports Betting Revenue to Problem Gambling
S.8439 (Addabbo, Fernandez) / A.9082 (Pretlow)**

Requires 1 percent of mobile sports tax revenue to be used for problem gambling, while retaining the current statutory floor on spending.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 59-0

Assembly: Died in Ways and Means

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Dedicates 1 Percent of Mobile Sports Betting Revenue to Youth Sports and 1 Percent to Problem Gambling

S.9236 (Bailey Addabbo) / A.10211 (Pretlow)

Requires 1 percent of Mobile Sports Betting (MSB) tax revenue be used for problem gambling, and 1 percent for youth sports and education funding.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Prohibits Individuals Under Age 21 From Gambling

S.1557 (Addabbo, Krueger) / A.3108 (Pfeffer Amato)

Prohibits individuals under the age of 21 from gambling.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Zoom Forum Regarding Problem Gambling Disorders. (March 12, 2024).

SOCIAL SERVICES

Analyst: Janine Smith
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Requires OTDA to make Waivers, Rental and Shelter Supplement Plans Publicly Available S.9343 (Persaud) / A.10230 (Davila)

This legislation requires the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) to publicly provide information on its website regarding waivers, rental supplement plans, and shelter supplement plans.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

Establishes a Task Force to Study Fiscal Cliffs in New York State's Public Assistance Programs

S.7830A (Persaud) / S8431A (Davila)

This legislation establishes a task force to study fiscal cliffs in the state's public assistance programs and make recommendations on how to reduce and eliminate such fiscal cliffs.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Requires EBT Systems to Include Fraud Detection for Unauthorized Transactions S.8662A (Felder) / A.9269B (Berger)

This legislation would require any interactive voice response system associated with an electronic benefit transfer (EBT) system, to provide benefit recipients with the option to call for assistance or support.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-0

**Relates to the Automated Identification of OTDA Assistance Program Participants
S.9100 (Parker) / A.9522 (Solages)**

This legislation defines water-works corporations as "utility corporations" for purposes of automatic identification of participants in assistance programs through the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) and enables automated identification of participants in water service affordability programs based on OTDA assistance programs. Under the automated identification, OTDA assistance program, households found eligible by the OTDA and confirmed eligible by a utility corporation are automatically enrolled in the company's energy affordability program.

Proponents: Public Utility Law Project

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 141-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

**Earned Income Disregard for Individuals Re-entering the Workforce
S.2144 (Persaud) / A.5875 (Davila)**

This legislation amends the Social Services Law by adding a new category of income that is exempt when a local district is determining an applicant's need for public assistance. This legislation allows individuals who enter the workforce after completing a qualified state or federal job training program to receive a 100% income disregard for a period of six months in order to continue receiving public benefits and earned income.

Proponents: Buffalo Niagara Partnership; The Business Council

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Study on SNAP Benefit Fraud
S.9649 (Chu) / No Same As**

This legislation directs the Commissioner of Social Services to study and report on the prevalence and threat of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefit fraud. A report must be submitted annually to the Governor and the legislature within one-hundred and twenty days of the end of the fiscal year.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

Implements EMV Chips for EBT Cards**S.7823B (Serrano) / A.4096A (Gonzalez-Rojas)**

This legislation directs the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance, to the extent it is not inconsistent with federal law or regulations, to implement commercially available electronic benefits transfer (EBT) systems, including, at a minimum, EMV chip cards, by June 21, 2026. Additionally, this legislation requires any upgrades needed to the EBT system must be done as soon as practicable.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires EBT Websites or Mobile Applications be Offered in New York State's Ten Most Common Non-English Languages**S8917A (Sepulveda) / No Same As**

This legislation requires all companion websites or mobile applications associated with electronic benefit transfer systems that beneficiaries can access must be available in the ten most common non-English languages spoken by individuals with limited English proficiency in the state of New York. This legislation also requires all documents that can be viewed on such companion websites or mobile applications to be available in those languages.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-1 (Ortt)

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes the New York Healthy Incentive Program**S.3069A (Persaud) / A.5880B (Davila)**

