

## INSIDE

### Legislative News

Public Hearing Calendar

### From the Governor

New Insurance for Climate Tech

Executive Orders

### Agency News

**AG:** Secures Settlement with JUUL

**Comptroller:** Per Capita Funding from D.C. Improves

## Budget Slog Continues

State budget negotiations appear to be gaining momentum as the buzz around the Capitol has indicated members are being told to be prepared to stay for the entire week, and table targets for negotiations are rumored to be established but not public at this point. The Governor sent a short term budget extender to the legislature, [S6340 \(Krueger\) / A6550 \(Weinstein\)](#), which would be effective only through April 20<sup>th</sup>. While the 3-day budget extender is the shortest yet sent by the Governor, Capitol optimists are crossing their fingers that it aligns with rumors and statements that progress is being made and a final budget may be agreed to by the end of the week.

[According to reports](#), Comptroller Tom DiNapoli set a Tuesday at noon deadline to have a budget extender in place in order to ensure the state can pay its current obligations on time. With the release of the budget extender today, it would appear that both the Senate and Assembly are poised to meet the deadline for passing the extender. However, the sentiment surrounding the three-day budget extender remains conflicting as [some reports](#) indicate sources in the Senate and Assembly still do not expect a budget deal by Thursday when the extender runs out.

*At this point it appears that while many major policy differences between the Legislature and the Governor remain including the Governor's housing plan, progress is apparently being made on issues related to bail reform. Of course, there are many other areas that need to reach consensus before a new budget can be enacted. As we have been saying since April 1, stay tuned!*

**Independent Redistricting Commission Set to Meet:** The NYS Independent Redistricting Commission (IRC) is [set to meet](#) in the Legislative Office Building in Albany on April 20<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be to vote on a new version of NYS Assembly district maps, after a court order sent the IRC back to the drawing board and appointed a special master to draw temporary maps for the last election cycle.

**Judiciary Committees Considers Judge Appointees:** The NY Senate Judiciary Committee met today and approved the Governor's nominee for Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, Rowan Wilson. They will also meet tomorrow to consider the Governor's nomination of Caitlin Halligan to fill the remaining current vacancy on the Court of Appeals.



## Legislative News

### Legislative Activity

The Legislature is scheduled to be in session on Monday and Tuesday this week. It is rumored that legislative members were told to be prepared to stay for the full week as budget negotiations continue.

The legislature has already introduced approximately 12,886 bills. However, the only bill the Senate and Assembly considered and passed last week was the budget extender.

### Public Hearings

There are no upcoming public hearings scheduled as of publications.

## From the Governor

### **Governor Announces Funding for New Insurance Policies and Products for Climate Tech**

Governor Kathy Hochul [announced](#) \$6.5 million awarded under the Insurance Innovation for Climate-Technology Solutions program to support new insurance policies and products that will accelerate the adoption of clean technologies by consumers across New York State. The nonprofit InnSure was selected to deploy grants that will advance risk management and insurance market growth. This announcement supports the adoption of new technologies to meet the State's Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act goals, including an 85 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

### **Executive Orders:**

There were no new Executive Orders issued this week.

## State Agencies

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

#### **AG James Secures \$462 Million from JUUL for Its Role in the Youth Vaping Epidemic**

New York Attorney General Letitia James [secured the largest multistate agreement with JUUL Labs Inc. \(JUUL\)](#) and its former directors and executives for their alleged role in contributing to the youth vaping epidemic that led to a rise in underage e-cigarette vaping nationwide. As part of a multistate agreement co-led by Attorney General James and California Attorney General Rob Bonta, JUUL will pay \$462 million to six states and the District of Columbia. According to the AG, New York will receive \$112.7 million, which will support underage vaping abatement programs across the state. The agreement also requires JUUL to secure JUUL products behind retail store counters and verify the age of consumers that directly sell or promote its products online. The agreement is the largest multistate settlement with JUUL and places the most stringent restrictions on JUUL's marketing, sales, and distribution practices in order to protect and prevent minors from underage vaping.

### **From the Office of the Comptroller**

#### **Comptroller: Temporary Federal Spending Drives Up NY's National Ranking in States' Balance of Payments**

The surge in federal spending in response to the COVID-19 pandemic significantly improved New York's per capita ranking in the federal balance of payments from 49<sup>th</sup> in 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> in Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2021, [according to a report](#) released by State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli. For every dollar New York sent to the federal government in tax receipts, it received \$1.51 back in federal spending, as compared to a national average of \$1.70. DiNapoli's report found that for the second year in a row, all states had a positive balance of payments thanks to the emergency federal relief aid.

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