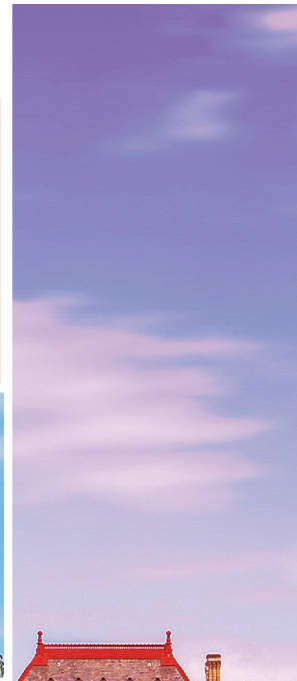
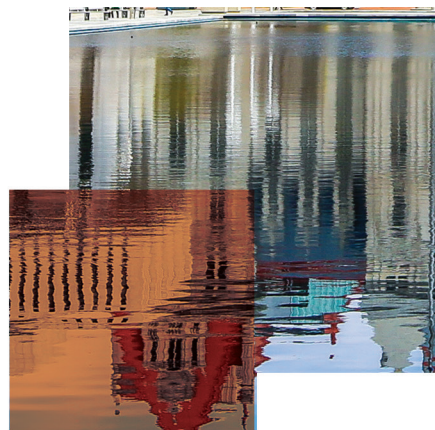


The New York State Assembly
Annual Report



**20
25**



Committee on
Corporations, Authorities &
Commissions

Speaker Carl E. Heastie
Edward C. Braunstein, CHAIR



EDWARD C. BRAUNSTEIN
Assemblyman 26th District
Queens County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIR
Corporations, Authorities and
Commissions Committee

COMMITTEES
Health
Judiciary
Rules
Ways and Means

December 15, 2025

The Honorable Carl Heastie, Speaker
New York State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 349
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Speaker Heastie:

As Chair of the Assembly Standing Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions, I am pleased to submit the Committee's 2025 Annual Report.

During this Legislative Session, the Committee addressed issues related to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("MTA"), utility billing procedures, and state public authority operations. The Committee also advanced legislation to establish a permit system for emergency response vehicles conducting operations on the New York State Thruway, eliminating the need for these organizations to apply for refunds for tolling fees. To further support New Yorkers in receiving affordable and reliable utility service, the Committee advanced legislation establishing timelines for the Public Service Commission to respond to consumer complaints about their utility service providers.

The work accomplished this legislative session reflects the Committee's dedication to continue to meet the challenges of providing safe and reliable public transportation at the lowest cost to New Yorkers, highlighted by the continued work by the legislature inside and outside the budget to empower the MTA to use their capital funding efficiently. The Committee remains dedicated to ensuring that the Public Service Commission is empowered to provide consumer protections to all rate payers, as evidenced by the passage of legislation to limit instances of estimated billing. This legislation will ensure that New Yorkers are confident they are paying accurate bills without worrying about surprise costs in subsequent months. In addition, the Committee will continue to conduct much needed oversight of public authorities, pushing for greater transparency and modernization of policies.

The Committee looks forward to addressing these ongoing challenges in the upcoming 2026 Legislative Session. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Committee members for their contributions to the Committee in this session. It has been a privilege to serve as Chair of the Corporations, Authorities and Commissions Committee. I look forward to our further collaboration in the coming year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Braunstein", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Edward C. Braunstein, Chair
Assembly Standing Committee
on Corporations, Authorities
and Commissions

2025 Annual Report

New York State Assembly Standing Committee On Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions

Edward C. Braunstein, Chair

Committee Members

Majority

Vivian E. Cook
Steven Otis
Nily Rozic
Ron Kim
Erik Martin Dilan
Stacey Pheffer Amato
Robert C. Carroll
Charles D. Fall
Jessica González-Rojas
Stefani Zinerman
Yudelka Tapia
Jonathan Jacobson
Alex Bores
MaryJane Shimsky
Tony Simone
William C. Conrad
Micah Lasher

Minority

John Lemondes, Jr.
Kenneth D. Blankenbush
Christopher S. Friend
Phillip A. Palmesano
Joseph G. Angelino
Joshua T. Jensen
Jacob R. Blumencranz
Andrea K. Bailey

Staff

Matt Henning, Assistant Secretary for Program and Policy
Emily Vaculik, Associate Counsel
Liz Buono, Legislative Analyst

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions oversees laws and statutes concerning private, not-for-profit, and public corporations in New York State. Much of the Committee's focus is on the organizational framework and activities of the State's public benefit corporations, often referred to as public authorities. Public authorities are created by state law and operate at the state, interstate, and local government levels providing services such as mass transit, development and operation of infrastructure, power generation, and capital construction. These entities perform vital public services and are held accountable in their role through public and legislative oversight. Consequently, the Committee devotes significant time to considering legislation that promotes accountability and transparency of public authorities.