This legislation directs OTDA to promulgate rules and regulations and take any actions necessary for the effective creation and implementation of a New York Healthy Incentive Program, which will provide earned dollars for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) beneficiaries to spend on local healthy food that is fresh and nutritious.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Automatically Re-enrollment of Eligible Persons or Households for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program**S.2496 (Mannion) / A.5030**

This legislation would require local social services districts to automatically re-enroll eligible households in the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) every heating season as long as they continue to meet the eligibility requirements. Heating season shall be determined by the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance each year.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

Joint Hearing of the Social Services and Women's Issues Committees. *Hearing to examine whether the current continuum of care is meeting the needs of survivors of gender-based and domestic violence, with pertinent human services agencies, advocates, and service providers.* (October 3, 2023).

TRANSPORTATION

Analyst: Emma Wallach

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES

Requires the New York State Thruway Authority to Submit Biannual Reports of all Fiscal Transactions, Receipts and Expenditures

S.485B (Comrie, Myrie, Webb) / A.573B (Burgos)

This bill requires the Thruway Authority to submit quarterly reports to the Legislature and Governor of all purchases, procurements and expenditures related to contracts they enter into. Currently, the Thruway Authority publishes Annual Procurement and Surplus Activity reports.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 62-0

Assembly Vote: 137-0

Expands Reckless Driving to Include Parking Facilities

S.760B (Liu) / A.402B (Rozić)

This bill amends the reckless driving statute to clarify that reckless driving in or on off-street parking facilities can be prosecuted, similar to the impaired driving laws. Reckless driving in an off-street parking facility is defined as driving or using a motor vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. This legislation defines off-street parking facility as "any off-street facility held open for use by the public for parking vehicles and includes any publicly owned facilities for off-street parking, and privately owned facilities for off-street parking where no fee is charged for the privilege to park and which are held open for the common public use of retail customers."

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-2 (Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, O'Mara)

Assembly Vote: 138-9

Extends & Expands NYC Red Light Camera Program**S.2812A (Gounardes, Bailey, Brisport, Chu, Gianaris, Gonzalez, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Krueger, Liu, Myrie, Parker, Persaud, Ramos, Rivera, Salazar, Sepulveda, Serrano) / A.5259A (Dinowitz)**

This bill expands the City's red light camera program by allowing up to 600 intersections total to be equipped with cameras, which would be a 450-camera increase, and also extends New York's authorization from December 1, 2024 until December 1, 2027. The remainder of the underlying authorization remains unchanged. This includes a cap on the notice of liability fine at \$50, a prohibition on imposing points on a driver's license for red light camera violations and a prohibition from using red light camera adjudications against a driver's insurance, and so on.

Proponents: NYC Office of the Mayor, Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA, Reinvent Albany, Transportation Alternatives, and Families for Safe Streets.

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 41-20 (Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Felder, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 100-40

Requires Compensation for Auto Warranty Work In Line With Generic Time Guides**S.5085C (Kennedy) / A.4066B (Burgos)**

This bill amends the State's motor vehicle franchise law in a variety of ways, most notably to modify the law regarding compensation for warranty parts and labor to be based on a reasonably utilized retail time guide. This bill also expands the areas bound by the franchise agreement to include extended warranties, recalls, diagnostics, parts, and manufacturer-led, voluntary, stop-sell, recall repair work in accordance with the time guide. It also requires the manufacturer to pay for diagnostic work and time that a technician is on the phone with the manufacturer or technical assistance department regarding the warranty repair. The bill also provides reasonable compensation to be defined as the reasonable labor time allowances defined by the retail labor time guide reasonably utilized by a motor vehicle dealer for non-warranty customer paid labor operations.

Proponents: NYS AFL-CIO, IUJAT, Region 9A Local 259, UAW Local 259

Opponents: Alliance for Automotive Innovation, Truck and Engine Manufacturers Association, General Motors

Senate Vote: 59-2 (Borrello, Breslin)

Assembly Vote: 144-6

Establishes the COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act**S.6670A (Sepulveda) / A.6930A (Burgos)**

This bill establishes the Livery For-Hire Vehicle Recovery Act. The bill provides any entity issuing for-hire vehicle licenses shall, for a minimum of one year upon the effective date of this act, allow for the renewal of livery vehicle licenses which expired during the COVID-19 pandemic, under the same vehicle type requirement that existed at the time of expiration. The bill also provides that livery vehicle owners seeking a renewal of an expired license during this open window shall not be penalized by way of additional charges or fees.

