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## Waiting for the Executive Budget Proposal, the Legislature Gets Back to Business

As the Governor, her staff, and the Division of Budget work to finalize the first Executive Budget Proposal of her four-year term, the legislature got back to work this week moving chapter amendments agreed to with the Governor at the end of 2022 along with other priorities. Typically, in Albany at this time of year, the discussion would be centered on pre-released budget priorities. But with the budget likely not due to be released before the Constitutionally required February 1 date details on priorities is light, primarily outlined in the Governor's State of the State Address. We will likely see more during the days leading up to the end of the month.

**Governor Hochul Delivers State of the State Address** - As covered in the PSLLC Bulletin [found here](#), Governor Hochul delivered her State of the State Address from the NYS Assembly Chamber on January 10, 2023. The speech included highlights such as a flavor ban on tobacco products, and tying minimum wage increases to inflation among other topics. The Governor's State of the State book can be [found here](#).

**Emergency Rental Assistance (ERAP) Portal Closing** - New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) [announced](#) applications will not be accepted for the ERAP program after January 20, 2023, at 9 PM EST. Individuals will not be able to submit applications, or complete applications that have been started but not submitted, however, individuals will still be able to upload support documents for applications that were submitted and are pending.

**Office Of Cannabis Management** -The deadline for comments on the revised packaging, labeling, marketing and advertising proposed regulations is fast approaching - comments are due on January 30, 2023. Those revised proposed regulations were published on December 14, 2022 and because they are revised regulations, the comment period is 45 days as opposed to the 60-day period for initially proposed regulations. As we have noted previously, proposed adult use cannabis were published on December 14, 2022 with comments due on February 14, 2023.



## Legislative News

### Legislative Activity

The Legislature will be in session on January 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, this week and on the 23<sup>rd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup> next week. The legislature has already introduced approximately 3069 bills. The Senate passed 10 election law related bills in session last week, of note:

~ [S585 \(May\)](#) Relates to the removal of an election commissioner by the Governor or by affirmative vote of a majority of duly confirmed commissioners of the state board of elections for incompetence, misconduct, or other good cause

### Public Hearings

~On January 19<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Standing Committee on Environmental Conservation will host a public hearing to examine legislative and budgetary actions necessary for implementation of the Climate Action Council Final Scoping Plan.

~ On January 26<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Standing Committee on Children and Families will host a public hearing to receive testimony regarding the childcare crisis in New York State, the lack of availability of childcare, and any legislation or policy response to protect childcare workers and families.

## From the Governor

### Expansion of State's Major Investments in Cybersecurity Initiatives

Governor Kathy Hochul [announced \\$35.2 million](#) in new funding as part of the 2023 State of the State to support cybersecurity enhancements statewide, including the expansion of shared services to local governments that help identify security gaps that could be exploited by an adversary. Building upon legislation [recently signed by the Governor](#), the State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services will establish a specialized industrial control system assessment team to help protect critical infrastructure and manufacturing systems across the state.

### Executive Orders:

We have been told that due to the current high incidence of COVID/RSV/flu that it is likely Executive Order 4.0 (related to health care staffing shortages) will be extended at least one more time when it expires next week. The EO had been extended in December to January 22 (EO 4.16).

## State Agencies

### **From the New York Office of the Attorney General**

#### **AG Issues Statement on U.S. Supreme Court Concealed Carry Decision**

New York Attorney General Letitia James [released](#) a statement after the [United States Supreme Court ruled to allow New York's Concealed Carry Improvement Act \(CCIA\) to remain in effect pending appeal](#). The Supreme Court upheld a stay that was issued by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in *Antonyuk v. Nigrelli* in December 2022. As a result of today's decision, the full CCIA is in effect. The CCIA took effect in September 2022, in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen*.

### **From the New York Office of the NYS Comptroller**

#### **State Comptroller DiNapoli Statement on New York City Preliminary Budget**

New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli released the following statement on New York City's fiscal year (FY) 2024 preliminary budget proposal:

"The plan takes an important step towards revenue transparency, allocating the remainder of federal pandemic relief and increasing projections based on year-to-date tax collections. In combination with another Program to Eliminate the Gap savings initiative, which include savings from substantial vacancies at a number of agencies, the city now anticipates a FY 2023 surplus of \$2.2 billion, \$1.5 billion more than it had projected in November. The city intends to transfer those funds in FY 2024 to prepay a portion of next year's expenses." Full Statement can be [found here](#).

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