



Benjamin Boykin II, Chairman
Westchester County
Board of Legislators



George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

February 9, 2021

Dear Governor Cuomo, State Legislative Leaders & Members of the Westchester County Delegation to the New York State Legislature:

This past year has been one like no other. Westchester County, New York State, and our nation as a whole are facing a plethora of crises which are all intertwined. From COVID-19, to racial injustice, to the economic hole the pandemic has caused – it is imperative that those of us entrusted by the people to lead their governments take action to tackle these immense challenges.

Enclosed in this packet are pieces of legislation that we – jointly but as two separate but equal branches of government – request that you consider. We believe many of these actions will not only have a positive impact on the people of Westchester, but State and County governments themselves. In short, we aimed to provide requests that further foster our interdependent relationship to benefit those who we serve. We also recognize and support a few of the outstanding pieces of legislation you are sponsoring.

Solutions such as extending the Property Taxpayers Protection Act, expansion of downstate casino licenses and mobile sports betting, increased funding for child care, funding to respond to new demands generated by our successful implementation of Raise the Age and support for Governor Cuomo's project to invest in infrastructure developments – among others – aim to create dual paths for the State and County to positively impact the lives of Westchester residents.

We look forward to working with you and your staff this Session on these critically important legislative issues.

Sincerely,

Benjamin Boykin II, Chair
Westchester County
Board of Legislators

George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

Kitley S. Covill, Chair
Committee on Legislation

2021 WESTCHESTER COUNTY JOINT STATE LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE

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FINANCE

Section 1

Support the Expansion of Downstate Casino Licenses

REQUEST

Support Governor Cuomo's Executive Budget Proposal to authorize mobile sports wagering throughout New York State and further permit the Gaming Commission to issue a request for information for the purpose of soliciting interest, regarding the three unawarded gaming facility licenses authorized by the State Constitution.

JUSTIFICATION

Currently, sports wagering is limited to in-person betting at the four upstate casinos. Due to the distance of many of these facilities for residents of the NYC metropolitan area, it is easier for most to simply use other States' platforms. This proposal would bring revenue back to New York State that is generated by New Yorkers wagering in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, where mobile sports betting is already permitted.

State law prohibits the conversion of existing casinos into full commercial casinos, in addition to the granting of additional licenses, until 2023. The proposed legislation would authorize the Gaming Commission to select a platform provider(s) through a competitive bidding process.

A recent study issued by the NYS Gaming Commission on 1/27/21 highlighted the economic impact that revenues from the new facilities could bring to local governments. Expediting the process by which gaming facilities are granted commercial licenses, including those that currently exist in Westchester, would provide immediate revenue in addition to creating long term, sustainable economic benefits to the Westchester County including jobs and tourism. Westchester County supports the initiative to ensure that portions of the revenue generated from any new casinos will be directed to finance school districts and public education.

HISTORY

2020 - No action

Release FY2020-21 Monies Allocated to Westchester County

REQUEST

Westchester County asks that New York State release the roughly \$50 million allocated in Fiscal Year 2020-21 for programs in Westchester County including Raise the Age, patrols of State highways, and more.

JUSTIFICATION

New York State has yet to provide Westchester County roughly \$50 million in funding assigned in Fiscal Year 2020 for County programs including Raise the Age, patrols of State highways, and other programs at Westchester's Department of Health and Department of Social Services.

Westchester County faces budgetary difficulties in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has produced significant fiscal strain for the County. Sales tax revenues have decreased, demand for food support programming has more than doubled, and many of the County's functions have required dramatic changes to accommodate the hazards of the COVID-19 pandemic. Delays in releasing these funds have already impeded the County's cash flow.

Without these funds, Westchester County's balanced budget is jeopardized – forcing us to consider more dramatic cost cutting measures at a time when local government serves a critical role.

The release of Westchester County's funds would allow Westchester, which serves as a regional provider for its neighboring counties, to continue its successful implementation of Raise the Age, and would support our coronavirus response efforts.

