OUR NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE
NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

Two house system: Assembly and Senate

- New York State Assembly
  - 150 Members
  - Super majority of Democrats (more than 2/3 of members)
  - Leader of Assembly is Speaker
    - Assembly Speaker is Carl Heastie (District 83, Bronx)

- New York State Senate
  - 63 Members
  - Now have supermajority - 42 of 63 members are Democrats
  - Senate Majority Leader also referred to as president pro tempore
    - Andrea Stewart Cousins is new Democratic Majority Leader (District 35, Westchester)

**Both Houses now have a supermajority of Democrats**
LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
COMPLETED ISSUES

- Restoration of Voting Rights for People on Parole
- Funding for Early Voting
- Funding for Other New Voting Programs
- Funding for the Redistricting Commission
- Clean Air and Water Amendment
- Safe Staffing
NEWLY ACCOMPLISHED!

1

Same Day Voter Registration

S517 (Gianaris)/A502 (Carroll):

2

No-Excuse Absentee Voting

S360 (Comrie)/A4431 (Vanel)
POST BUDGET ISSUES
POST BUDGET LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

- **Voting and Elections**
  - Absentee Voting Modernization
  - Election Transparency & Enfranchisement
  - Constitutional Amendment

- **Government Ethics**
  - Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE) Reform

- **Health Care**
  - New York Health Act
  - Medical Aid in Dying

- **Women’s Issues**
  - Salary Range Transparency
**ABSENTEE VOTING REFORMS**

- **Ballot Disqualification:**
  - S253 (Myrie)/A1144 (Paulin)

- **Ballot Dropbox:**
  - S492 (Hoylman)/A4128A (Gottfried)

- **Ballot Counting:**
  - S516 (Gianaris);
  - S1027 (Gianaris)

- **Ballot Request Timeline:**
  - S631 (Salazar);
  - S632 (Jackson)/A4564 (Bichotte Hermely)

- **Ballot Tracking:**
  - S1028 (Comrie)

- **Prepaid Postage:**
  - S909 (Sanders)/A1044 (Dinowitz)
ELECTION TRANSPARENCY & ENFRANCHISEMENT

Right Church Wrong Pew

• S284A (Myrie)/Ao624A (Carroll)

Ballot Transparency

• S286A (Myrie)/Ao6589A (Galef)
VOTING CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

John R. Lewis
Voting Rights Act

• S1046A (Myrie)/A6678 (Walker)
## JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS (JCOPE) REFORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Independence</th>
<th>• Current structure of JCOPE lacks true independence from Legislature and Governor.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transparency</td>
<td>• Need for greater transparency in reporting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enforcement</td>
<td>• Need for stronger enforcement power.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Hearings</td>
<td>• League is calling for hearings on JCOPE reform measures.</td>
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JOINT COMMISSION ON PUBLIC ETHICS (JCOPE) REFORM

Voting Structure

• A.6611 (Hyndman)/ S.5254-A (Biaggi)
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Guaranteed &amp; Universal</th>
<th>• A bill to <strong>make healthcare a right for all New Yorkers</strong> by creating a universal, single-payer health care program in New York, birth to death</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Comprehensive</td>
<td>• <strong>All essential healthcare services</strong>, physical and behavioral, including vision, dental, hearing, prescriptions, long-term care, preventive care, health education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Affordable & Equitable | • **Eliminates all financial barriers to access** (no premiums, co-pays, deductibles) — losing your job won’t lose your healthcare  
• Pays providers fairly: rich/poor, urban/rural  
• Regional oversight ensures meeting state-wide needs fairly |
| Financially Feasible & Accountable | • Financed by progressive taxes and established federal financing  
• Economic analyses project 4% first-year savings, with more over time  
• Coverage and payments subject to public oversight |
| Good for NYS Economy | • 200,000 new jobs created — mainly new small businesses (RAND)  
• No “Job-Lock” — where people stay in jobs only for healthcare  
• 90% of New Yorkers will save money — stimulating the economy  
• Local gov’ts will save ≈20% of local budgets from HC savings |
## TOOLS FOR NY HEALTH ACT — A6058/S5474