Proponents: Livery Roundtable; Livery Base Owners Association

Opponents: Taxi Workers Alliance

Senate Vote: 57-2 (O'Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: 140-4

Requires Minor Passengers to Wear Seatbelts on Charter Buses**S.9361 (Cooney) / A.8557 (Magnarelli)**

This legislation requires that children between eight and 16 years of age wear a seatbelt on charter buses and prohibits them from being passengers unless they are wearing their seatbelt. Violations are subject to a fine of up to \$50, but they would only be issued to the child's parent or guardian if they are present and adults. Children will not receive a violation.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 54-7 (Ashby, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt)

Assembly Vote: 145-0

Mandatory Incident Reporting on the Most Severe Scooter and E-Bike Crashes**S.9419 (Cooney, Addabbo, Chu, Krueger) / A.7628A (Bores)**

This bill modifies the requirements for police reporting in serious physical injury and fatal crashes to provide that incidents involving electric scooters and electric-assist bikes are specified.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

Republic Airport Commission Membership
S.9475 (Martinez) / A.10336 (Jean-Pierre)

This bill updates and simplifies the membership requirements and appointment process for the Republic Airport Commission (RAC). This bill would allow the legislative leaders to submit individual recommendations to the Governor for appointment rather than lists of three candidates, relax the residency requirements for all seats to require residency in Nassau or Suffolk counties, and eliminate the requirement for Senate confirmation.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 36-21 (Ashby, Borello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Palumbo, Rhoads, Rolison, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 99-46

Increases Penalties for Passing a Stopped School Bus While Discharging Passengers
S.9504A (Cooney) / A.3120A (Magnarelli)

Current law establishes penalties for a motor vehicle overtaking and passing a school bus when it is stopped for the purpose of dispatching passengers including that a third or subsequent violation within a three year period is punishable by a fine of \$750-\$1,000 and/or up to 180 days' imprisonment. This bill increases the penalties for a third or subsequent violation by increasing the maximum fine from \$1,000 to \$1,500.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 145-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE SENATE ONLY

Establishes A Process for Surrendering Title to Manufactured Homes
S.101A (Ryan, Hinchey, Kennedy, Webb) / A.1703A (Thiele)

This bill allows owners to convert a manufactured home which is considered personal property to real property when it is affixed to a permanent foundation, and establishes procedures for the conversion to real property. The bill provides for conveying and encumbering a manufactured home as real property, as well as reinstating the certificate of title when the manufactured home that was converted to real property is detached from the real property land.

Proponents: New York Bankers Association, New York Bankers Housing Association, Inc., New York State Land Title Association

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

DMV Notification of Vehicle Inspection Expiration**S.1242 (Felder) / A.1542A (Gunther)**

This bill requires DMV to provide 30 days' notice of the expiration of an annual safety inspection to motor vehicle owners, and creates a five-day grace period for failure to obtain a safety inspection.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 52-10 (Ashby, Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Krueger, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Instruction on Traffic Stops During 5-Hour Course**S.2426 (Persaud, Comrie, Gounardes, Webb) / A.6618 (Simon)**

This legislation requires the five-hour pre-licensing course to include training on a driver's responsibilities when stopped by law enforcement and requires at least one question during the related test. It also requires similar training to be provided during defensive driving course instruction.

Proponents: Police Conference of New York; Suffolk PBA

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Scramble Crosswalks**S.2515C (Ramos, Addabbo, Comrie, Gounardes, Hoylman-Sigal, Liu, May, Parker, Sepulveda, Webb) / A.5001B (Cunningham)**

This bill requires New York City to establish scramble crosswalks between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM on weekdays. A "scramble crosswalk" is defined as a crosswalk with a traffic signal which temporarily stops all vehicular traffic while a pedestrian-control signal indicates that pedestrians should cross the intersection at that time.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Revokes Driver's Licenses for BWI/BWAI**S.5424A (Martinez, Addabbo) / No Same As**

This bill requires a person's driver's license to be suspended if they are convicted of operating a vessel while under the influence of alcohol or drugs and authorizes suspension of their motor vehicle registration.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes an Online Insurance Verification System for Motor Vehicles**S.6534 (Breslin) / A.7535 (Gunther)**

This bill establishes an online insurance verification system for motor vehicle insurance through the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). This legislation also requires any motor vehicle insurers authorized to do business in the State to provide such necessary information to operate the online verification system.

