



COMMITTEE ON  
Governmental Operations

2019 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY



CARL E. HEASTIE, *Speaker*

MICHELE TITUS, *Chair*



MICHELE R. TITUS  
Assemblywoman 31<sup>st</sup> Assembly District  
Queens County

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

CHAIR  
Committee on Governmental Operations

COMMITTEES  
Education  
Ethics and Guidance  
Judiciary  
Rules

SUBCOMMITTEE  
Criminal Procedure

December 15, 2019

The Honorable Carl Heastie  
Speaker of the Assembly  
Legislative Office Building, Room 932  
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Speaker Heastie,

It is my pleasure to respectfully submit to you the 2019 Annual Report of the Assembly Standing Committee on Governmental Operations. Contained within are descriptions of the Committee's significant legislation and other activities from 2019, and an overview of the Committee's outlook for the 2020 session.

I am proud to report that the Committee successfully enacted many important pieces of legislation, and helped to ensure critical funding for various endeavors in the state budget. I am especially pleased with the work the Committee did in the areas of emergency management, human rights, gender equality, crime victims, procurement, and government reform.

In 2020, the Committee will continue to focus on improving the efficiency and fairness of government in New York State. Disaster and emergency preparedness, transparency and efficiency, and equal protection under the law for all New Yorkers will remain top priorities. It is also a goal of the Committee to encourage greater participation by small, minority- and women-owned businesses. In addition, the Committee is committed to ensuring that everyone in New York State is treated with dignity and respect.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, your staff and the Committee members for their continued support. I look forward to meeting the challenges ahead in the 2020 legislative session.

Sincerely,

Michele Titus, Chair  
Assembly Standing Committee on Governmental Operations

**MEMBERS OF THE NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

Michele Titus, Chair

**MAJORITY**

Sandra Galef  
Deborah Glick  
Ron Kim  
David Buchwald  
Rodneyse Bichotte  
Michael Blake  
Alicia Hyndman  
Jaime Williams  
Harvey Epstein

**MINORITY**

Mark Johns  
Ranking Minority Member  
Andrew Goodell  
Kieran Michael Lalor  
Kevin M. Byrne

**COMMITTEE STAFF**

Aaron Suggs, Assistant Secretary for Program and Policy  
Brian Williams, Committee Analyst  
Nathan Kerstein, Associate Counsel  
Benjamin Piccolo-Evans, Committee Assistant  
Claude Nelson, Committee Clerk  
Dawn Fowler, Secretary

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Governmental Operations Committee's jurisdiction encompasses a broad spectrum of legislative and regulatory issues. The issue areas of the Committee include: governmental reform, lobbying and ethics laws, crime victims' rights, human rights, rights of individuals with disabilities, State procurement and technology policies, Freedom of Information and Open Meetings Laws, disaster preparedness, homeland security, public lands and buildings, redistricting and reapportionment, and the organization and operation of the executive and legislative branches of State government. The Committee also acts on legislation proposed to it by the Assembly Ethics and Guidance Committee, the Assembly Committee on Oversight, Analysis and Investigation, the Administrative Regulation Review Commission, and the Legislative Commission on Government Administration. In addition, the Committee oversees the Subcommittee on the Oversight of Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBES), and the Subcommittee on Emergency Response/Disaster Preparedness.



## **II. DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, UNIFORM FIRE PREVENTION AND BUILDING CODE, AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Legislation related to the delivery of emergency services and public safety within the State is often referred to the Governmental Operations Committee. The Committee examines the activities of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), which includes the Office of Fire Prevention and Control, the State Emergency Management Office, the Office of Counterterrorism and the Office of Interoperability and Emergency Communications. The Committee is also concerned with the Office of Cyber Security within the Office of Information Technology Services, the New York State Police and the Municipal Police Training Council, and reviews the State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code.

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### **Dialing 911 in Public Buildings** **(A.458, Paulin)**

This bill would promote public safety by ensuring that multi-line telephone systems in public buildings can directly dial to 911, or ensure that telephone users are informed on how to use the telephone to connect to 911.

**Chapter 727 of the Laws of 2019.**

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### **Ensuring the Safety of Individuals with Disabilities in the Event of a Disaster** **(A.3923, Weprin)**

This bill would enhance the safety of individuals with disabilities by requiring all counties to maintain confidential registries of people with disabilities who may be in need of special assistance in the event of an emergency or disaster. Superstorm Sandy highlighted the need for a more coordinated response to provide the necessary assistance to people with disabilities following a disaster or emergency. By requiring confidential registries, this bill would enhance disaster response capabilities across the State.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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## **III. CRIME VICTIMS**

The Governmental Operations Committee considers legislation dealing with crime victims and the Office of Victim Services. This agency advocates for and is responsible for issuing awards to eligible crime victims. The Committee's interest and commitment to the concerns of crime victims go beyond issues directly relating to the Office itself. The Committee contributed several key bills to various legislative packages that seek to improve the responsiveness of the criminal justice system to domestic violence and other crime victims.

