

# **16.**

## **Legislation Required for the Budget**

### **Education, Labor and Family Assistance**

- Amend the Education Law and make other changes necessary to implement the Education Opportunity Agenda.
- Streamline new education program approval to meet workforce needs.
- Enact the Get On Your Feet Loan Forgiveness Program.
- Enact the New York State DREAM Act
- Establish the Education Tax Credit.
- Standardize college financial aid award letters.
- Allow public accounting firms to have minority ownership by individuals who are not Certified Public Accountants.
- Implement uniform prevention and response policies and procedures relating to sexual violence in all colleges and universities.

- Authorize the pass-through of any Federal Supplemental Security Income Cost of Living Adjustment which becomes effective on or after January 1, 2016.
- Raise the Age of Juvenile Jurisdiction.
- Provide for the issuance of adoption assistance payments for the private adoption of children with special needs only when the adoptive parents reside in New York State at the time of application.
- Make statutory changes to comply with the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act.
- Utilize excess Mortgage Insurance Fund reserves.
- Increase the minimum wage.
- Provide healthcare professionals who volunteer to fight the Ebola virus overseas with a Bill of Rights and authorize leaves of absence
- Repeal of various Department of Labor fees.
- Make experiential learning a graduation requirement at SUNY and CUNY.

## **Health and Mental Hygiene**

- Amend various statutory provisions to achieve savings reflected in the 2015-16 Health Budget.
- Make statutory changes necessary to continue implementation of Medicaid Redesign Team recommendations.
- Make statutory changes necessary to align Child Health Plus rates with Medicaid managed care rates for certain providers.

- Extend various provisions of the Public Health, Social Services and Mental Hygiene Laws, including continued authorization of previously enacted Medicaid savings initiatives.
- Make statutory changes related to the payment of indigent care pool funds over the next three years.
- Make statutory changes necessary to implement Value Based Payments within the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment program.
- Make statutory changes necessary to implement a health insurance assessment to support the operational costs of the New York State of Health.
- Modify provisions regarding establishing and operating limited services clinics, standardizing urgent care centers, eliminating certain upgraded diagnostic and treatment centers; and charging the Public Health and Health Planning Council with reviewing sedation and anesthesia procedures in outpatient settings.
- Modify various provisions of law to remove barriers to obtaining HIV/AIDS treatment and to engaging in appropriate risk reduction activities to limit the spread of HIV/AIDS.
- Provide an exemption to the Nurse Practice Act for advanced home health aides to authorize such individuals to perform advanced tasks in home care and hospice settings with appropriate training and supervision.
- Implement various provisions related to streamlining the Certificate of Need (CON) process for hospitals and diagnostic and treatment centers.

- Modify various provisions of the public health law to expand office-based surgery requirements to include office-based anesthesia, to standardize and limit the procedures permitted in such settings, and to strengthen accreditation requirements.
- Require local governments to notify the public and the Department of Health of their intent to discontinue water fluoridation, and establish a grant program to provide assistance to local governments to cover the cost of installing, replacing, repairing, or upgrading water fluoridation equipment.
- Authorize the State Office for the Aging to seek public input on the creation of an Office of Community Living to address the expansion of community living integration services for older adults and disabled individuals.
- Authorize the Office of Mental Health to continue to recover Medicaid exempt income from providers of community residences.
- Extend pilot program to restructure educational services for children and youth residing in Office of Mental Health hospitals.
- Establish a private equity pilot program, allowing up to five business corporations to make private capital investments to assist in restructuring the health care delivery system.
- Authorize the Office of Mental Health facility directors who act as representative payees to continue to use funds for care and treatment consistent with federal law and regulations.

- Make technical amendments required to implement the Nurse Practice Act exemption for direct care staff in non-certified settings funded, authorized or approved by the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities.

## **Public Protection and General Government**

- Extend various criminal justice and public safety programs that would otherwise sunset.
- Authorize the transfer of Division of State Police employees engaged in certain finance and human resource functions to the Office of General Services.
- Authorize the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision to make the final determination regarding the medical parole release of certain non-violent offenders.
- Repeal miscellaneous fees levied by the Workers' Compensation Board while retaining the necessary functions associated with those fees.
- Campaign Finance Reform and public financing of campaigns.
- Eliminate costly and unnecessary election law printing and publication requirements.
- Implement changes supporting the previous consolidation of information technology staff and services within the Office of Information Technology Services.
- Phase in Management/Confidential salary parity.

- Create a salary commission to make recommendations on executive and legislative compensation.
- Establish amnesty periods in the New York State Health Insurance Program.
- Increase permissible deposit and fund balance in the Rainy Day Reserve Fund, expand and modify reporting requirements for pension contribution rates and consulting services spending.
- Return Video Lottery Terminal aid to 2013-14 levels.
- Extend and increase the authority of the Office of General Services to promptly enter into construction contracts during emergencies.
- Increase the ability of the Office of General Services to delegate the responsibility of executing small capital projects to agencies and departments.
- Create the Dedicated Infrastructure Investment Fund.
- Authorize transfers, temporary loans, and amendments to miscellaneous capital/debt provisions, including bond caps.

## **Revenue**

- Cap annual growth in STAR exemption benefit at zero percent.
- Eliminate entirely the NYC STAR PIT rate reduction benefit for taxpayers with incomes above \$500,000.
- Convert current STAR delinquency/offset program into a tax clearance program.
- Convert the STAR benefit into a tax credit.

