

# Legislation Required for the Budget

## Education, Labor and Family Assistance

- Amend the Education Law to realign School Aid and make other changes necessary to implement education-related programs in the Executive Budget.
- Authorize competitive grants to reward school districts with the most improvement in student performance and/or management efficiencies.
- Eliminate the statutory authorization for the New York State Theatre Institute and provide for the transfer of its rights and property to the Office of General Services.
- Enhance flexibility for SUNY and CUNY in the areas of procurement and participation in public-private partnerships.
- Reduce the maximum Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) award for students matriculated in certain two-year degree programs to \$4,000.
- Include pension and annuity income for TAP eligibility determinations.
- Amend the eligibility requirements for the TAP related to students in default on certain student loans.
- Continue TAP schedule for students who are married with no children.
- Increase academic standards for non-remedial TAP recipients.
- Eliminate TAP eligibility for graduate students.
- Extend the Regents Physician Loan Forgiveness Program until the end of the 2015-16 school year.
- Extend Patricia K. McGee Nursing Faculty Scholarship and the Nursing Faculty Loan Forgiveness Incentive programs until June 30, 2016.
- Extend the Regents Licensed Social Worker Loan Forgiveness Program until June 30, 2016.
- Establish STAR Program Cost Containment Measures.
- Better align Committee on Special Education (CSE) maintenance cost shares.

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- Establish the Primary Prevention Incentive Program.
- Establish Juvenile Justice reforms.
- Modify the fee structure for Statewide Central Registry (SCR) clearance checks.
- Authorize the pass-through of any Federal Social Security Income (SSI) Cost of Living Adjustment which becomes effective on or after January 1, 2012.
- Strengthen compliance with Public Assistance Work Requirements.
- Delay the scheduled Public Assistance Grant increase.
- Consolidate the Neighborhood Preservation Program and Rural Preservation Program into a single, competitive, performance-based program.
- Make permanent the Unemployment Insurance (UI) Interest Assessment Surcharge.

## Health and Mental Hygiene

- Improve public health services and achieve savings by modifying Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage, Early Intervention, and General Public Health Work, and implementing various other changes.
- Suspend implementation of a new nursing home reimbursement method and extend the reimbursement cap, authorize certain Medicaid payments and extend authorization to collect nursing home assessment revenue.
- Extend the Health Care Reform Act (HCRA) for three years.
- Extend various provisions of the Public Health, Social Services and Mental Hygiene laws, including continued authorization of previously enacted Medicaid savings initiatives.
- Amend the Medicaid eligibility status of individuals served in Institutions for Mental Diseases (IMD).
- Establish a one-year deferral of the Human Services Cost of Living Adjustment.
- Ensure the efficient and cost-effective delivery of programs and services operated by the Office of Mental Health.

## Public Protection and General Government

- Extend various criminal justice programs that would otherwise sunset.
- Make changes to provisions relating to the disposition of certain monies recovered by New York City county district attorneys and make those provisions permanent.
- Eliminate the prison closure notification requirement and modify the type of plan to be developed in the event of a prison closure.
- Eliminate cell surcharge subsidy to a revolving loan fund.
- Change the compensation for the commissioners of the State Liquor Authority, other than the Chairman, from an annual salary to per diem.
- Eliminate costly and unnecessary election law printing and publication requirements.
- Provide for the close-out of most private group self-insured workers compensation trusts to mitigate potential risk to the State Financial Plan and to participating employers.
- Change the compensation for commissioners of the State Civil Service Commission, other than the President, from an annual salary to per diem.
- Reduce Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) funding for cities, towns and villages and eliminate AIM for New York City.
- Eliminate Video Lottery Terminal Aid to all eligible municipalities other than Yonkers.
- Create the Citizen Empowerment Tax Credit, the Citizens Re-organization Empowerment Grants and the Local Government Performance and Efficiency Program, and streamline the Local Government Efficiency Grant Program.
- Clarify the State's obligation to make payments with respect to certain lands.
- Lapse aged State and local reappropriations.
- Authorize transfers, temporary loans, and amendments to miscellaneous capital/debt provisions, including bond caps.
- Repeal the Community Projects Fund.