Proponents: DMV; New York Insurance Association, American Property Casualty Insurance Association, and National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Quarterly Inspection Reports for Freight Trains and Rail Yards**S.6921 (Chu, Addabbo, Kennedy, May, Webb) / A.9625 (Eachus)**

This bill requires every railroad corporation which operates any freight train within the state to submit quarterly reports to the Department of Transportation detailing such railroad corporation's inspections of any train yard and freight train operated in the state by such corporation. Further this legislation directs the state Department of Transportation to conduct follow up inspections based on the content of the quarterly reports.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 57-1 (Oberacker)

Assembly Vote: None

**Establishes a Public Central Registry for Freight Train and Rail Reports and Audits
S.6922 (Webb, Addabbo, Kennedy, May) / A.8227 (Levenberg)**

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to establish a publicly available central registry of reports, audits, plans and public inspections regarding freight rail operators, rail cars and freight lines or routes and rights of way. The reports will be maintained and updated by the commission and must include daily inspection reports, safety plans, track inspection reports; and (d) bridge and tunnel certifications.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-2 (Oberacker, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Requires Freight Train Inspection in a Train Yard Prior to Entering the State
S.6923 (Hinchey, Addabbo, Kennedy, May, Webb) / A.10360 (McMahon)**

This bill requires railroad corporations to conduct comprehensive safety inspections when a freight train is parked in a train yard prior to traveling on tracks within the state. Such inspection must include but not be limited to, a review of tracks and a review of safety equipment, including brakes, and train cars. This report will be compared to the inspection prior to the pre-trip inspection by the Department of Transportation. Further this legislation requires that a corporation operating a freight train in the state must have at least two safety inspections on either side of a train as it leaves a rail yard to observe for safety issues.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Railroad Corporations to Provide Hazardous Waste Information Prior to Allowing Freights to Enter the State**S.6924 (Skoufis, Addabbo, Kennedy, May, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill requires railroad corporations to inform the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, the Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Department of Transportation about freight rail trains transporting hazardous materials prior to traveling on tracks within the state and update the hazardous waste manifest.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: None

Follow Up Inspections for Freight Trains and Tracks**S.6926 (Mannion, Addabbo, Kennedy, May, Webb) / No Same As**

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to conduct a follow up inspection of any freight rail train or freight rail tracks within the state conducted by the Federal Railroad Administration that identifies safety-related deficiencies or violations. The follow up inspections will also apply to those deficiencies or violations found during inspections by regulators in neighboring states on routes that will travel through New York.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Freight Rail Safety Task Force**S.6935 (Martinez, Addabbo, Kennedy, May, Webb) / A.9949 (Eachus)**

This bill establishes the freight rail safety task force to review the state of freight rail safety in the state and make necessary safety, policy, and budgetary recommendations. These recommendations will provide officials with the information to make policy changes geared toward minimizing the risk of freight train derailments in New York.

Proponents: None Available

Opponents: None Available

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Requires Registration of Limited Use Motorcycles**S.7860 (Krueger) / A.8052A (Bores)**

This bill prohibits individuals from being in the business of selling limited use motorcycles (mopeds) in the state unless they are registered dealers. This bill also prohibits dealers from acquiring mopeds for resale unless they have a vehicle identification number affixed to their frame by the manufacturer. The bill also allows DMV to promulgate regulations including dealer authentication number plates and raises the civil penalty for operating as an unregistered motor vehicle dealer from the current \$1,000 penalty to a \$2,000 penalty.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 46-11 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Stec, Tedisco, Weber)

Assembly Vote: None

**Authorizes Camera Enforcement Pilot Program for Sanitation Violations
S.8756A (Jackson, Sepulveda, Persaud, Comrie) / A.8902C (Cunningham)**