### Find Your Representatives
- Complete list of co-sponsors and non-yet sponsors provided
- With contact information and social media info

### Thank you’s & Please supports
- A majority of each chamber has signed on as co-sponsors (meaning their names are on the text of the bill)
- If your representative is a co-sponsor — begin with thank you
- If your representative is not yet a supporter, ask for their support

### Emails & Calls & Tweets
- Sample scripts provided
- Sample Tweets provided
- More ideas at Campaign for NY Health [https://www.NYHCampaign.org/](https://www.NYHCampaign.org/)

### Plan Your Lobbying Session
- Think about the PERSONAL reasons you support this bill
- Your experience(s) with the (broken) current system (based on profit)
- Your concerns about what the pandemic has revealed (job-based HC)
- Your hopes for improved equity in healthcare — better public health
MEDICAL AID IN DYING

A4321a (Paulin)/S6471 (Savino)

30 LWVNY Leagues studied Death with Dignity in 2017-2018 and adopted this position:

1. The League of Women Voters of New York State believes state laws should grant the option for a terminally ill person to request medical assistance from a relevant, licensed physician to end one’s life.

2. The League of Women Voters believes such legislation should include safeguards against abuse of the dying and protections for medical personnel who act in good faith compliance with the law.
The Proposed Medical Aid in Dying Bill:

- Is based on the 20 year old Oregon Law
- Requires 2 physicians to say that the patient is within 6 months of death
- Requires 2 physicians to say the patient is competent to make the decision
- Requires the patient to be able to self-administer the medication
- Requires that the patient request the medication orally and in writing
- Lays out the things the physician must document to comply with the law
- Requires that at least one witness to the request must be someone who will not inherit from the patient or otherwise financially benefit.
MEDICAL AID IN DYING

Lobbying for the bill:

- Send a personal LTE to a local newspaper telling the story of someone you cared about who suffered at the end of their life
- Have your League send the sample LTE to your local newspapers
- Post a picture of the person who died a difficult or terrible death and tell the story – on Facebook
- Tweet your story or a link to a story or just your support for Medical Aid in Dying at your representatives, at Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins and Speaker Carl Heastie
- Call your representatives with your support for the bills or write a personal email
This bill requires employers to:

- Disclose in writing or electronically the salary or range of compensation and benefits for job openings.
- To disclose those things to a current employee at the time of hire or upon request.
- Creates a private right of action.
- Allow any member of the public to report a violation to the DOL.
- Prohibit retaliation.
WOMEN'S ISSUES: SALARY RANGE TRANSPARENCY

- Saves time for employers and employees
- Enables prospective employees (especially women and people of color) to negotiate more effectively
- Limits litigation fears for employers
- Diminishes overt and implicit bias

Lobbying ask: become a sponsor of the bill
Updated MOS in the packet
LOBBYYING WHILE REMOTE
TIPS FOR REMOTE LOBBY MEETINGS:

- Be prepared to submit an email meeting request
- Meeting may be Zoom, Webex, or via conference line
- Email copies of advocacy documents after meetings
# Tips for Meeting Remotely:

## Assigning Roles
- Select a “researcher”, note taker, & leader/moderator

## Follow Up
- Send advocacy documents via email
- Don’t forget to send a thank you!
ADDITIONAL WAYS TO STAY INVOLVED WHILE REMOTE

- Weekly Legislative Emails every Friday during session.
- Real time updates and action alerts on Facebook and Twitter.
- Remote lobbying packets for the budget and post budget.
- Updates on upcoming remote events, rallies, and lobby days from our partner organizations.
- Member wide webinars updating on legislative action.
THANK YOU!

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