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**Domestic Partners Eligible for Crime Victim Compensation**  
**(A.2566, Glick)**

This bill would allow people maintaining significant and long-term, yet not legally formalized, relationships with persons who become victims of homicide to be eligible for compensation from the Office of Victim Services for actual out-of-pocket losses and counseling expenses.

**Chapter 690 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Directing Fines to the Office of Victim Services**  
**(A.4054, Englebright)**

This bill would grant courts the discretion to designate part or all of any fine or penalty paid by a violator of the state's antitrust law to be paid to the Office of Victim Services. The bill would also provide that funds collected from these fines and deposited with the Office of Victim Services be expended for the provision of aid, care and support of crime victims.

**Chapter 291 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Filing of Police Reports by Victims of Domestic Violence**  
**(A.4467-A, Zebrowski)**

This bill would allow a victim of a domestic incident to make a complaint to any local law enforcement agency in the state regardless of where the alleged crime took place. The law enforcement agency shall forward the reports to the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the location where the incident occurred for the further investigation.

**Chapter 152 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Ensuring Crime Victims Get Home Safely**  
**(A.5775-A)**

This bill would require that hospitals use funds from victim services programs to provide sexual assault victims, and when appropriate, the crime victim advocate with a free transportation back home or to a safe shelter after initial visit to medical facility for medical examination.

**Chapter 737 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Child Victim Crime Compensation**  
**(A.7051, Burke)**

This bill would expand the definition of "child victim" to include new violations within the Executive Law to cover crimes committed against, or witnessed by, a non-injured child victim, so that such victim would be eligible for certain, reimbursable expenses. Expenses would also include property replacement, counseling costs.

**Chapter 178 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Crime Victim Compensation for Unlawful Surveillance**  
**(A.7079, McMahon)**

This bill would expand eligibility to crime victims who did not suffer a physical injury, but were victims of the crimes of Unlawful Surveillance, and Dissemination of an Unlawful Surveillance Images. Such awards would include loss of earnings and certain counseling reimbursements.

**Chapter 179 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Victim Address Confidentiality Program**  
**(A.7515, Cruz)**

This bill would expand the category of eligible participants in the Address Confidentiality Program within the Department of State to include victims of sexual offenses, stalking, and human trafficking.

**Chapter 141 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**IV. DIVISION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

The Division of Human Rights is the agency responsible for the enforcement of the State's Human Rights Law, which protects the citizens of New York from discrimination based on race, sex, religion, marital status and several other protected categories.

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**Gender Neutral Single Occupancy Bathrooms in State-Owned or -Operated Buildings**  
**(A.109, Rosenthal)**

This bill would require the Commissioner of the Office of General Services to ensure that all single occupancy bathrooms in state-owned or -operated buildings be designated as gender neutral.

**Chapter 729 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Prohibiting Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Expression**  
**(A.747, Gottfried)**

This bill, known as the Gender Identity or Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA), would prohibit discrimination based on gender identity or expression in matters of employment, credit, education, housing, public accommodation and ownership, the use or occupancy of public space, and membership in any firehouse or fire department. Additionally, this bill would include violent crimes against individuals based on their gender identity or expression as a hate crime. This bill would also include gender identity or expression as one of the specific areas identified in the Human Rights Law for which the Division may form an advisory council in order to study the problems of discrimination and develop plans and policies.

**Chapter 8 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Protecting State Employees with Disabilities**  
**(A.1092, Lifton)**

This bill would waive the state's sovereign immunity from liability under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Under this legislation, employees of the state would attain the right to seek damages in state court for violations of their rights under the ADA. In addition, this bill would allow citizens with disabilities to seek damages if the state does not meet the ADA's standards for access to government buildings, programs and services.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Expanding the Scope of Unlawful Discriminatory Practices**  
**(A.3425, Dilan)**

This bill would require public educational institutions to comply with anti-discrimination provisions of the Human Rights Law.

**Chapter 116 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Prohibiting Discrimination Against Religious Attire**  
**(A.4204, Weprin)**

This bill would provide that it would be an unlawful discriminatory practice for any employer, or an employee or agent thereof, to impose upon a person as a condition of obtaining or retaining employment any terms or conditions that would require such person to forgo the wearing of any attire, clothing, or facial hair in accordance with his or her religion. The bill would also allow an employer, after engaging in a bona fide effort to accommodate the employee's religious observances or practice, to demonstrate that to do so would cause undue hardship on the employer's business.