This legislation authorizes New York City to establish a five-year pilot camera enforcement program to enforce street cleaning parking rules. Similar to bus camera programs, the photo devices would be affixed to the street cleaning vehicles and the cameras would capture images of parked cars in violation of the street cleaning parking rules. Signs will be posted along the street cleaning route notifying vehicle operators that cameras are in use to enforce the street cleaning parking rules. Violators of the street cleaning parking rules will be subject to a fine determined by the NY Parking Violations Bureau, but will be no higher than \$50 per violation in line with most other camera enforcement laws. A violation will not be considered a conviction and will have no impact on an individual's driving record or insurance premiums.

Proponents: NYC Department of Sanitation

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 46-15 (Ashby, Borrello, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Griffo, Helming, Martinez, Martins, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Rhoads, Stec, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

**Extends the Stretch Limousine Passenger Safety Task Force
S.9363 (Cooney) / A.9159 (Magnarelli)**

This bill extends the Stretch Limousine Passenger Safety Task Force's operations by extending the duration of the task force end date from May 31, 2023 to December 21, 2025. Additionally, the bill directs the Task Force to continue to hold any necessary public hearings and/or meetings to review the State's implementation of the original Task Force report recommendations from October 2022.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

**Establishes the New York Road Salt Reduction Council & Advisory Committee
S.9658 (Harckham) / A.10608 (Jones)**

This bill establishes the New York Road Salt Reduction Council and the New York Road Salt Reduction Advisory Committee, similar to the Adirondack Road Salt Reduction Task Force but on a statewide level. The Council and Committee will implement the Adirondack Road Salt Task Force recommendations to protect public health and the environment from contamination by road salt and provide a mechanism for interagency cooperation and coordination to expand the program across the state.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 48-13 (Borrello, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

Expands Complete Streets Law to Include Maintenance Projects
S.9718 (Ryan) / A.1280A (Rivera)

Under current law, transportation projects that are undertaken by the State DOT or funded by federal and state assistance must consider "complete streets" principles wherein they consider all road users - including motorists, pedestrians, cyclists, and public transit users - in engineering decisions. This includes consideration of road design features for all users of all ages, including features like sidewalks, bicycle lanes, bus pull outs, raised crosswalks, and traffic calming measures. At the time, an exception was made to this policy with respect to resurfacing, maintenance, and pavement recycling projects. This bill eliminates the exception for resurfacing, maintenance, and pavement recycling projects, requiring those projects to consider Complete Streets principles as well.

Proponents: Tri-State Transportation Campaign; New York State Bicycling Coalition et al.

Opponents: New York State Association of Town Superintendents of Highways

Senate Vote: 43-17 (Borrello, Gallivan, Griffo, Helming, Lanza, Mattera, Murray, Oberacker, O'Mara, Ortt, Rhoads, Rolison, Skoufis, Stec, Tedisco, Weber, Weik)

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

Vehicle Registration Suspensions for Repeat Red Light Camera Violators
S.451 (Gianaris, Gonzalez, Gounardes, Hoyalman-Sigal, Jackson, Kavanagh, Krueger, Myrie, Salazar, Serrano) / A.7621 (Magnarelli)

Provides for a six-month vehicle registration suspension for vehicles that receive five or more red light camera notices of liability within a year.

Proponents: City of New York Office of the Mayor

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

Parking Adjudication Modifications**S.9734A (Comrie) / A.10567 (Cunningham)**

This legislation makes a variety of changes to facilitate the parking adjudication process, particularly for the New York City Parking Violations Bureau or "PVB" (which is its Department of Finance). It also increases penalties for commercial vehicle-related parking violations, and provides additional options for enforcing parking violations committed by "ghost cars" and cars that use fraudulent paper plates.

Proponents: New York City Department of Finance

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

The 2024-25 Adopted Budget included a host of Article VII legislative changes, including with respect to additional limo safety initiatives, adopting Sammy's Law, providing a new legal presumption to sustain the school bus camera program, and efforts to reduce fare and toll evasion. The respective agencies' and authorities' implementation of these new laws will continue to be monitored.