During the annual state budget process, the Committee reviews funding for transit authorities and works to ensure that funds are appropriated wisely. New York has mass transit systems in nearly every major population center across the state, with a public authority operating most of these systems. The Committee has a particular interest in the Metropolitan Transportation Authority ("MTA"), operating in New York City, which runs the largest mass transit system in the nation and has extensive capital requirements.

In addition, the Committee monitors the operations and policies of the New York State Public Service Commission ("PSC") and considers legislation that amends the Public Service Law. The Commission's seven commissioners and the Department of Public Service are required by Public Service Law to ensure that investor-owned electric, gas, telephone, water, and cable utilities in the state provide adequate service at reasonable rates. The Committee takes an active role in protecting consumers and reports significant legislation that modernizes and amends the Public Service Law.

The Committee also examines legislation affecting the governance structure of both for-profit and not-for-profit corporations in the state. This includes cemetery corporations, a special type of not-for-profit corporation. Through legislation, the Committee ensures laws affecting all corporate entities remain up-to-date and continue to serve the public interest.

II. BUDGET

During this year's state budget process, the Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions reviewed, developed, and ensured responsible enactment of several important initiatives relating to the Metropolitan Transit Authority ("MTA"), the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York ("DASNY"), and the newly established Buffalo Parking Authority.

The enacted budget authorized the establishment of the Buffalo Parking Authority. Parking authorities have assisted municipalities throughout the state in providing efficient parking operations and enforcement while bringing revenue to the municipalities they operate in. Following requests from the City of Buffalo to create a parking authority to manage, operate, and maintain the city-owned parking infrastructure, the Authority was authorized to issue up to sixty-five million dollars in bonds to effectuate this purpose.

Several important changes were made and new policies implemented, relating to the MTA in this year's budget. A one-year extension was given to the MTA's Tax Increment Financing powers, allowing for their continued ability to utilize all possible revenue mechanisms for proposed projects. The Enacted Budget appropriates three billion dollars in state funds and three billion dollars of funds from the City of New York to fund paratransit expenses in the 2025-2029 Capital Plan. These dollars will be used to continue to fund services for paratransit programs, which is an increasing percentage of the MTA's ridership. Finally, the Enacted Budget provided a five-year extension of the Authority's powers to use vacant and underdeveloped property owned by the City of New York. It expanded the existing powers to include capital projects related to the Second Avenue Subway, the Interborough Express, and reconstruction of signal and communication systems.

Finally, the enacted budget extended and made improvements upon state entities authorized to receive DASNY services. DASNY's ability to enter into design and construction management agreements with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York State Department of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation was extended through 2027.

III. 2025 COMMITTEE LEGISLATION

The following bills passed both houses:

A.34 (Eachus)

Veto Memo 55

This bill would require the New York State Thruway Authority to issue emergency services permits for certain emergency vehicles, allowing them to be exempted from tolls on the thruway. Additionally, the bill would require the Authority to promulgate rulemaking to provide a process for applications for the permits, and issue refunds for tolls incurred during the interim period until the program was finalized.

A.0589 (Paulin)

Veto Memo 86

This bill makes several changes to Chapter 154 of the Laws of 1921, relating to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. These changes include increasing the number of non-voting members on the board, requiring job related experience for commissioners of the authority, and requiring an independent engineering consultant to be hired for major capital projects. Additionally, the bill establishes the Port Authority Transportation Advisory Committee, which would serve as a vehicle for information sharing between transportation officials and agencies in New York and New Jersey.