HISTORY

2021 – NEW

2020 – Requested the release of \$38 million in Raise the Age funding

Fund Indian Point Related Emergency Operations in Westchester County by Amending Article 708

REQUEST

Change Executive Law Article 2-B Section 29-C to include ‘non-electric generating nuclear plants’ as entities required to fund State and County emergency operations.

JUSTIFICATION

Westchester County’s Office of Emergency Management (OEM) receives \$750,000 annually in funding through Executive Law Article 2-B Section 29-C. This article mandates that ‘electric generating nuclear plants’ provide funding to both New York State, which receives \$1 million annually, and to the Counties responsible for emergency response.

Under the current wording of State law, New York State, Westchester County, and the surrounding Counties, will receive funding this year and next year. However the funding will cease when the Indian Point Energy Center ceases to generate power.

Although Indian Point will no longer be generating power, the Westchester County Office of Emergency Management must still be prepared for an immediate and effective response in the event of a radiological emergency at Indian Point. There is still a significant amount of spent fuel on site, and decommissioning activities will result in transportation of materials off site and through area communities. Without funding for adequate preparedness, training, and equipment, a sufficient emergency response is not feasible.

Without a permanent federal depository for spent fuel, the spent fuel at the Indian Point Nuclear Plant could remain there for decades – making the site a continual potential hazard to the surrounding communities which must be ready to respond to emergencies.

An amendment striking the phrase “electric generating” from this section would ensure that New York State and Westchester County retain this critical funding while the plant is undergoing decommissioning and remains a spent fuel storage site. This will help ensure the safety of New York State residents in the proximity of the Indian Point facility.

HISTORY

2020 – NRC approved the transfer of Indian Point to Holtec International for decommissioning
2017 – Entergy reached an agreement with NYS to close Unit 2 by 2020 and Unit 3 by 2021

Provide Funding Parity for State Transportation Aid

REQUEST

Increase Westchester County's State Transportation Operating Assistance (STOA) to provide financial parity with Nassau County's transit assistance.

JUSTIFICATION

Westchester County's Bee-Line is the largest bus system in New York State, outside of New York City's MTA transit. Before coronavirus, it serviced nearly 30 million riders per year, or roughly 100,000 riders per weekday. Fifty-one percent of these riders are transit-dependent - meaning they rely on the Bee-Line on a daily basis and do not have a car available for their use.

With 325 vehicles and 59 bus routes, the Bee-Line caters to a wide market of users. It helps many New Yorkers commute to work by providing feeders to train stations and corporate parks. This is an amenity for New York City residents whose subway lines terminate in the Bronx and are met by Bee Line buses, and for New York City residents who take Metro North to work at Westchester businesses such as MasterCard, PepsiCo, IBM, Regeneron and numerous smaller but sizable businesses. Westchester buses also serve Putnam County.

In FY2020-21, Westchester County was allocated \$62 million of STOA, but received only \$52 million. This discrepancy compounded the challenges raised by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has generated greater costs and reduced revenues for the County's Bee-Line service.

From March 23 to September 8, 2020, Westchester County provided Bee-Line service free of charge, in order to allow passengers to enter through the rear doors – reducing the possibility of coronavirus infection through a crucial stage of the pandemic. Additional costs were incurred to protect drivers from infection; Westchester County installed new protective barriers of floor-to-ceiling plastic sheeting surrounding the driver's station.

While Nassau County has a lower ridership than Westchester County, they receive a much greater amount of STOA because the formula for STOA allocation prioritizes the distance traveled rather than ridership. In the FY 2021-22 Budget, Nassau receives \$72.4 million, compared to the significantly lower amount for Westchester of only \$59.8 million. This is a difference of \$12.6 million.

Westchester County recognizes that New York State has significant fiscal constraints this year. Instead of immediate parity, we are comfortable with gradual increases in our share of STOA, to accomplish parity over a two to five year period.