**Chapter 154 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Prohibiting Employers from Discriminating Against Victims of Domestic Violence**  
**(A.5618, Weinstein)**

This bill would prohibit employers from barring or discharging from employment, or refusing to hire, employ or license, a victim of domestic violence because of his or her status as a victim of such violence. In addition, employers could not discriminate against such individuals in compensation or in terms, conditions or privileges of employment. Additionally, this bill would require an employer to provide reasonable accommodation to an employee who is a victim of domestic violence when he or she must be absent from work for a reasonable time.

**Chapter 176 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Pregnancy-Related Condition Discrimination**  
**(A.5975, Reyes)**

This bill would clarify that "lactation" is protected in the workplace under the definition of "pregnancy related condition" within the Human Rights Law.

**Chapter 271 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Discrimination Prevention in the Workplace**  
**(A.5976, Wright)**

This bill would amend the sexual harassment and discrimination laws enacted in the 2018-2019 State Budget to include that all protected classes covered by the Human Rights Law be afforded the same protection that was afforded to sexual harassment as part of the new law.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Hairstyle Discrimination**  
**(A.7797-A Wright)**

This bill is designed to add protective hairstyle as protected class in the Human Rights Law. The bill would also seek to prevent discrimination in schools based on hairstyles.

**Chapter 95 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Statement on Preventing Human Trafficking**  
**(A.8061, Williams)**

This bill would require a statement from parties submitting bids for competitively bid procurements affirming that it will not transact business with any organization, person or entity engaged in human trafficking. In addition, if an entity submitting a bid has a human trafficking prevention policy, a copy of the policy shall be submitted with its bid.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace**  
**(A.8421, Simotas)**

The legislation combats sexual harassment in the workplace by authorizing the award of punitive damages in cases of employment discrimination related to private employers, prohibiting mandatory arbitration clauses in a contract to resolve claims of discrimination, and prohibiting non-disclosure agreements to be included in any settlement for a claim of discrimination, unless it's the victim's preference. The bill eliminates the "severe or pervasive" standard from discriminatory and retaliatory harassment cases, making it easier for victims to seek legal recourse. The bill also requires any condition in a non-disclosure agreement be provided in writing to all parties in plain English and the primary language of the complainant and stipulate that any condition in a non-disclosure agreement is void if it prohibits the complainant from participating in an investigation conducted by the appropriate local, state, or federal agency or disclosing facts necessary to receive public benefits. Finally, the bill would

require the Department of Labor and the Division of Human Rights to study the requirements of sexual harassment and prevention policy and training in order to determine how to expand such to prevent all harassment and discrimination in the workplace.

**Chapter 160 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace  
(A.8424, Simotas)**

This bill makes technical corrections to A.8421 relating to strengthening Sexual Harassment protections in the workplace.

**Chapter 161 of the Laws of 2019**

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**V. OPEN GOVERNMENT**

The Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) governs the public's right to know about governmental decision-making by allowing for review of documents that form the basis of governmental decisions and actions. The Open Meetings Law enables the public to monitor the performance of public officials by observing the deliberations and decisions that go into the making of public policy. FOIL and the Open Meetings Law, as well as other laws, help to ensure governments' accountability to the people.

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**Clarification of Privacy Provisions of FOIL  
(A.119-A, Buchwald)**

This bill would clarify certain provisions of FOIL related to the personal privacy protections for lists of names and addresses if such a list would be used for solicitation or fundraising purposes only. Such disclosure would only apply to natural persons and residential addresses. This bill would also clarify how agencies respond to FOIL requests within certain time frames.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Publication on State Board Information**  
**(A.473, Paulin)**

This bill would create a centralized compilation of information about state boards that will be available to the public. The Secretary of State would be responsible for the compilation and publication of this information.

**Vetoed.**

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**Appeals for the Denial of a FOIL Request**  
**(A.414-A, Paulin)**

This bill would provide that certain proceedings related to FOIL's trade secret protections be given preference and be brought on for argument on such terms and conditions as the presiding justice may direct, not to exceed forty-five days.

**Chapter 707 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Hearing Impaired Accommodations in Public Buildings for Certain Hearings**  
**(A.3385-A, Dickens)**

This bill would require public bodies and public officers responsible for the scheduling of public hearings to provide the services of a qualified interpreter, if available, at no charge to persons who are hearing impaired and who make a written request for those services. In addition, public bodies and public officers responsible for the scheduling of public hearings would be required to equip any rooms that accommodate more than one hundred people and that are used for public hearings with assistive listening systems by January 1, 2022.

