



2019 Legislative Program

NYSAC POST-BUDGET PRIORITIES



Agriculture & Rural Affairs

- Support a statewide dairy supplemental price system, promote consumption of milk in schools, and fund local agricultural assistance.
- Increase support for Cornell Cooperative Extensions.



Cannabis Legalization

- Provide counties with resources for public education and technical assistance to manage the societal impact to public health, public safety, criminal justice, consumer protection, and economic development, among others.
- Provide a 4% revenue sharing for counties and local governments to meet local needs with implementations.



Economic Development

- Prioritize and expand broadband and cellular coverage to unserved and under-served communities.



Environment

- Support educational initiatives related to recycling.
- Provide state assistance for localities affected by increases in recycling costs.
- Create an industry supported paint stewardship program.
- Expand the NYS Returnable Container Act (“Bottle Bill”) to include more glass containers, such as liquor, wine, and iced tea bottles.
- Enact a Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Rebate Expansion Bill for municipalities.



Finance & Tax Relief

- Increase county retention of revenues derived from county DMV operations.
- Ensure local home rule bills—like sales tax—are acted on quickly, provide longer extension periods, and eventually make them permanent.
- Eliminate the use of “dark store theory” as a way to lower property tax assessments.
- Create a Non-Partisan Legislative Budget Office.



Gaming

- Resolve the gaming compact dispute with the Seneca Nation and hold counties harmless through state payments in the interim.
- If sports gaming is permitted in NYS, equitably share some of this revenue to all New York counties by including off-track betting corporations.



Human Services

- Provide temporary training locations closer to home for county child welfare workers.



Judiciary

- Lower court judgement interest rates.



Property Tax Reduction

- Enact “No New Unfunded Mandates” legislation and cap current state mandated costs at a rate that does not exceed the state-imposed property tax cap.



Public Employee Relations

- Repeal the NYS Scaffold Law, or reform it to include a pure standard of comparative negligence.
- Grant county home rule authority to allow for the establishment of countywide EMS related districts.



Public Infrastructure & Transportation

- Authorize use of successful wildlife management at airports.
- Increase CHIPS funding for extreme winter restoration fund.
- Increase the CHIPS bidding threshold to give municipalities flexibility to bid out or perform in-house projects.
- Authorize use of design-build contracts for localities.



Public Safety

- Release the interoperable emergency communication funds in a more timely manner.
- Reimburse counties detaining state parole violators at local correctional facilities for over 10 days.
- Increase the State income tax credits for volunteer firefighters and EMS workers.
- Prohibit the use of drones near jails.



Shared Services

- Make it easier for local governments to create health insurance consortiums.
- Adjust property tax cap provisions that work against local shared services and functional consolidations.
- Ease court consolidation procedures.