Similarly, a host of two-house bills are expected to be adopted with respect to lithium ion batteries used in micro mobility devices like e-scooters and electric-assist bikes. These will similarly be monitored after enactment.

HEARINGS OR FORUMS

Public Hearing: To examine passenger rail within New York State, the "90B" rail improvement plan adopted by the State Department of Transportation, areas for service improvement, and the possible adoption of high-speed rail. *To examine the state of intercity passenger rail in New York State.* (January 29, 2024).

VETERANS, HOMELAND SECURITY, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Expands Eligibility Under the Veterans Tuition Award Program****S.8596A (Scarcella-Spanton)/ A.9205A (Buttenschon)**

This bill expands eligibility under the Veterans Tuition Awards Program to include all New York resident veterans, regardless of combat service. Managed by the New York State Higher Education Services Corporation, Veterans Tuition Awards (VTA) are awarded for full-time study and part-time study for eligible veterans matriculated in an approved program at an undergraduate or graduate degree-granting institution or in an approved vocational training program in New York State (NYS).

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 140 -0

Designates a Veterans' Liaison in All State Agencies**S.7544 (Scarcella-Spanton, Ashby, Helming)/ A. 7173 (Jean-Pierre)**

This bill requires each state agency to designate at least one employee within such agency as a veterans' liaison.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-0

Assembly Vote: 148 -0

Establishes a maternity care coordination program for pregnant and postpartum veterans**S.9259 (Scarcella-Spanton) / A.8162A (Cunningham)**

Under this legislation, the Women's Veterans Coordinator (Coordinator), operating under the Commissioner of the Department of Veterans' Services (DVS), will be tasked with developing and implementing a maternity care program. This program, created in consultation with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Health, and the Office of Mental Health, aims to enhance the abilities of maternity care providers to meet the specific needs of pregnant and postpartum veterans, with a particular focus on mental and behavioral health conditions.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 60-0

Assembly Vote: 146 -0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Full Exemption from All Property Taxes for 100 Percent Disabled Veterans****S.2028A (Addabbo, Ashby, Harckham, Helming, Martinez, Mattera, O'Mara, Palumbo, Ramos, Rolison, Scarcella-Spanton, Stec, Weber, Weik) / A.2965A (Pheffer-Amato)**

This legislation establishes a full exemption from all real property taxes for the primary residence of veterans, and their spouse, with a 100 percent service-connected disability rating from the United States Veterans' Administration.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Allows an Unrelated Person to Ensure Burial of a Veteran in a Veterans' Cemetery**S.5530 (Brouk, Harckham, Helming, Stec) / A.1664 (Stirpe)**

This legislation authorizes a veteran's close friend or family member who is familiar with a deceased veteran's wishes to request that the deceased veteran be buried in a state veterans' cemetery.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 58-0

Assembly Vote: None

Grants Veterans Status to Members of the New York Air National Guard, New York Army National Guard, New York Naval Militia and New York Guard that Participated in World Trade Center Rescue, Recovery and Cleanup Operations**S.7379 (Webb, Chu) / No Same As**

This legislation ensures that certain members of the New York Air National Guard, New York Army National Guard, New York Naval Militia, and New York Guard who participated in World Trade Center rescue, recovery, or cleanup operations, during and after September 11, 2001, are provided with veteran status for New York State's benefits eligibility.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

Establishes Alex R. Jimenez New York State Military Immigrant Family Legacy Program S.8119C (Fernandez, Ashby, Canzoneri-Fitzpatrick, Helming, Rolison, Weber) / A.8837C (Cruz)

This legislation establishes the Alex R. Jimenez New York State Military Immigrant Family Legacy Program within the Department of Veterans' Services in conjunction with the Division of Military and Naval Affairs and in consultation with the Office for New Americans to assist uniform service members, veterans, reserve component members and their family members to secure legal immigration status.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY

None.

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE

None.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.