**This bill passed the Assembly**

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**Open and Transparent Public Records**  
**(A.3939, Englebright)**

This bill would require a particularized and specific justification for the denial of access to records under FOIL. In addition, this bill would provide that when an agency is considering denying access to records under the law enforcement exception to FOIL because disclosure would interfere with a judicial proceeding, then the decision of whether to grant access would be made by the judge presiding over that judicial proceeding. This bill would also clarify that a denial of access to records under FOIL does not prevent a person from obtaining records under any other law, and that parties to any civil or criminal action or proceeding can use FOIL to obtain records concerning the action or proceeding. Furthermore, this bill would clarify that access to a record cannot be withheld due to the

type or category of record or solely because it relates in some manner to an investigation or criminal proceeding.

**This bill passed both Houses.**

---

**Public Employee Retirees**  
**(A.4061, Englebright)**

This bill would clarify that the name of a retiree in a public employees' retirement system is subject to disclosure under FOIL by amending the Public Officers Law to define "retiree" as a former officer or employee of a state agency, the legislature, or the judiciary who is also a member of a public employees' retirement system. This bill would also define "beneficiary" as a person chosen by a retiree to receive pension benefits following the retiree's death.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

---

**Waiving of State Copyright Claims for Public Records**  
**(A.5636, Galef)**

This bill would increase access to records that are required to be disclosed pursuant to FOIL by waiving government copyrights in records that are prepared by public bodies and are required to be disclosed pursuant to FOIL, except where the record reflects artistic creation, scientific or academic research, or if the body intends to sell the record to the public. This bill responds to governmental entities' practice of copyrighting certain government documents.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**VI. GOVERNMENTAL ADMINISTRATION AND REFORM**

The Governmental Operations Committee has jurisdiction over bills that seek to amend the Public Officers Law, the Legislative Law and other laws that regulate many of the actions of state government and public employees. Many of these laws are important components of efforts to make government more open and responsive.

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**Study on Electronic Legal Materials**  
**(A.382, Lifton)**

This bill would require the Department of State to study the practices for the authentication and maintenance of legal material in an electronic format to guarantee the authenticity of and access to legal materials of the State of New York. The study would be submitted to the executive and legislature and be published on the Department's website.

**Chapter 575 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Demographic Information Collection by State Agencies**  
**(A.677 Niou)**

This bill would require every state agency, board, or commission that directly, or by contract, collects data about the ethnic origins of New York state residents to use separate categories for a number of major Asian groups, including, but not limited to, Chinese, Japanese, Filipino, Korean, Vietnamese, Asian Indian, Laotian, Cambodian, Bangladeshi, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Nepalese, Burmese, Tibetan, and each major Pacific Islander group, including, but not limited to, Thai Hawaiian, Guamanian, Samoan, Fijian and Tongan.

**Vetoed.**

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**Small Business Regulation Time Frames**  
**(A.842 Simotas)**

This bill would require agencies proposing regulations that affect small businesses or local governments to assess the minimum time such entities will need to come into compliance with any new regulatory requirements.

**Chapter 577 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Paid Leave for Certain State Employees who are Veterans**  
**(A.1093-B, Paulin)**

This bill would allow municipalities to provide additional paid leave to certain local government public officers or employees with military combat experience so that they may obtain health-related services related to their duty in a combat theater or combat zone of operations.

**Chapter 476 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Electronic Filing of Applications**  
**(A.2640, Lavine)**

This bill would attempt to reduce unnecessary barriers to the electronic filing of applications for business permits with state agencies by allowing agency regulations to substitute an affirmation under penalty of perjury for a required sworn acknowledgement or oath.

**Chapter 262 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Electronic Publication of Rule Making Notices**  
**(A.5153, Schimminger)**

The bill would clarify that certain agencies can post electronically some notice during the rule making process under the State Administrative Procedure Act.

**Chapter 512 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Audit Recommendation Reporting Timeframes**  
**(A.7794, Titus)**

This bill would increase the amount of time in which a state agency or authority has to report on the implementation status of recommendations contained in an Office of the State Comptroller audit report from 90 to 180 days after the release of such audit report.

**Chapter 507 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence Administration**  
**(A.8023, Williams)**

This bill would add a new member to the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) Advisory Council and repeal certain sections of law pertaining to their mandate which are no longer active.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**VII. PROCUREMENT AND STATE CONTRACTS**

One important function of the Governmental Operations Committee is to review the procurement laws and regulations. The Committee is also interested in monitoring the contracts of the state.