- Recoup improperly granted STAR exemptions.
- Allow homeowners who registered for the STAR exemption with the Department of Taxation and Finance, but failed to file timely exemption applications with their local assessors, to receive the benefit of the exemption for tax year 2014.
- Create real property tax relief credit.
- Make permanent the limitation on charitable contribution deductions for high income New York State and New York City personal income taxpayers.
- Amend the personal income tax and MTA mobility tax statutes for technical changes.
- Require commercial production tax credit economic impact report.
- Amend excelsior tax credit qualifying business language.
- Reform the investment tax credit provided for master tapes.
- Expand the Urban Youth Jobs Program tax credit.
- Reduce the net income tax on small businesses.
- Create the Employee Training Incentive Program (ETIP) tax credit.
- Continue taxation under Tax Law Sections 184 and 184-a on wireless telecommunications businesses.
- Impose sales tax refund requirements on Article 9 taxpayers.
- Extend and reform the Brownfield Cleanup Program.

- Combine the Department of State biennial information statement and tax return filings and repeal \$9 Department of State filing fee.
- Amend the corporate tax reform statute for technical changes.
- Extend the wine tasting sales and use tax exemption to other alcoholic beverages.
- Impose local sales tax on prepaid wireless based on retail location.
- Reform the Industrial Development Authority program.
- Expand sales tax collection requirements for marketplace providers.
- Close certain sales and use tax avoidance strategies.
- Exempt solar power purchase agreements from State and local sales tax.
- Allow petroleum business tax refunds for farm use of highway diesel motor fuel.
- Amend the estate tax to implement technical changes.
- Enhance motor fuel tax enforcement.
- Make warrantless wage garnishment permanent.
- Lower the outstanding tax debt threshold required to suspend delinquent taxpayers' driver's licenses.
- Require practitioners to be compliant with State tax obligations before receiving excess medical malpractice coverage.
- Require grantees to be current with State tax obligations before receiving a State grant from a State or local authority.



- Authorize New York to enter reciprocal tax collection agreements with other states.
- Authorize multi-agency data sharing to enhance enforcement initiatives.
- Authorize a professional and business license tax clearance.
- Require new State employees to comply with State tax obligations.
- Allow OCFS to share child care data with the Department of Taxation and Finance.
- Extend the Video Lottery Gaming vendor's capital awards program for one year.
- Extend certain tax rates and certain simulcasting provisions for one year.
- Expand electronic gaming offerings at Video Lottery Gaming facilities.
- Extend the term of the Reorganization Board of the New York Racing Association, Inc. for an additional year.
- Implement New York City corporate tax reform.

## **Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation**

- Make permanent certain provisions of law relating to the revenues and expenses of the Dedicated Highway and Bridge Trust Fund and the Dedicated Mass Transportation Trust Fund.
- Make the Infrastructure Investment Act permanent, expand the definition of authorized state entity, and increase threshold amounts for projects utilizing design-build contracts.

- Repeal the Intrastate Authority Application Fee and authorize the Department of Transportation to charge safety inspection fees for certain types of vehicles.
- Include the Ontario County transit system within the Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority district.
- Create the Transit Assistance for Capital Investments Fund.
- Authorize the Commissioner of Transportation to extend the “hold-harmless” provision of the Statewide Mass Transportation Operating Assistance program for one additional year.
- Authorize the Department of Transportation and the New York State Thruway Authority to provide mutual aid and enter into shared services agreements with each other.
- Eliminate the requirement for registrants of overweight vehicles to amend their registration after having received an overweight permit from the NYS Department of Transportation.
- Bring New York State into compliance with federal regulations regarding commercial learners’ permits.
- Reduce funding for State expenses previously paid by the Thruway Authority.
- Increase fines and penalties for toll evasion on all roads, bridges and tunnels operated by public authorities.
- Extend for four years various procurement rules of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, and the New York City Transit Authority.

- Extend the authorization of the New York State Urban Development Corporation to administer the Empire State Economic Development Fund.
- Extend the general loan powers of the New York State Urban Development Corporation.
- 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's climate change program, from an assessment on gas and electric corporations.
- Extend the authorization for the Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprise statutes and the due date of the Disparity Study.
- Authorize the Department of Health to finance certain activities with revenues generated from an assessment on cable television companies.
- Extend the authorization for the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York to enter into certain design and construction management agreements.
- Extend for one year the authority of the Secretary of State to charge increased fees for expedited handling of documents.
- Eliminate the fee associated with licensing apartment information vendors/sharing agents.

- Repeal nuisance fees and restructure license periods for certain licenses administered by the Department of Agriculture and Markets.
- Reduce the cost of Long Island Power Authority's debt.
- Increase license fees and surcharges for major facilities which store or transfer petroleum and shift the administration of the Environmental Protection and Spill Compensation Fund from the Office of the State Comptroller to the Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Increase and simplify fees to ensure that sufficient funds are available for Department of Environmental Conservation program management.
- Repeal a nuisance fee associated with water well driller registrations administered by the Department of Environmental Conservation.
- Create a new Habitat Conservation and Access account to support fish and wildlife habitat management and public access projects.
- Increase the number of years a municipal transit system may finance bus purchases from five years to ten years.