HISTORY

2020 – Westchester is allocated \$62 million in STOA; Westchester receives \$52 million.
No parity with Nassau.

2019 – No parity with Nassau County

Invest in New York State Local Infrastructure Projects

REQUEST

Invest in New York State local infrastructure projects. Consider funding the following projects in Westchester County.

JUSTIFICATION

Governor Cuomo has indicated that his administration will be pursuing several large infrastructure projects in an effort to enhance economic growth as New York State reopens. Should the State decide to pursue a larger investment in infrastructure by partnering with other jurisdictions, Westchester County submits the following projects as candidates for State support.

PROJECTS

Yonkers JTP Methane Recapture Project

Total project cost: \$69 million

- This project will allow the Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant to rely on recaptured methane for roughly 70% of its energy usage, reducing emissions and allowing better odor control at the facility.

Bronx River Pathway Completion

Total project cost: \$14 million

- This project will complete the two missing sections of the Bronx River Pathway to create a continuous path from New York City to Kensico Dam Plaza.

Port Chester Waste Water Treatment Facility Upgrades

Total project cost: \$34 million

- This project will allow Westchester County to upgrade the Port Chester Waste Water Treatment Facility. Electrical and HVAC systems at this facility are reaching the end of their useful life. These large industrial systems will be replaced and modernized, resulting in additional energy efficiency, long-term cost savings and improved odor control.

Food Waste Recovery Facility

Total project cost: \$2.7 million

Westchester County is constructing an anaerobic digesting facility to allow the recovery and re-use of food waste. This will keep additional waste from landfills, cutting emissions and reducing the load on Westchester's waste disposal systems. Additionally, this will provide Westchester County with healthy soil that can be utilized by local gardeners and farmers.

Oppose shifting costs for Aid and Incentives for Municipalities onto Westchester County

REQUEST

Oppose shifting costs for Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) to Westchester County.

JUSTIFICATION

Governor Cuomo's FY2021-22 budget proposed a 20% cut in Aid to Municipalities (AIM) and transfers the remaining AIM payments to towns and villages to the County sales tax diversion program.

If AIM continues to be funded through the County sales tax diversion program, Westchester County stands to lose roughly \$400,000 in addition to the roughly \$4 million it loses annually for AIM-related payments to towns and villages.

Portions of Westchester's sales tax have been diverted by New York State for use in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, County sales tax has been decreased overall by the pandemic. Westchester County already shares roughly \$115 million of its sales tax collection, more than what is legally mandated, with towns and villages.

With revenues reduced and costs increased by the COVID-19 pandemic, drawing further from this critical stream of revenue will impede the County's capacity to respond to and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

As such, Westchester County asks that funding for AIM be redirected from County sales tax.

HISTORY

2021 - NEW

Make the Westchester County Property Taxpayer Protection Act Permanent

REQUEST

Support Governor Cuomo's measures to make the Westchester County Property Taxpayer Protection Act permanent by eliminating the need for periodic State renewal.

JUSTIFICATION

In 2019, Westchester County sought authorization to raise its sales tax in order to have parity with other counties in the State. At that time, the combined sales tax rate for Westchester County, outside of the four major cities, was 7.375%, the lowest sales tax rate in New York State among the most populous counties.

The sales tax rate for New York City is 8.875%; the sales tax rate for Nassau and Suffolk Counties is 8.625%; the sales tax rate for Putnam and Rockland Counties is 8.375%; and the sales tax rate for Dutchess and Orange Counties is 8.125%.

On June 30, 2019, Governor Cuomo signed Chapters 44 and 43 of the laws of 2019, authorizing the County of Westchester to impose an additional 1% rate of sales and compensating use tax. In addition, Chapters 44 and 43 also changed the expiration date of the Westchester County Spending Limitation Act to November 30, 2020 in order to coincide with the expiration of its additional 1%.