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**Limited Liability Company Owners of State Leased Property**  
**(A.3832, McDonald)**

This bill would require that when the Office of General Services enters into a real property lease with a Limited Liability Company (LLC), the members of such LLC must be disclosed down to the natural persons.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Cost Effectiveness of Consultant Contract**  
**(A.5459, Bronson)**

This bill would set forth conditions when an agency shall enter into a contract for consultant services by requiring agencies to conduct a cost comparison prior to entering into a contract for consultant services to determine if there is a less expensive alternative.

**Vetoed.**

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**Equal Pay Disclosure by State Contractors**  
**(A.7169, Glick)**

This bill would require equal pay disclosure with respect to state contracts by requiring state contractors to submit a dated report on employee compensation to the New York State Comptroller. The bill would authorize the New York State Comptroller to promulgate regulations to require contracting agencies to take the equal pay reports into account as a wider consideration of several factors when determining the award of a state contract, and deem a contractor who fails to comply with equal pay disclosure liable to the contracting agency for liquidated or other appropriate damages.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Prohibiting Contracts with Vendors that Forbid Employees from Litigating Certain Claims**  
**(A.7936-A, Arroyo)**

This bill would prohibit entities of the state from entering into contract with any vendor which mandates that an employee or contractor performing contracting work be resolved through private arbitration or any tort related to or arising out of discrimination, sexual assault or harassment.

**Passed the Assembly.**

## **VIII. MINORITY- AND WOMEN-OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES (MWBEs)**

### **Dormitory Authority MWBE Contract Program**

**(A.7795 Bichotte)**

The bill would authorize the establishment by the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York ("DASNY") of a four-year procurement pilot program with the goal of helping MWBEs earn DASNY contracts.

**Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2019.**

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### **Extending and Expanding the Minority-and Women- Owned Business Program**

**(A.8414, Bichotte)**

This bill extended the Minority-and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (MWBE) Program for five years, established a new disparity study for the program, which included Native American Tribal-Owned Businesses, and established a new personal net-worth threshold to enter the program. The bill streamlines the application process to become an MWBE and increases the disclosure of the usage of waivers by state agencies. The bill also establishes a workforce diversity program to encourage a diverse workforce on state projects.

**Chapter 96 of the Laws of 2019.**

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## **IX. MISCELLANEOUS**

### **Reducing the Use of PFAS Chemicals in Firefighting Activities**

**(A.445-A, Steck)**

This bill would ban the use of PFA chemical foam in training for fire emergencies as well as ban the manufacture, sale, and distribution of PFA firefighting foam within two years of the effective date of this section. Certain exceptions would allow use of PFA chemicals in certain emergencies.

**Chapter 702 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Study on the Implementation of 5G Technology**  
**(A.1503, Vanel)**

This bill would direct the Office of Information Technology Services to study the future implementation and of fifth generation and future generation wireless systems technology in the state.

**Chapter 653 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Commission to Study Artificial Intelligence**  
**(A.1746-C, Vanel)**

This bill would establish a temporary state commission, known as the New York State Artificial Intelligence Commission. The Commission would be required to study and report on issues including current laws addressing artificial intelligence and the impact of artificial intelligence on employment in this State.

**Chapter 110 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Closed Captioning on Televisions at Public Places**  
**(A.2076, Zebrowski)**

This bill would require accommodations be made for individuals by requiring places of public accommodation to turn on closed captioning upon request on all public televisions.

**Chapter 295 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Prohibiting the Unnecessary Filing of Personal Identifying Information**  
**(A.3349, Englebright)**

This bill would help protect New York State residents from identity theft by prohibiting businesses from filing personal identifying information with an agency if such personal identifying information is not required to be filed by state or federal law. Public records such as mortgage or judgment documents often contain personal identifying information that is not required by statute. When these documents are available to the public, this creates an opportunity for identity theft. By prohibiting businesses from filing unnecessary personal identifying information with the State or any state entity, residents are further protected from identity theft.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

---

**Hate Crime Law Enforcement Training**  
**(A.3606-A Rozic)**

This bill would direct the municipal police training council in consultation with the Division of Human Rights and the Hate Crimes Task Force to develop, maintain and disseminate policies and procedures regarding the recognition of and response to hate crimes.

**Chapter 552 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Creating the Bird-Friendly Building Council**  
**(A.4055-B, Englebright)**

This bill would to establish a council to promote the use of bird-friendly building materials and design features in buildings; research the magnitude of problems facing birds colliding with buildings; and identify existing and emerging products, technologies and concepts to reduce or eliminate bird mortality from building collisions.