A.2447 (Levenberg)

Veto Memo 82

This bill requires a public utility or municipality performing service on a property to notify a property owner when the service may interfere with the owner's ability to use or access the property. Such notification must also be sent to neighboring properties of the location where work will be performed whose service may be impacted. The notification must take place no more than thirty days and no less than five days in advance of the start of the scheduled service.

A.2746 (O'Pharrow)

Signed Chapter 104 of the Laws of 2025

This law makes technical amendments to Chapter 528 of the Laws of 2024 relating to the Republic Airport Commission to require a three-person list to be sent by each appointee when filling a vacancy on the Commission's board.

A.3224 (Braunstein)

Signed Chapter 101 of the Laws of 2025

This law increases the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York's bond cap for hospital related purposes from 18.2 billion dollars to 20 billion dollars.

A.4396 (Fall)

Veto Memo 49

This bill increases the number of members of the Battery Park City Authority from seven to nine and requires at least five of those members to be primary residents of Battery Park City.

A.4873 (Chandler-Waterman)

Veto Memo 128

This bill would require any subway or train operated by the New York City Transit Authority to have a conductor onboard whenever two or more cars are attached to an engine.

A.5339 (Wright)

Signed Chapter 322 of the Laws of 2025

This law renames the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's 110th Street- Central Park North subway station on the IRT Lexington Avenue line to the "110th Street – Malcolm X Plaza Station." The station renaming will recognize the impact of Malcom X on the history of New York State and the country in recognition of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

A.5969 (Jacobson)

Veto Memo 83

This bill would ensure utilities use actual meter readings when using estimated billing practices and requires the Public Service Commission to promulgate rules and regulations relating to estimated billing practices. Additionally, the bill would provide certain exemptions for smart meter usage and prohibits utility corporations from recovering costs they are unable to charge a customer due to violation of these provisions through the rate-making process.

A.6768 (Braunstein)

Signed Chapter 495 of the Laws of 2025

This law requires any entity leasing excavation equipment to provide notice with the current state undergrounding law, including the program's toll-free number. This will inform the lease of their obligation to inform the utility of use of excavation equipment. Current law in New York State requires a utility receive notice when a project may potentially impact any underground lines a utility operates to provide service to their customers. This law will ensure that lessees who may be unfamiliar with these requirements are compliant with these safeguards.

A.7086 (Torres)

Veto Memo 75

This bill would require the New York State Thruway Authority to submit to the Governor, Legislature and Comptroller its operating and fiscal transactions report on a biannual basis, rather than an annual basis. Additionally, the bill would expand the report to require a list of contracts entered into by the authority during the reported periods.

A.7377 (Stirpe)

Veto Memo 72

This bill would establish a stakeholder group, in consultation with the Department of Environmental Conservation, to assess efforts on coordinating water release into the Oswego River Basin. The group would utilize existing information on flood storage and make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on such coordination efforts.

A.7544-A (Magnarelli)

Signed Chapter 700 of the Laws of 2025

This law establishes a statewide record keeping process for pole attachment work, a public complaint form for the public to report unsafe work to the Public Service Commission and require companies to report changes in contractors to municipalities for right-of-way permits. Additionally, the bill establishes a process for the examination of complaints including timelines for response and remediation, fine schedules for unremedied violations, and the maintenance of a list of attachers who have committed three or more violations.

A.7892 (Braunstein)

Signed Chapter 417 of the Laws of 2025

This law would permit the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese to be exempt from notice requirements to the Attorney General regarding dispositions of property. This exemption is provided for other hierarchical religious institutions, including the Presbyterian Church and Roman Catholic Church, because these dispositions are internally subject to an approval system within their structures. Upon completion of any property disposition, the Archdiocese will certify to the courts they completed this process in their petition to dispose of property for the courts' contemplation.

A.7994-B (Barrett)

Signed Chapter 355 of the Laws of 2025

This law allows the New York State Dormitory Authority ("DASNY") to provide financing or refinancing services for residential housing located on the campus of Dutchess County Community College.

A.8069-A (Braunstein)

Signed Chapter 141 of the Laws of 2025

This law requires the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's condemnation interest rate to remain at six percent through June 24, 2028. This condemnation rate is the rate of interest to be paid by the MTA upon losing property in any condemnation proceeding.

A.8116-A (Magnarelli)

Signed Chapter 496 of the Laws of 2025

This law exempts all positions outside of police positions within the Syracuse Regional Airport Authority to be classified as exempt from Civil Service requirements.