The 1% increase was renewed through New York State's Executive Budget on April 3, 2020.

Westchester County discretionarily shares extra sales tax revenue with both local municipalities and school districts, and has continued this policy through the COVID-19 pandemic.

At present, both periods of authorization are set to expire by November 30, 2023. Making the increase permanent would ensure long-term stability for an essential component of Westchester County's revenue – as well as the revenues of Westchester's municipalities and school districts.

HISTORY

2019 – Property Taxpayer Protection Act passed

Share Revenue from Recreational Marijuana with Westchester County

REQUEST

If New York State legalizes recreational marijuana, ensure that sales tax from these products is delivered to Westchester County.

JUSTIFICATION

Governor Cuomo has proposed to legalize adult-use recreational marijuana through the Cannabis Regulation and Taxation Act (CRTA). Through this measure, Westchester County consumers would be taxed at 18.25%, or at the rate of 18.875% in the City of Yonkers.

Many residents have faced economic and personal hardship throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Increased revenues would allow Westchester County to provide additional resources to health and mental health programs, addiction prevention programs and alternative to incarceration programs.

There is potential for substantial tax revenue from the CRTA that can be used to help support program initiatives in these areas. While revenues from local sales tax will not be realized immediately, the impact of cuts to the roughly 20% cut to AIM and other local programmatic funding will last for years. Anticipated funding will assist the County in being able to plan in managing the long-term impact of these budget cuts and withholdings.

Should the Governor's proposal fail, but legalization occur through other mechanisms, Westchester County urges its New York State Delegation to ensure that sales tax from these products is provided to Counties.

HISTORY

2021-2022: S854 (Krueger), A1248 (Peoples-Stokes)

2019-2020: S1527 (Krueger), A1617 (Peoples-Stokes)

2017-2018: S3040 (Krueger), A3506 (Peoples-Stokes)

Fund State Highway Patrols

REQUEST

Allocate funding to cover the cost of the Westchester County Department of Public Safety's patrol of New York State Parkways.

JUSTIFICATION

The Westchester County Department of Public Safety, through a grant agreement with New York State, patrols State Parkways in Westchester County – specifically the Hutchinson River Parkway, Saw Mill River Parkway and Cross County Parkway. In 2020, the State allocated approximately \$2 million to pay for this service, and re-appropriated \$1.2 million which Westchester had not yet received.

Westchester typically receives roughly \$2 million to perform this service. This figure has not been increased for several years; performing this service costs Westchester over \$5 million – meaning despite the State's allocations, the County loses \$3 million a year performing this service. This year, even the \$2 million was cut from the Governor's budget.

These patrols generate roughly \$2 million in revenue to the State and \$4 million in revenue to local municipalities through tickets and other fines. Westchester County receives no money from these fines.

Westchester County has received none of the funding allocated for this program through FY20-21. Westchester's budgeted cost in FY20-21 for providing this service was roughly \$5.5 million, and will rise to \$5.8 million in FY21-22. This does not include the cost of vehicles, fuel, maintenance, computers, firearms, and other associated equipment. In summary, Westchester County loses over \$3 million annually from providing this service, and has not been paid to perform this service since 2019.

Funding and additional appropriation is necessary to cover the cost of the County's patrols, and to shift the burden of this cost from County taxpayers.

HISTORY

2021 - New York State cut all funding for this program in the Executive Budget; Westchester anticipates costs of \$5.8 million.

2020 - The State appropriated \$2,235,000 and re-appropriated \$1.2 million Westchester incurred costs of \$5.5 million, and received no funding

2019 - The State appropriated \$1,984,000;

Westchester incurred costs of \$5.3 million, and received re-appropriated funding of \$1.2 million

Support Governor Cuomo's Executive Budget Proposals Funding Local Highway and Bridge Projects

REQUEST

Support Governor Cuomo's Executive Budget Proposal regarding the Consolidated Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS).