**Vetoed.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.4767, Buchwald)**

This bill would remove the requirement that the receiver of taxes in the Town of North Castle be a resident of the town.

**Chapter 327 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Establishing the Office of the Advocate for People with Disabilities**  
**(A.4737, Steck)**

This bill would establish an “Office of the Advocate for People with Disabilities” within the Department of State to advise and assist state agencies in developing policies designed to help meet the needs of persons with disabilities.

**Vetoed.**

---

**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.5195, Blankenbush)**

This bill would authorize a person to hold the office of assistant district attorney in the County of Lewis so long as they reside in an adjoining county within the state.

**Chapter 396 of the Laws of 2019.**

---

**Land Transfer**  
**(A.5406, Darling)**

This bill authorizes the commissioner of general services to transfer and convey certain unappropriated state land to the Village of Freeport. This land will be rehabilitated into a municipal center for purposes to be determined by the Village of Freeport.

**Chapter 618 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.6357, Woerner)**

This bill would permit the City of Mechanicville to allow through resolution their city attorney to reside outside the City of Mechanicville in Saratoga County or a county adjoining Saratoga County.

**Chapter 461 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.6551, Finch)**

This legislation would permit persons who reside in Cayuga County or an adjoining county to be assistant district attorneys and senior district attorneys in Cayuga County.

**Chapter 464 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.6737, Woerner)**

This bill would permit the assistant district attorney of Washington County to reside in an adjoining county, rather than Washington County.

**Chapter 349 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Land Transfer**  
**(A.6865-A, Dickens)**

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of General Services to transfer and convey certain unappropriated state land in New York City to the Urban Development Corporation. The building will eventually become the national headquarters for the National Urban League, a civil rights museum, retail space, and affordable housing.

**Chapter 99 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Establishing the 400 Years of African-American History Commission**  
**(A.7667, Darling)**

This bill would establish the 400 Years of African-American History Commission, which would be tasked with education, coordination and commemoration of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of individuals of African descent on the American Continent.

**Chapter 650 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Land Transfer**  
**(A.7821, Zebrowski)**

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of General Services to transfer and convey certain unappropriated state land in Rockland County to Rockland Recovery Homes Inc. This land and associated buildings will be used as a drug addiction treatment center.

**This bill passed the Assembly.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(7825, Lavine)**

This bill would amend the Public Officers Law to allow correction officers for the County of Nassau to reside in any adjoining county within the state.

**Chapter 333 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Land Transfer**  
**(A.7846, Paulin)**

This bill authorizes the Commissioner of General Services to transfer and convey certain unappropriated state land to the City of New Rochelle. The transferred land will be used to build a new municipal center.

**Chapter 566 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.7902-A, Hawley)**

This bill would amend the Public Officers Law, in relation to the residence of the person holding the office of town superintendent of highways or town engineer of the Town of Pavilion, Genesee County.

**Chapter 527 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Clarifying What Constitutes an Appraisal Management Company**  
**(A.8024, Zebrowski)**

This bill would clarify that an appraisal management company may hire or contract a person for property inspections or property evaluations if they are licensed as an appraiser, real estate broker, or home inspector, or a person for a broker price opinion if they are licensed as a real estate broker.

**Chapter 667 of the Laws of 2019.**

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**Residency Exemption**  
**(A.8155, Barclay)**

This bill would remove the requirement that special patrol officers for Oswego County would need to reside within such county.

**Chapter 645 of the Laws of 2019.**

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## **X. COMMITTEE HEARINGS AND ROUNDTABLES**

### **Prevention of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace**

Allegations of instances of sexual harassment have increased over the past few years. Increasing awareness has helped to bring this issue to the forefront of the nation's attention. This is an issue that impacts all employers and businesses, throughout the State and the country. As people across the nation discuss this issue, the State Assembly held joint hearings which included a meaningful dialogue on this important topic in two hearings, the first on February 13, 2019, in Albany and the second on May 24, 2019, in New York City. As a result of this hearing several important pieces of legislation have been moved through the Assembly and signed into law which increases protections in the workplace for victims of sexual harassment.

### **Examining the Impact of Federal Government Shutdowns on the State of New York**

Once rare, lapses in Federal appropriations have been occurring with greater frequency and duration. In addition to imposing financial burdens on Federal workers and contractors, the 35-day government shutdown of 2018-2019 also threatened public services, from air traffic safety to tax refunds to food stamps. On October 29, 2019, the committee held a joint hearing with the Senate to gather information on the response to recent Federal shutdowns by New York and other jurisdictions, to determine what additional helpful measures might be undertaken in the future, and to take testimony on whether New York State should have a formal process for shutdown contingency planning.