A.8154 (Braunstein)

Signed Chapter 497 of the Laws of 2025

This law amends the Executive and Public Authorities Laws regarding compensation for the Chair of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority ("NYSERDA") to clarify that the chair is an uncompensated by the State for their service. This is in-line with current NYSERDA practices and amends the law further to clarify that the NYSERDA Chair may seek private employment.

A.8374-A (Kassay)

Signed Chapter 356 of the Laws of 2025

This law allows the New York State Dormitory Authority ("DASNY") to provide financing or refinancing services for up to four advanced specialty care centers for SB Clinical Practice Management Plan, Inc..

A.8662-A (Gallagher)

Veto Memo 164

This bill would remove previous references to federal laws and regulations regarding beneficial ownership disclosure definitions that are no longer in effect on the federal level and provides the previously cross-referenced definitions into statute to ensure that the original legislative intent is maintained.

A.8888 (Simon)

Signed Chapter 709 of the Laws of 2025

This law removes provisions relating to the "100-foot rule" from the Public Service Law for gas customers, requiring that applicants for service pay for material and installation for new ratepayers connecting to the gas system.

The following bill passed the Assembly Only:

A.1441-A (Dinowitz)

Passed Assembly

This bill would require a utility company to provide a copy of all customer complaint procedures, including any amendments made, to the Public Service Commission. It would additionally require that the complainant be informed of the result of an investigation based on their complaint and establish penalties for a utility corporation's failure to do so within the established time period.

A.1906 (Colton)

Passed Assembly

This bill would require the MTA to notify riders of bed bug infestations within 24 hours of discovering such infestations. Notifications may be provided to customers via text, email or on the MTA's website.

A.5134 (Solages)

Passed the Assembly

This bill would amend vacancy appointments for the Long Island Railroad ("LIRR") Commuter Council. Currently, vacancies to the LIRR Commuter Council require three names to be submitted per vacancy, while other commuter councils only require the submission of one name per vacancy. This change will allow the council to be in line with the requirements of other equivalent organizations.

A.6617-A (Zinerman)

Passed the Assembly

This bill would rename the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Utica Avenue subway station on the A and C lines to the "Malcolm X Boulevard-Utica Avenue Station." The station renaming will recognize the impact of Malcom X on the history of New York State and the country in recognition of the 100th anniversary of his birth.

A.7039 (Braunstein)

Referred to Ways and Means

This bill would require projects before the Public Authorities Control Board ("PACB") that are intended for job creation or retention to share with the Board certain information about the loan or grant related to the project. Additionally, the bill includes the requirement that claw back provisions exist to address instances where the project does not provide the job creation or retention that is prescribed. Should those requirements be impracticable, the bill allows for the

applicant authority to include a letter explaining why those certain provisions could not be provided for the PACB's review.

The following bills were reported from Committee:

A.173 (Paulin)

Ordered to Third Reading

This bill would require increased transparency and accountability for not-for-profit corporations that function as a subsidiary of local governments if they are engaged in municipal economic development. Changes would include: requiring the Department of State to transmit to the Authorities Budget Office ("ABO") a copy of any certificate of incorporation filed indicating such certificate was filed on behalf of a municipal corporation, public authority, or district; requiring any person or municipality forming a not-for-profit for the purpose of municipal economic development or that would be controlled by the municipality to receive the consent of the ABO; and subjecting not-for-profit corporations where a majority of the board members are appointed by elected officials or a municipal corporation to abide by the requirements of open meetings and Freedom of Information laws.

A.953 (Shrestha)

Ordered to Third Reading

This bill would establish the "Consumer Utility Protections During Investigations Act", to prevent utility corporations from imposing late fees, interest, or penalties on a consumer during certain investigations. Investigations shall include proceedings conducted by the Public Service Commission ("PSC") regarding billing, rates, and charges but may also include any proceeding the PSC determines a utility corporation should pause the implementation of these fees. Upon the conclusion of an investigation, the PSC would then determine what, if any, penalties should be imposed on its customers or elect to waive in whole or in part penalties and interest fees charged to customers. The bill additionally includes provisions regarding notice requirements of such an investigation and limitations on consumer shut offs during the proceedings.