JUSTIFICATION

In FY20-21, Westchester County was allocated \$2.7 million in CHIPS funding and \$620,000 in PAVE NY funding. Westchester received roughly \$2.2 million in CHIPS funding and about \$500,000 in PAVE NY funding.

In the FY21-22 Executive Budget, Westchester County is allocated \$2.7 million in CHIPS funding and \$627,000 in PAVE NY funding. Westchester applauds the increase in this allocation, and urges its delegation to support this measure.

As Westchester County recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, this funding will ensure that our roads are well-maintained, providing jobs and benefitting economic activity throughout the County.

State Reimbursement to Counties for Full Amount of Expenditures for Indigent Legal Services
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REQUEST

We request that the State fully reimburse Westchester County for Indigent Legal Services in the 2021 State budget. Inclusion in the State budget will ensure that all persons accused of crimes in New York are able to receive effective legal representation whether or not they have the ability to pay for a lawyer, by establishing a system of direct state funding at the requisite adequate level to eliminate the geographic disparity in representation.

JUSTIFICATION

New York State settled a lawsuit brought by five counties (Suffolk, Washington, Ontario, Onondaga, and Schuyler), and agreed that the Office of Indigent Legal Services would be in charge of the public defense operations in those counties. This was the first time in New York that a statewide entity was be responsible for legal representation of all indigent criminal defendants. Counties statewide are currently responsible for funding indigent legal services by federal mandate, but adherence is uneven and dependent on a particular county's ability to properly fund the program. Many counties have no system for supervising caseloads or quality, no staffing formula to ensure an appropriate number of public defenders, and no standard ensuring comparable compensation for defenders.

The estimated cost for Westchester County for 2021 is as follows:

(2085) Legal Aid Society of Westchester	\$14,097,624
(2090) Legal Srvs-indig Def-Felony	\$ 4,474,422
(2091) Legal Srvs-indig Def-Misdemeanor	\$ 5,974,136
Total	\$24,546,182

HISTORY

A1903 (Fahy) - 1/3/18 – referred to Codes

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES

Section 2

Support Right to Counsel for Evictions

REQUEST

Develop a State program providing right to counsel for evictions on a Statewide basis.

JUSTIFICATION

The coronavirus pandemic has forced hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers into precarious financial situations. According to State metrics, from February to August of 2020, New York ranked second nationally for both numerical and percentile jobs lost (1,258,400 and 12.8%).

Even before the pandemic, low-income families had unreliable access to legal representation in cases of eviction. According to data maintained by Stout Risius Ross LLC, nearly 1.5 million New Yorkers were at risk of eviction in August of 2020.

As such, we recommend New York State pass legislative measures to provide statewide free legal representation to low-income New Yorkers facing eviction.

HISTORY

2019-20: S.5009 (Parker)/A.5199 (Walker)

2017-18: S.2230 (Parker)/A.6248 (Walker)

2015-16: S.1937 (Parker)/A.6802 (Walker)

Adopt Red Flag Mandatory Notification Regulations
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REQUEST

Adopt Red Flag Mandatory Notification Regulations to ensure that mental health facilities provide Extreme Risk Protection Order information to patients and families upon discharge.

JUSTIFICATION

Recently a Westchester resident was released from a private mental health facility and sent home with her husband. Unbeknownst to him, she was able to legally purchase a firearm and committed suicide. He was not aware of the Extreme Risk Protection Order law, and therefore did not know that he could have taken steps to prevent her from being able to purchase a gun. With the passage of this law, the facility will be required to provide ERPO information to patients and their authorized representative upon release, potentially saving lives and reducing suicides.

HISTORY

A1005 (Paulin)

Acquisition of North County Trailway by Westchester County

REQUEST

Support the acquisition of the North County Trailway by Westchester County for \$1.