## **XI. OUTLOOK FOR THE 2020 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

During the 2020 legislative session, the Committee on Governmental Operations will continue to focus on protecting the safety and rights of New Yorkers and increasing the efficiency and openness of government. The Committee will continue to advance legislation advocating more effective disaster preparedness, greater fairness for crime victims and increased opportunities and economic equity for small businesses. In addition, the Committee will continue to investigate solutions to protect the State and its citizens from various cybersecurity threats, and ensure that the State is well prepared for emerging technologies.

Additionally, the Committee will continue to monitor and review the State's procurement laws in order to ensure that the procurement process remains fair, open, transparent and competitive.

# 2019 SUMMARY SHEET

## **BILLS REPORTED FAVORABLE TO:**

Codes	34	0	34
Judiciary	0	0	0
Ways and Means	26	0	26
Rules	7	0	7
Floor	14	0	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>81</b>

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Held For Consideration	2	0	2
Defeated	0	0	0
Enacting Clause Stricken	3	0	3
<b>REMAINING IN COMMITTEE</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>544</b>

## **BILLS REFERENCE CHANGED TO:**

**Codes** 2  
**Energy** 1  
**Economic Development** 1  
**Ways and Means** 1

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>
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**APPENDIX B  
CHAPTERS OF 2019**

A.109	L. Rosenthal	Relates to requiring that all single occupancy bathrooms in state owned or operated buildings be designated as gender neutral. <b>Chapter 729 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.382	Lifton	Directs the Department of State to conduct a study on the use of legal material in an electronic format and access to such legal materials. <b>Chapter 575 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.458	Paulin	Relates to direct dialing to public service answering points. <b>Chapter 727 of the laws of 2019.</b>
A.445-A	Steck	Relates to reducing the use of PFAS chemicals in firefighting activities. <b>Chapter 702 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.747	Gottfried	Prohibits discrimination based on gender identity or expression and includes offenses regarding gender identity or expression under the hate crimes statute. <b>Chapter 8 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.842	Simotas	Relates to the time needed by small businesses and local governments to comply with new regulations. <b>Chapter 25 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.1093	Paulin	Authorizes additional paid leave for health related services for certain employees. <b>Chapter 476 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.1503	Vanel	Relates to studying the implementation of 5G and next gen network technology in the state. <b>Chapter 653 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.1746-C	Vanel	Creates a temporary state commission to study and investigate how to regulate artificial intelligence, robotics and automation. <b>Chapter 110 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.2076	Zebrowski	Requires places of public accommodation that operate televisions during regular hours of operation to provide closed captioning on certain televisions upon request. <b>Chapter 295 of the Laws of 2019.</b>

A.2566	Glick	Expands eligibility for crime victims' compensation to include domestic partners. <b>Chapter 690 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.2640	Lavine	Authorizes electronic filing of certain applications for business permits. <b>Chapter 262 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.3425	Dilan	Extends the anti-discrimination protections of the Human Rights Law to cover public as well as private schools. <b>Chapter 116 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.3606-A	Rozic	Relates to policies and procedures regarding hate crimes and establishes a hate crimes training program. <b>Chapter 552 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.4054	Englebright	Permits antitrust fines or penalties to be paid to the Office of Victim Services at a court's discretion. <b>Chapter 291 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.4204	Weprin	Prohibits discrimination against religious attire within the Human Rights Law. <b>Chapter 154 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.4467-A	Zebrowski	Authorizes victims of a domestic violence incident to make a complaint to any local law enforcement agency in the state regardless of where the alleged crime took place. <b>Chapter 152 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.4767	Buchwald	Removes the requirement that the receiver of taxes in the Town of North Castle be a resident of the town. <b>Chapter 327 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.5153	Schimminger	Authorizes state agencies to publish certain rule making notices by electronic means. <b>Chapter 512 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.5195	Blankenbush	Residency exemption. <b>Chapter 396 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.5406	Darling	Land Transfer. <b>Chapter 618 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.5618	Weinstein	Prohibits discrimination against victims of domestic violence in employment. <b>Chapter 176 of the Laws of 2019.</b>