WOMEN'S ISSUES

Analyst: Jamie Salm
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SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED BOTH HOUSES**Directs DOH and OMH to Create Standards for Maternal Depression Screenings**

S.2039B (Brouk, Addabbo, Chu, Cleare, Cooney, Gounardes, Harckham, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Kennedy, Liu, May, Myrie, Persaud, Salazar, Sanders, Skoufis) / A.2870B (Solages)

This bill directs the Commissioners of Health and Mental Health to consult relevant stakeholders to develop guidance and standards for incorporating maternal depression screenings into routine prenatal and postpartum care. This guidance will include recommendations and best practices on when screenings should be initiated and how often they should be repeated; screening for social needs and substance abuse disorders; making referrals for follow-up evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment; and reimbursement methodologies to incentivize provider participation.

Proponents: Downtown Women for Change; Finger Lakes Performing Provider System, Inc.; Mental Health Association in New York State, Inc.

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 144-2

**Requires Menstrual Products to be Offered for Free at Public Universities and Campuses
S.5910B (Hinchey) / A.4060 (Paulin)**

This bill would require all public colleges and universities within the state to provide menstrual products in the restrooms of all school buildings. The products will be provided at no charge to students.

Proponents: State University of New York

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 57-2 (Gallivan, Weik)

Assembly Vote: 119-27

Establishes a Maternal Health Care and Birthing Standards Workgroup**S.7702A (Webb, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Fernandez, Jackson, Liu, May, Salazar) / A.8207A (Clark)**

This bill establishes a workgroup of stakeholders to study, evaluate, and make recommendations related to the development of maternal health care and birthing standards to ensure perinatal individuals receive the highest quality of care. These recommendations will include, but not be limited to, standards that ensure fair, courteous, respectful, culturally competent care free of discrimination and accurate and judgment-free advice and recommendations that allow for informed decision-making and consent regarding care and treatment, including risks, benefits, outcomes, and alternative procedures.

Proponents: None

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: 147-0

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED SENATE ONLY**Prohibits Certain Ingredients in Menstrual Products****S.3529C (Fernandez, Cleare, Hoylman-Sigal, Webb) / A.5990A (Rosenthal, L)**

This bill prohibits the sale of any menstrual products that contain certain intentionally added “restricted substances.” The Department of Health will identify the specific prohibited substances but, at a minimum, must include certain products such as lead, mercury, and formaldehyde. Any violation is subject to a civil penalty of one percent of the manufacturer's total annual in-state sales, but not to exceed \$1,000 per package or box.

Proponents: WE ACT for Environmental Justice; Climate Reality Project; NY League of Conservation Voters

Opponents: None

Senate Vote: 61-0

Assembly Vote: None

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY**Requires Disclosure of Risks of Cesarean Section (C-Section)**

S.311B (Salazar, Addabbo, Bailey, Breslin, Brisport, Brouk, Cleare, Comrie, Cooney, Gounardes, Harckham, Hinchey, Hoylman-Sigal, Jackson, Liu, May, Myrie, Persaud, Ramos, Rivera, Sanders, Sepúlveda, Serrano, Stavisky) / A.4927A (Paulin)

This bill would require that every maternal health care provider performing a delivery by cesarean section provide certain information to the patients, including potential maternal injuries associated with cesarean section, risks to the fetus, and the impact a cesarean section may have on future pregnancies and deliveries.

Proponents: New York State Association of Licensed Midwives; The Council of the City of New York

Opponents: American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; Medical Society of the State of New York; New York State Academy of Family Physicians; New York State Society of Plastic Surgeons

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: 146-1

SIGNIFICANT BILLS THAT DID NOT PASS EITHER HOUSE**Approval Process for Hospital Perinatal Service Delivery Changes**

S.7740A (Webb, Fernandez, Gounardes, Harckham, Jackson, Skoufis) / A.8205A (McDonald)

This bill directs the Department of Health (DOH) to develop an application and approval process for general hospitals that want to make changes to their operating certificate related to the provision of perinatal services. The Health Commissioner is authorized to develop regulations requiring the addition or decertification of or changes made to the method of delivery of perinatal services by a general hospital to be subject to the review and approval of the Public Health and Health Planning Council (PHHPC).

Proponents: Planned Parenthood Empire State Acts

Opponents: The Healthcare Association of New York State

Senate Vote: None

Assembly Vote: None

UNRESOLVED ISSUES

None.

HEARINGS AND FORUMS

None.



New York State Senate Democratic Majority
2024 SESSION WRAP-UP