



*Assembly Republican
Policy Committee*

GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY

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Main Points

01 Reorganizing State Government

02 State Spending Reform

03 Limiting Executive Power

04 Auditing Failing Priorities

Reorganizing State Government



Streamline Operations and Eliminate Waste

Create a Legislative Sunset Advisory Commission charged with reviewing state agencies, identifying cost-saving measures, streamlining operations, reducing waste, and improving government service delivery, ensure ongoing legislative review of Executive agencies, and modernize government for the 21st Century.



Regulatory Overhaul

Require legislative approval of certain rules, make binding recommendations for the elimination of burdensome rules, and create a “two-for-one” reduction requirement mandating eliminating two rules when proposing one new rule.

State Spending Reform



State Spending Cap

Implement a State Spending Cap and increase the maximum capacity of the Rainy Day Fund



Debt Oversight

Require greater disclosure and legislative oversight of State Debt



Budget Reforms

Require clear identification of appropriations, and require the legislature to work until a budget is passed



Non-Partisan Support

Provide confidential information on the impact of current and proposed legislative policy to any Assembly or Senate member

Limiting Executive Action

Restrict Emergency Declarations

Require legislative approval to extend State emergency declarations beyond 45 days and place restrictions on such orders

Limit Unilateral Climate Actions

Require rules by the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) related to the Climate Action Fund to be approved by the legislature

Streamline Permitting

Reduce requirements on businesses looking to grow in New York by simplifying the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) and State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permitting processes

Approval of Agreements

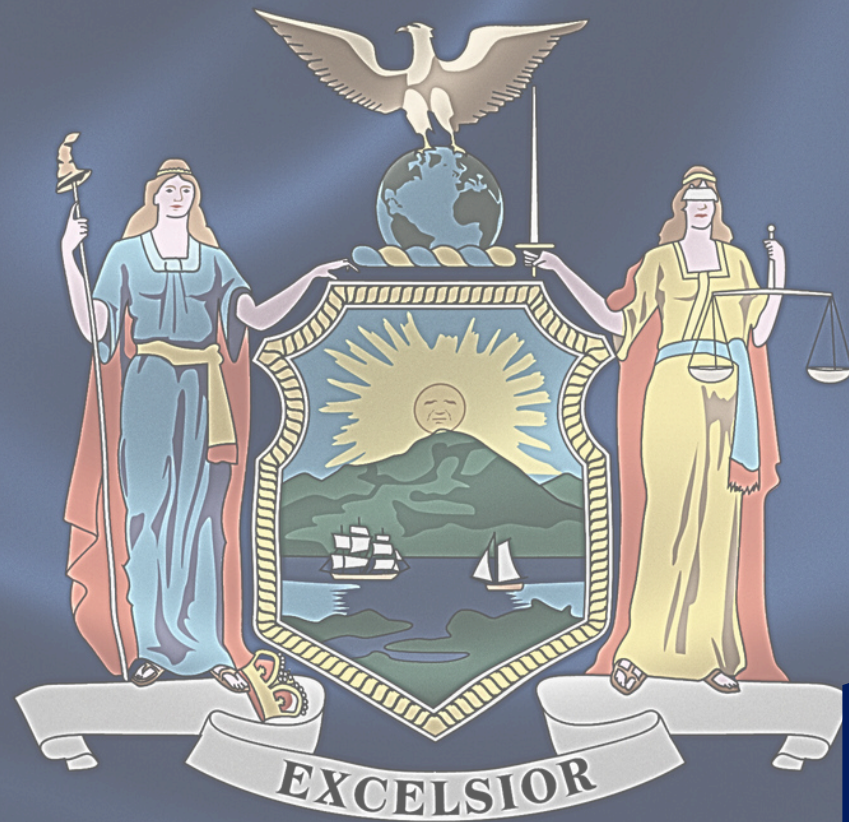
Require the State to pass enabling legislation prior to entering into compacts, programs, or other legal agreements with other states

A hand holding a pen and using a calculator on a desk with a blurred background of office supplies.

Auditing Failed Priorities

Look into MTA and Migrant Crisis Spending

- Require audits of funds for aid to illegal migrants in New York State, and of the MTA in order to ensure taxpayer funds are being properly spent and cared for.



Editorial: New York state's dubious investments

A new budget season is a good time for the state to ask what it's really getting for the billions it spends on economic development.

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Reorganizing State Government

- Digital Government Modernization Act: Modernize government services by improving accessibility, efficiency, and responsiveness through a unified digital portal, AI-powered assistance, streamlined payment systems, and program performance tracking ([A.7611, Slater](#)).
- Division of Regulatory Review and Economic Growth (D-RREG): Establish a division led by a commissioner who has a fixed term to review and make binding recommendations for the elimination of burdensome regulations and create a "two-for-one" reduction requirement mandating agencies identify two existing rules for elimination when proposing a new rule ([A.5582, Barclay](#)).
- Legislative Sunset Advisory Commission: Establish the Legislative Sunset Advisory Commission to review each State agency on a 10-year basis to determine whether a need exists for the continuation or reformation of such agency ([A.4464, Barclay](#)).
- Approval of Rule Changes: Require legislative approval for rules related to civil or criminal penalties, fiscal liability or responsibility, costs due to residents, and changes to the education curriculum ([A.2001, Slater](#)).
- Legislative Office of Fiscal Transparency (LOFT): Require fiscal notes on proposed rules and Executive Orders affecting localities, and require legislative committee approval of certain proposed rules ([A.4301, Jensen](#)).



