

2016-17 NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE BUDGET

**PENSION FORFEITURE
CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

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A BUDGET BILL submitted by the Governor in
Accordance with Article VII of the Constitution

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing an amendment to section 7
of article 5 of the constitution, in
relation to forfeiture of pension
rights or retirement benefits upon
conviction of a felony related to
public employment

Purpose:

This bill would require any public official who is convicted of a crime related to public office to forfeit his or her pension. Public officials who are convicted of public corruption should not have taxpayers pay for their retirement.

Summary of Provisions and Statement in Support:

This proposal would amend the New York State Constitution, subject to voter approval, to require that public officials who are members of a public pension or retirement system and convicted of a crime related to public office, be subject to forfeiture of pension benefits, rights and privileges. This requirement would apply regardless of when the public official was elected to office or when the bad act occurred.

Budget Implications:

Enactment of this bill is necessary to implement the 2016-17 Executive Budget in order to combat corruption by public officials.

Effective Date:

This amendment to the State Constitution would be referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the next succeeding general election of members of the Assembly and Senate. If approved, this amendment would be submitted to voters at the next general election.