A.2430 (Braunstein)

Ordered to Third Reading

This bill would require the PSC to create a "residential water cost index" formula to measure the average annual cost of water service to a single-family home for water service corporations and municipal water systems to use to establish an index for their service territory. This index will allow customers to compare the rate of their local service provider to other service providers across the state.

A.2431 (Braunstein)*Ordered to Third Reading*

This bill would mandate the Public Service Commission to require water corporations who provide service to co-operatives (“co-ops”) and condominiums to offer these residents the option to obtain service disruption updates directly. Currently, these corporations are only required to report service disruption updates directly to the co-op or condominium management, sometimes resulting in the unit owners not receiving updates.

A.3743 (Dinowitz)*Reported to Ways and Means*

This bill would require electric corporations to establish a unique phone number for customers with medical equipment requiring essential electricity for assistance related to power outages.

A.4713 (Sayegh)*Ordered to Third Reading*

This bill would require utility corporations, including telecommunications companies, to provide a 24-hour number for consumers to report outages, and have such number capable of providing access in instances where extreme weather may increase demand on the volume of such calls.

A.8131-A (Kelles)*Reported to Codes*

This bill would allow recipients of municipal internet program grants through the ConnectALL program to work directly with tenants for service. Current law provides this authorization for private broadband companies, but without this change grants recipients would need to work with landlords to provide service.

A.8174-A (Rozic)*Reported to Codes*

This bill would prohibit any person who worked for an energy company within the previous two years from serving as a Commissioner on the Public Service Commission and increases the required number of Commissioners with a consumer advocacy background from one to two members.

A.8569 (Braunstein)*Reported to Ways and Means*

This bill would repeal the Governor's unilateral authorization to remove a member from the Public Authorities Control Board, if the Governor determines that a member voted on a project on the basis of reasons other than financial viability.

A.8570 (Braunstein)

Reported to Ways and Means

This bill would require an acting president or chair of the Urban Development Corporation have a six-month limit on their interim placement. The time limit will ensure that any long-standing leadership of the agency is reviewed through the required Senate confirmation process.

A.8675 (Braunstein)

Ordered to Third Reading

This bill would establish the definition of critical infrastructure used in the penal law relating to criminal tampering in the first and second degree to ensure that telecommunications infrastructure is fully captured. Additionally, the bill would expand the requirements a junk dealer must comply with when accepting the sale of critical infrastructure from another person.

IV. OUTLOOK FOR 2026

The Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions plays an active role in overseeing the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (“MTA”). While various initiatives are proceeding to make the transportation network of the New York Metropolitan region as affordable, reliable, and efficient as possible, the Committee continues to monitor the authority’s progress as it utilizes new funding streams enacted in the most recent State Budget to address financial shortfalls.

In the upcoming Legislative Session, the Committee will continue to monitor the MTA’s financial stability in relation to its services and capital projects. The 2025-2029 capital plan will be of particular interest to ensure that necessary ADA compliance, signal modernization, and infrastructure projects are completed schedule. Additionally, there will be a renewed need to evaluate funding to the capital plan following the U.S. Department of Transportation’s decision to withhold funds previously allocated to larger capital projects, including the Second Avenue Subway and Gateway Project. The Committee will continue to assess any sustainable funding options that are proposed as methods to assist in financing the transit system and review the progress of congestion pricing following its delayed launch on January 5 earlier this year.

The Corporations Committee will continue to collaborate with other Assembly Committees during the upcoming 2026 Legislative Session to ensure that New Yorkers receive equitable, transparent, and reliable utility service regardless of their service area. These efforts must also be coupled with ensuring the power grid is reliable and resilient enough to manage increasing demands brought on by the transfer to renewable energy systems to meet the goals of the CLCPA. Considerations on the affordability of all New Yorkers’ utility services are essential to achieving these goals and continue to be a focus of the Committee’s work.

In 2026, the Committee will continue to examine New York’s corporation laws to ensure that they are up-to-date and meet the needs of modernizing business practices. This includes ensuring transparency in industrial development authorities (“IDAs”) and local development corporations (“LCDs”) across the state. Additionally, we will work with our counterparts in other Assembly Committees to focus on the needs of New Yorkers and identifying ways that public benefit cooperations may further contribute to improve their systems to the betterment of their users.

