



GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE



In my State of the State, I proposed an ambitious agenda to make New York more affordable, more livable and safer. I spoke about how for generations, people have come to our State in pursuit of the New York Dream of a better life. But today, that dream remains out of reach for too many.

It is up to those of us with the power to create change to bring that dream closer. Through the policies I have laid out in my State of the State and this Budget, we are committed to instilling hope and unlocking opportunity for every New Yorker.

We will do this by finally tackling our State's housing crisis with a plan to build 800,000 homes over the next decade; investing \$1 billion to transform the way we care for New Yorkers struggling with mental illness; boosting our public safety initiatives and driving down gun and violent crime; combating climate change and making our transition to a greener economy more affordable; making unprecedented investments in our public schools; and creating the jobs of tomorrow.

While this Budget includes transformational investments, we remain committed to our fiscally responsible approach. Last year, I took proactive steps to rebuild our state for a stronger and healthier financial future. Due to these efforts, and in the face of a growing tide of economists predicting a recession, I am proud that we will not be raising income taxes this year. We must continue to be smart and reasonable during these uncertain times.

We are focused on the areas that will have the highest impact to improve people's lives, and we will use the entirety of this bold, ambitious budget to address the needs of every New Yorker.

The task ahead of us is daunting, and the stakes could not be higher. But we will do the hard things to lift up and support all New Yorkers. We will lay the foundation for them to realize the New York Dream.



Kathy Hochul

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GOVERNOR