



New York State Association of Counties

Legislative Program

2025 End-of-Session County Priorities

TOP PRIORITIES

- Enact the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act, S.1464 (Harckham) / A.1749 (Glick).
- Repeal § 54-m of the State Finance Law, which mandates that counties must comply with the property tax cap in order to receive Raise the Age reimbursements without a hardship waiver.
- Enact S.6956 (C. Ryan) to raise the retiree earnings income cap from \$35,000 to a minimum of \$50,000.
- Enact A.7411 (Jones) to allow local health departments to request all toxicology and death reports.
- Enact S.7077 (Cleare) / A.7907 (Seawright) to remove the cost-share for Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP) and in-home services to help older americans.



Environment

- Allow local governments to advance solar energy projects under two megawatts that are directly above parking lots without approval from the State Legislature, S.270 (Harckham).
- Establish an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for mattresses, similar to S.1463 (Kavanagh) / A.1209 (Paulin).
- Establish an extended producer responsibility (EPR) program for batteries by enacting S.73 (Kavanagh) / A.4641 (Glick).
- Establish the Safe Water Infrastructure Program, S.1850-A (Hinchey) / A.6012-A (Kelles), to assist local governments with drinking water, stormwater, and sanitary sewer infrastructure projects.
- Enact the Private Well Testing Act to provide all New Yorkers with information on the quality of their drinking water, S.3038 (Hoylman-Sigal).



Local Government Operations

- Expedite the distribution of state aid for the Supervision and Treatment Services for Juveniles Program (STSJP), S.6495 (Cleare) / A.5128 (Solages).
- Allow electronic arraignments when appropriate, S.6250 (Skoufis) / A.3700 (Burke).
- Enact A.701 (Gonzalez-Rojas) / S.988 (Brouk) to repeal requirements that an individual must pass an exam to become a licensed master social worker.
- Enact S.925 (Kavanagh) / A.1608 (Rosenthal) to ensure compliance and effectiveness of the Zombie Property and Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2016.
- Enact S.256 (Martinez) / A.5557 (Jones) to provide clarity for industrial development agencies in regard to housing development.



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Local Government Finance / General Government

- Ease the creation of local government health insurance consortia under Article 47 of the Insurance Law, S.4719 (Fahy) / A.1766 (Steck)
- Enact S.925 (Kavanagh) / A.1608 (Rosenthal) to hold owners of abandoned properties accountable for not maintaining their property.
- Require all state legislation to include a statement of fiscal impact affecting local governments as outlined in S.5380 (Harckham).
- Grant counties sales tax permanency at their existing rates and authorize all counties to raise sales tax rates to 4% as outlined in Part O, S.4009/A.3009 (2023) Part U, S.8009/A.9009 (2022) and Part L, S.2509/A.3009 (2021).
- Allow counties to set other home rule revenue tax rates up to the most common rate existing in other counties across the state without state legislative approval. This would include, but not be limited to, mortgage recording taxes, occupancy taxes, real estate transfer taxes, etc.



Public Works

- Reform the NYS Wicks Law (GML § 101) by raising current thresholds to at least \$5 million for all entities currently subject to limits to adjust for inflation.
- Enact A.467 (Magnarelli) to increase the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) bidding threshold to \$750,000. An increase in the threshold would give localities the flexibility and option to bid out or perform in-house projects under \$750,000.
- Extend design-build authority to counties. Allowing local governments to use this method would reduce costs and speed up project completion.



Civil Service & Public Employees

- Amend Public Officers Law § 3 by enacting S.7639 (Jackson) to allow for home rule authority to set employee residency rules.

- Enact S.946 (Jackson) / A.3295 (Pheffer-Amato) to remove law enforcement applicants from eligible lists if they fail to pass a psychological evaluation.



Public Health / Mental Health

- Enact S.453-A (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.765 (McDonald) to require healthcare providers to enter adult immunizations into the New York State Immunization Information System (NYSIIS)/Citywide Immunization Registry (CIR).
- Enact S.5196 (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.2128 (Rosenthal) to strengthen enforcement mechanisms and close statutory loopholes that are preventing the 2020 ban on flavored e-cigarette products from being fully effective.
- Reform the process of Mental Health Competency Restoration by enacting S.1004 (Brouk)/A.5567 (Simon).
- Enact Medical Aid in Dying, S.138 (Hoylman-Sigal) / A.136 (Paulin), to provide individuals with an end-of-life choice.
- Allow counties to cremate indigent individuals by enacting S.7457 (Rivera) / A.7894 (Paulin).



Public Safety

- Support S.192 (Martinez) / A.4369 (Rajkumar) to use a portion of the 9-1-1 surcharge revenue to fully fund and deploy a statewide ESInet and related infrastructure for NG911 technologies.
- Enact S.4930 (Martinez) / A.4044 (Jones) to grant permanency to cost-recovery programs for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) providers.
- Authorize law enforcement agencies to issue appearance tickets instead of a physical arrest when adolescent offenders (AOs) and junior offenders (JOs) are charged with Class D felonies.
- Enact S.1982 (Harckham) / A.3836 (Jones) to exclude sheriffs and undersheriffs from certain training requirements under § 209-q of the General Municipal Law.