



# NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

## 2021 JOINT BUDGET HEARING

**FEBRUARY 23, 2021 – 1:00 PM**

### **TAXES**

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1. New York State Department of  
Taxation & Finance

Michael Reed Schmidt  
Commissioner

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**Panel A:**

2. Fiscal Policy Institute

Dr. Jonas Shaende  
Chief Economist

3. Tax Justice Network; Yale U

James S. Henry, Esq.  
Sr. Advisor, Tax Justice Network

4. Public Citizen

Susan Harley  
Managing Director, Congress Watch

5. Strong Economy for All Coalition

Michael Kink  
Executive Director

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**Panel B:**

6. Empire Center for Public Policy

Edmund J. McMahon  
Senior Fellow

7. The Business Council of NYS, Inc.

Ken Pokalsky  
Vice President

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**Panel C:**

8. NY Cannabis Growers and Processors Association

Allan Gandelman  
President

9. NY Medical Cannabis Industry Association  
Ngiste Abebe  
President

10. SAM Action, Inc.  
Kevin A. Sabet, Ph.D.  
President

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**Panel D:**

11. Saratoga Harness Horseperson's Association Inc.  
Joseph D. Battaglia, CPA  
Officer-Secretary

12. NY Hotel & Motel Trades Council  
Rich Maroko  
President

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**Panel E:**

13. Alliance for Clean Energy NY  
Anne Reynolds  
Executive Director

14. New York State Assessors Association  
Scott Shedler  
Legislative Liaison

15. Upstate New York Towns Association  
Carolyn Warren Price  
President

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**Panel F:**

16. Hunger Free America  
Joel Berg  
CEO

17. DSA - Debt and Finance Working Group  
Boris Santos  
Policy Analyst and Organizer

18. Village Independent Democrats  
David Siffert  
Executive Committee Member

19. Youth Alliance for Housing  
Asha Avery  
Organizer

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**Panel G:**

20. Element Fleet Management  
John Crepps  
Director of Global Sales Tax