JUSTIFICATION

The County operates and maintains two recreational trailways that span Westchester County along a former railroad line from the Putnam County border to Van Cortlandt Park in the Bronx. The trailways are a unique resource enjoyed by thousands of hikers, bicyclists, and park-goers each year. Located north of Interstate Highway I-287, the North County Trailway is leased to the County by the New York State Department of Transportation (“NYSDOT”) under a newly signed 25-year lease. South of I-287, the County both owns and operates the South County Trailway, having acquired this asset from New York State in 1993. We appreciate the assistance of NYSDOT thus far in making the North County Trailway available for residents of Westchester County and others nearby.

We believe the County’s interests are best served by the County’s acquisition of the North County Trailway for \$1. Although we have authorized a new 25-year lease with NYSDOT in order to continue public access, we think full County ownership of the North County Trailway would enable the County to more efficiently implement improvements, as well as simplify County planning and operations overall. Note that the County is currently undertaking a substantial rehabilitation of the North County Trailway, for which we have authorized bond financing of \$8.75 million. However, the lease requires the County to obtain New York State approval prior to constructing the improvements, thus adding another step to completing this upgrade. Other typical lease provisions - such as County defense and indemnification of the State - put responsibilities on the County that are equally satisfied by County ownership of the North County Trailway.

HISTORY

S1138 (Harckham)/A4017 (Abinanti)

S1138 - 1/8/21 - referred to Investigations and Government Operations

A4017 – 2/1/21 – referred to Governmental Operations

Utility Regulation

REQUEST

Pass legislation requiring each electric corporation to submit a storm hardening and system resiliency plan that covers the immediate ten-year period to the public service commission for review and approval. Pass legislation requiring emergency response plans to be submitted to the public service commission by electricity corporations. Such plans must include details of staffing, equipment and ability to perform to the level of certain standards.

JUSTIFICATION

A1008 - Requires each electric corporation to submit a storm hardening and system resiliency plan that covers the immediate ten-year period to the public service commission for review and approval; makes related provisions.

A1925 - Relates to the contents of emergency response plans required to be submitted to the public service commission by electric corporations; requires such plans to include details of staffing, equipment, and ability to perform toward certain standards.

S00136A - Relates to strengthening of utility storm response and compliance; will incentivize better regulatory compliance by utilities through increased flexibility for the Public Service Commission to assess penalties on utilities for violations of the public service law, and by expanding emergency response plan requirements.

HISTORY

A1008 (Paulin) – 1/7/21 - referred to corporations, authorities and commissions

A1925 (Otis) – 1/13/21 - referred to corporations, authorities and commissions

S00136A (Mayer) – 1/6/21- referred to energy and telecommunications

-2/3/21 – 2nd report calendar

Establish the “Childcare and Early Education Sector on the Economy Act”
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REQUEST

Support and approve the “Childcare and Early Education Sector on the Economy Act” to study the economic impact on the State economy of quality childcare and early education programs for children aged 0 - 4 and afterschool programs for children aged 5 – 12.

JUSTIFICATION

Currently, there is no requirement for a public agency to conduct a comprehensive study which would serve to identify the economic impact that the child care industry has had on the New York State economy. It is essential for the state's economic well-being to conduct a study in order to determine the value that the child care industry has had on the state economy and thereby expend state resources in the most effective manner possible based upon the results of this study.

HISTORY

A2324 (Solanges)

1/28/21 - referred to Economic Development

Require Certain Hospitals to Obtain Approval at a Mandatory Voter Referendum Before Closing

REQUEST

Introduce and approve legislation requiring a hospital located in a municipality with a population of less than 250,000 persons to obtain approval from voters at a mandatory referendum before closing.

JUSTIFICATION

Smaller regional hospitals are closing at an alarming rate nationwide. The COVID-19 pandemic has proven that it is essential that we keep these hospitals in operation to help people in underserved communities. Without reliable, accessible healthcare, these residents, many of whom are at risk for or suffering with chronic illnesses requiring continual care, will suffer tremendously. Health care is critical to the well-being of the residents and the vibrancy of the communities. This legislation is necessary to ensure that they have a voice in decisions with such far-reaching impact in their communities.