### Revenue

- Reduce the dormancy period of miscellaneous abandoned property.
- Make tax shelter reporting provisions permanent.
- Provide the Department of Economic Development with continuing authority to monitor Empire Zone Program compliance and to decertify non-complying businesses.
- Authorize an offset of lottery winnings with outstanding State tax liabilities.
- Extend the financial services investment tax credit to certain broker-dealers for four years from October 1, 2011 to October 1, 2015.
- Authorize additional credits of \$4 million for the Low-Income Housing Credit.
- Improve the effectiveness of the Excelsior Jobs Program.
- Limit the exemption provided for town or county cooperative insurance corporations under the Insurance Franchise Tax.
- Conform the New York State Insurance and Tax laws to the Federal Dodd-Frank Act excess lines tax provisions and authorize New York State to participate in a national compact that collects and remits excess lines taxes to the states.
- Extend Gramm-Leach Bliley provisions for two years and make Bank Tax Extender permanent.
- Modernize certain fuel definitions.
- Extend the alternative fuels tax exemptions for one year.
- Simplify the distribution of Motor Vehicle fees.
- Eliminate restrictions on the operation of Quick Draw.
- Authorize a Free Play Allowance Program.
- Allow two additional 75 percent Instant Lottery Games.
- Allow for a higher prize pay-out on multi-jurisdictional Lottery Games.
- Authorize multi-jurisdictional Video Lottery gaming.
- Extend for one year lower Pari-Mutuel tax rates and rules governing simulcasting of out-of-state races.

## Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation

- Provide the annual authorization for the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) and Marchiselli programs.
- Permanently extend Department of Transportation Single Audit Program.
- Permanently extend suspension of drivers' licenses for certain alcohol-related charges.
- Permanently extend suspension/revocation of drivers' licenses for certain drug-related offenses.
- Make permanent provisions relating to the Motor Vehicle Financial Security Act.
- Conform the Vehicle and Traffic Law to Federal requirements, governing operators of commercial motor vehicles and medical certification requirements.
- Make permanent the general loan powers of the New York State Urban Development Corporation.
- Modify the Linked Deposit Program to increase the lifetime maximum per eligible business from \$1 million to \$2 million.
- Extend the New York State Higher Education Capital Matching Grant Program.
- Clarify the State Governmental Cost Recovery System.
- Permanently establish the distribution formula for the Community Services Block Grant Program.
- Permanently establish the authority of the Secretary of State to charge increased fees for expedited handling of documents.
- Dissolve the Tug Hill Commission.
- Eliminate the salary for the Chair of the State Athletic Commission.
- Eliminate statutory references to the Governor's Office of Regulatory Reform.
- Authorize and direct the Comptroller to receive for deposit to the credit of the General Fund a payment of up to \$913,000 from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority.
- Authorize the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority to finance a portion of its research, development and demonstration, and policy and planning programs, and to finance the Department of Environmental Conservation climate change program, from assessments on gas and electric corporations.
- Authorize the Department of Health to finance certain activities with revenues generated from an assessment on cable television companies.

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- Make permanent the current time frames for review of pesticide product registration applications and pesticide product registration fees.
- Authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture and Markets to establish a competitive grants program to fund agricultural research, marketing and education initiatives.
- Implement key components of the Governor's "Share NY Food" initiative.
- Repeal Article 4-A of the Navigation Law regarding reimbursements paid to certain governmental entities.
- Facilitate an efficient transfer of Tribal State Compact Revenue to the General Fund and make a technical correction to the distribution of the local share of such revenues associated with the Niagara Falls Casino.
- Establish a surcharge on purses at harness and thoroughbred racetracks.
- Extend the renewal period for certain disciplines licensed by the Department of State.
- Authorize the Tax Modernization Project.

## **State Entity Mergers**

- Merge the operations of the Department of Insurance, the Banking Department and the consumer financial protection programs of the Consumer Protection Board into the Department of Financial Regulation.
- Merge the operations of the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Office of Victim Services, and the State Commission of Correction into the Division of Criminal Justice Services.
- Merge the Department of Correctional Services and the Division of Parole into the new Department of Corrections and Community Supervision.
- Merge the Foundation for Science, Technology and Innovation (NYSTAR) and the existing high technology and research and development programs into the Empire State Development Corporation.

## **Other Legislation Required for the Budget**

- Establish the new Recharge New York Power Program to provide low-cost hydroelectric power to create and retain jobs by attracting business to the State, creating new business within the State, and encouraging the expansion of existing businesses in the State.