A.5775-A	Lentol	Relates to enacting the "safe way home act". <b>Chapter 737 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.5975	Reyes	Amends the definition of "pregnancy related condition" within the Human Rights Law to include lactation. <b>Chapter 271 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.6357	Woerner	Residency exemption. <b>Chapter 461 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.6551	Finch	Residency exemption. <b>Chapter 464 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.6737	Woerner	Permits an assistant district attorney for Washington County to reside in an adjoining county. <b>Chapter 349 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.6865-A	Dickens	Authorizes the Commissioner of General Services to transfer and convey lands to the Urban Development Corporation. <b>Chapter 99 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7051	Burke	Expands the definition of "child victim" to include victims less than 18 years old, who suffer physical, mental or emotional injury, loss or damage as a result of certain crimes. <b>Chapter 178 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7079	McMahon	Expands eligibility to crime victims who did not suffer a physical injury but were victims of the crimes of Unlawful Surveillance or Dissemination of an Unlawful Surveillance Image. <b>Chapter 179 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7515	Cruz	Expands the category of eligible participants in the state Address Confidentiality Program to include victims of sexual offenses, stalking, and human trafficking. <b>Chapter 141 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7667	Darling	Establishes the 400 Years of African-American History Commission. <b>Chapter 650 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7794	Titus	Relates to the timeframe for the implementation of recommendations included within final reports for corrective action. <b>Chapter 507 of the Laws of 2019.</b>



A.7795	Bichotte	Relates to the award of contracts to small businesses, minority-owned business enterprises and women-owned business enterprises. <b>Chapter 97 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7825	Lavine	Allow correction officers for the County of Nassau to reside within the county or any adjoining county within the state. <b>Chapter 333 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7846-A	Paulin	Authorizes the commissioner of general services to transfer and convey certain state land to the City of New Rochelle. <b>Chapter 566 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7797-A	Wright	Prohibits race discrimination based on natural hair or hairstyles. <b>Chapter 95 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.7902-A	Hawley	Residency exemption. <b>Chapter 527 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.8024	Zebrowski	Clarifies the employee requirements for appraisal management companies. <b>Chapter 667 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.8155	Barclay	Relates to providing that a special patrol officer of the County of Oswego need not be a resident of such county. <b>Chapter 645 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.8414	Bichotte	Relates to minority and women business enterprises. <b>Chapter 96 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.8421	Simotas	Relates to increased protections for protected classes and special protections for employees who have been sexually harassed. <b>Chapter 160 of the Laws of 2019.</b>
A.8424	Simotas	This bill makes technical corrections to A.8241 of 2019 which strengthens the anti-discrimination and anti-sexual harassment laws of New York State. <b>Chapter 161 of the Laws of 2019.</b>

**APPENDIX C  
VETOES OF 2019**

A.473	Paulin	Requires the secretary of state to compile, make public and keep current certain information about state boards. <b>Veto Memo 160 of 2019.</b>
A.677	Niou	Requires the collection of certain demographic information by certain state agencies, boards and commissions. <b>Veto Memo 172 of 2019.</b>
A.4055-B	Englebright	Enacts the "bird-friendly building council act". <b>Veto Memo 144 of 2019</b>
A.4737	Steck	Establishes the office of the Advocate for People with Disabilities. <b>Veto Memo 208 of 2019.</b>
A.5459	Bronson	Relates to the cost effectiveness of consultant contracts by state agencies. <b>Veto Memo 230 of 2019.</b>

**APPENDIX D  
BILLS THAT PASSED THE ASSEMBLY**

A.119-A	Buchwald	Clarifies certain provisions of the Freedom of Information Law (FOIL).
A.1092	Lifton	Waives the state's sovereign immunity to liability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and certain other federal acts.
A.3349	Englebright	Prohibits requiring the filing of unnecessary identifying information with government entities.
A.3385-A	Dickens	Requires public officers and bodies to provide interpreters and assistive listening devices for the hearing impaired at public hearings under certain conditions.
A.3832	McDonald	Requires the disclosure of certain information about any limited liability company when such limited liability company executes a lease agreement in which the State of New York is the tenant.
A.3923	Weprin	Requires counties to maintain a confidential registry of people of all ages who may require assistance during a disaster and who have opted to be included on such registry.
A.4061	Englebright	Updates the terms "retiree" and "beneficiary" within the freedom of information law.
A.5636	Galef	Eliminates the ability for New York State's government agencies to claim copyright protection.
A.5976	Wright	Establishes a model policy regarding the prevention of discrimination and a model training program to prevent discrimination in the workplace.
A.7169	Glick	Requires state contractors to disclose data on employee compensation based on gender, race, ethnicity, and other relevant data.
A.7936	Arroyo	Prohibits state contracts with vendors that forbid employees from litigating discrimination or harassment claims.
A.8023	Williams	Updates the membership for the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (OPDV) Advisory Council and to repeals certain sections of law pertaining to their mandate.
A.8061	Williams	Requires state contractors to submit a statement on preventing human trafficking.