APPENDIX A

2025 SUMMARY SHEET

Summary of Action on All Bills Referred to the New York State Assembly Committee on Corporations, Authorities, and Commissions

2025 SUMMARY SHEET

TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD 6

ASSEMBLY SENATE TOTAL

BILLS BILLS BILLS

BILLS REPORTED FAVORABLE TO:

Codes	9	0	9
Judiciary	0	0	0
Ways and Means	11	0	11
Rules	3	0	3
Floor	7	0	7
TOTAL	30	0	30

COMMITTEE ACTION

Held For Consideration	6	0	6
Defeated	0	0	0
Enacting Clause Stricken	1	0	1
REMAINING IN COMMITTEE	285	36	321

BILLS REFERENCE CHANGED TO:

Energy	7		
Ways and Means	8		
Environmental Conservation	1		
TOTAL	16	0	16

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APPENDIX B

BILLS THAT BECAME LAW

CHAPTER NUMBER	ASSEMBLY BILL (SPONSOR)	DESCRIPTION
101	A.3224 (Braunstein)	This law increases the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York's bond cap for hospital related purposes from 18.2 billion dollars to 20 billion dollars.
104	A.2746 (O'Pharrow)	This law makes technical amendments to Chapter 528 of the Laws of 2024.
141	A.8069 (Braunstein)	This law requires the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's condemnation interest rate to remain at six percent through June 24, 2028.
322	A.5339 (Wright)	This law renames the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's 110 th Street-Central Park North subway station on the IRT Lexington Avenue line to the "110 th Street – Malcolm X Plaza Station."
355	A.7994-B (Barrett)	This law authorizes DASNY financing to Dutchess County Community College for certain projects.
356	A.8374-A (Kassay)	This law authorizes DASNY financing to SB Clinical Practice Management Plan, Inc. for certain projects.
417	A.7892 (Braunstein)	This law adds the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America to the list of hierarchical institutions exempt from the requirement of Attorney General approval in dispositions of property.

CHAPTER NUMBER	ASSEMBLY BILL (SPONSOR)	DESCRIPTION
495	A.6768 (Braunstein)	This law requires lessees of excavation equipment receive information regarding New York State's underground digging requirements.
496	A.8116-A (Magnarelli)	This law exempts all positions outside of police positions within the Syracuse Regional Airport Authority to be classified as exempt from Civil Service requirements.
497	A.8154 (Braunstein)	This law clarifies existing practice regarding the compensation of the Chair of NYSERDA's board.
700	A.7544-A (Magnarelli)	This law establishes safety and record keeping requirements for pole attachers and owners for make-ready broadband deployment.
709	A.8888 (Simon)	This law removes provisions relating to the "100-foot rule" from the Public Service Law.

APPENDIX C

BILLS THAT WERE VETOED

VETO NUMBER	ASSEMBLY BILL (SPONSOR)	DESCRIPTION
49	A.4396 (Fall)	This bill would increase the number of members of the Battery Park City Authority Board and change the number of members required to be residents.
55	A.34 (Eachus)	This bill would require the New York State Thruway Authority to issue emergency services permits for certain emergency vehicles, allowing them to be exempted from tolls on the thruway.
72	A.7377 (Stirpe)	This bill would establish Oswego River Basin Release Coordination Group that would serve to advise the Canal Corporation on coordinating water releases into the Oswego River Basin.
75	A.7086 (Torres)	This bill would amend existing reporting requirements for expenditures by the NYSTA to require a biannual submission of those reports.
82	A.2447 (Levenberg)	This bill requires notification to certain property owners when utility companies perform work that may limit their ability to access their property.
83	A.5969-A (Jacobson)	This bill would amend procedures relating to estimated billing.
86	A.589 (Paulin)	This bill would make changes to the structure of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

VETO NUMBER	ASSEMBLY BILL (SPONSOR)	DESCRIPTION
128	A.4873 (Chandler- Waterman)	This bill would require any subway or train operated by the New York City Transit Authority to have a conductor onboard whenever two or more cars are attached to an engine.
164	A.8662-A (Gallagher)	This bill would remove previous references to federal laws and regulations regarding beneficial ownership disclosure definitions and provides the previously cross-referenced definitions into statute.