Reorganizing State Government

- Authorization of State Fund Distribution: Require the use of verified accounts and multi-factor authorization before State funds can be distributed digitally by any State agency, board, bureau, authority, commission division, or other governmental entity to such person (A.5267, K. Brown).
- Digital Submission Security: Increase security on digital submissions to the State by requiring the use of verified accounts and multi-factor authorization (A.5239, K. Brown).



State Spending Reform

- State Spending Cap: Cap State spending to the average rate of inflation of the three previous calendar years and increase the maximum capacity of the rainy day fund (A.7530, Barclay).
- Itemization in the State Budget: Require each section of the budget bills to clearly reference an appropriation to ensure budget negotiations are focused on fiscal issues (A.2255, Ra).
- Lump-Sum Appropriation Allocation Reform: Create a lump-sum allocation advisory committee, requiring greater transparency related to lump-sum appropriations (A.7524, Barclay).
- Legislation with Non-Recurring Revenue: Require that any bill that provides revenue to the State in a non-recurring manner shall pass by a two-thirds majority in order to become law (A.2067, Ra).
- Financial Plan Requirement: Require the Governor to provide the Legislature with Enacted Budget Financial Plan estimates no later than one day prior to voting on the Aid to Localities, State Operations, or Capital Projects budget bills (A.3940, Ra).



State Spending Reform (continued)

- Public Authorities Voting Reform: Provide voting power to minority members that are appointed to the Public Authorities Control Board (A.5681, Barclay).
- Back-Door Borrowing Reform: Prohibit the use of public authorities to issue debt on behalf of the State and also limits the amount and scope of debt issuances (A.2155, Ra).
- Debt Reporting Requirements: Require all State agencies and all State and local authorities to submit an annual report including information related to debt (A.2562, Ra).
- Legislative Oversight of Debt Practices: Require legislative approval to determine whether state-supported debt issued during a declared emergency will be subject to the established debt cap limitations (A.2700, Ra).
- Budget Reform: Prohibit the legislature from recessing after the start of the State fiscal year until a budget is passed (A.2085, Ra).
- Debt Propositions: Require propositions authorizing the creation of State debt to include an estimate of the debt service payable, require publication of an explanation of the proposition, and require at least 10% of any surplus to be used to pay down State debt (A.2231, Ra).



State Spending Reform (continued)

- Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund: Increase the maximum percentage allowed to be deposited from surplus revenues into the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund from two to four percent ([A.2258, Ra](#)).
- Settlements and Debt Service: Require five percent of any settlement money totaling \$1 million or more to be directly applied to the debt principal in the debt service fund ([A.2353, Ra](#)).
- Intergovernmental Loans and State-Supported Debt: Fix a loophole in the current Debt Reform Act by requiring inter-governmental loans to be included within the definition of state-supported debt ([A.2690, Ra](#)).
- Short-Term Financing Oversight: Require the certification of an emergency or extraordinary factor before issuing short-term notes that mature within one-year, and legislative approval of such notes through a resolution ([A.2706, Ra](#)).
- Long-Term Financing Oversight: Require a thorough analysis of borrowing costs for bonds with maturities exceeding 30 years, and require legislative approval for the issuance of such long-term bonds ([A.4004, Ra](#)).
- Office of Policy Research and Fiscal Analysis: Create a nonpartisan “Office of Policy Research and Fiscal Analysis” designed to provide confidential information on the impact of current and proposed legislative policy to any member of the Assembly or Senate ([A.4532, Ra](#)).



Limiting Executive Power

- Limit Executive Powers: Restrict State emergency declarations to 45 days unless approved by the Legislature, require emergency declarations to be based on a county-by-county analysis, and allow localities to request termination of a State of Emergency related to their jurisdiction (A.4451, Molitor).
- State Agreement Enabling Legislation: Require the State to pass enabling legislation before entering into any compact, program, or other legal agreement with any other state (A.307, Friend).
- Legislative Oversight of Climate Action Fund Rules: Establish that any rules or regulations promulgated by the Department of Environmental Conservation pursuant to the Climate Action Fund must be approved by a majority vote of the Legislature before implementation (A.6847, Palmesano).
- Streamline Environmental Permitting Process: Streamline the State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) process by making the Department of Environmental Conservation the lead agency if a permit process is to be carried out or approved by two or more State agencies, reducing the time needed for certain steps of the SEQR and State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) permitting processes and clarifying which areas are eligible for inclusion on the State Register of Historic Places to clearly show businesses which locations may be subjected to an archaeological survey during the SPDES process (A.5651, Barclay).



Limiting Executive Power (continued)

- State Agency Emergency Regulations: Ensure that any agency that re-adopts an emergency regulation beyond the initial ninety-day period must have legislative authority for such action (A.2411, Ra).

Auditing Failed Priorities

- Audit Migrant Funds: Require the Comptroller to audit funds for aid to migrants in New York State (A.2505, Ra).
- Forensic Audit of the MTA: Require the MTA to contract with a certified independent accounting firm to perform a comprehensive forensic audit that will result in a report on redundancies and inefficiencies, and provide at least six governance action plans to be adopted by the Authority (A.6088, Ra).
- Congestion Pricing Repeal and Audit of MTA: Repeal Congestion Pricing, commission an independent audit of the MTA, and conduct an environmental impact study (A.6680, Tannousis).
- Congestion Pricing Repeal and Audit of MTA: Repeal Congestion Pricing and commission an independent audit of the MTA (A.6906 of 2024, Blumencranz).