HISTORY

New

Make Shared Services Initiatives Permanent

REQUEST

Support Governor Cuomo's proposal to fund and make permanent County-Wide Shared Services Initiatives.

JUSTIFICATION

Shared Services Initiatives are a helpful tool for localities to collaborate and save money. Providing incentives by offering opportunities for grant money will motivate County representatives to work together with town supervisors, village mayors and school district officials. Together we can successfully come up with plans to eliminate wasteful duplication of services and lessen the financial burden on taxpayers.

Westchester County is working cooperatively with officials to get assistance which will provide relief to County taxpayers. With six cities, 19 towns, and 23 villages, Westchester is ripe for effective shared service plans. For example, many of our communities have watershed issues. This program provides a forum and allows municipalities to band together to find long term solutions to flooding problems.

Finances for the County and many of its localities and school districts are stretched to their limit. These governments need to brainstorm and find solutions to problems that are common in multiple jurisdictions. This will provide us with the opportunity to receive state funding while still providing the essential services our constituents rely on. For 2020, the County's anticipated net savings for new shared services initiatives is \$3 - \$3.5 million and \$7 - \$8 million for ongoing initiatives. If Shared Services Initiatives are made permanent, we could work to increase these savings.

HISTORY

In the current proposed State budget, the State will make county-wide shared services initiatives permanent.

DELEGATION SUPPORT LIST

Section 3

Delegation Support List

1. S3593 / A3912 (Biaggi/Hevesi) - Provides internet access to all individuals receiving temporary housing assistance; provides that one hundred percent of the cost for the expense incurred for local social service districts to provide such internet access shall be reimbursed by the state.
2. S3184 (Mayer) - Enacts the "E-Let's Expand Access to Remote Now (E-LEARN) Act" to ensure all children have access to the delivery of technology through high-quality broadband internet connectivity in support of the constitutional education obligations of the state; imposes assessments on telecommunications providers; creates a state fund to accomplish objectives.
3. S821 / A2490 (Biaggi/Aubry) - Provides that no law enforcement agency shall hire any person as a police officer who was previously employed as a police officer by such agency or in any other jurisdiction and who: (i) was dismissed for malfeasance or other serious misconduct calling into question such person's fitness to serve as a police officer; or (ii) resigned or retired from such officer's position while under investigation for such malfeasance or other serious misconduct; defines terms; makes related provisions.
4. A6515 (Galef-2020 Bill number) - Allow Westchester to raise the maximum income level to qualify for the Senior Citizen Exemption.
6. A1933 (Galef) - Prevent HOAs from banning solar panels in their communities.
7. A1168 (Paulin) – Establish a carbon dioxide emissions price to be used in electricity markets and distribute the revenue to low-income individuals and communities and to support mass transit.
8. A1065 (Paulin) - Early Intervention - Amends the insurance law to ensure recoupment from commercial insurers for the cost of the early intervention program.
9. A.356 (Paulin-2020 Bill number) - Establishes a statewide fund from which municipalities and the State would be allocated monies to pay for Early Intervention services.
10. A.2879 (Paulin- 2020 Bill number) - Amends Chapter 58 of the laws of 2005 relating to reimbursements for expenditures made by or on behalf of social services districts for medical assistance for needy persons and amends the General Municipal Law in relation to calculating social services district medical assistance expenditure amounts.
11. S00658 (Harckham) - Directs the education department to study, review and report on the placement of the county of Westchester in the Hudson Valley region for purposes of public school foundation aid.
12. A4662/S01201 (Burdick/Harckham) - Relates to competency exams offered to qualified home care services workers residing outside this state.
13. S1106 (Stewart-Cousins) - An act to amend the real property law, in relation to prohibiting the termination of tenancy in certain housing occupied by senior citizens and/or persons with disabilities