



**New York State YMCA
Youth And Government**

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FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-01

1 **Sponsors:** Ethan Armstrong, Brayden Bush, Lauren Hai, Emily Fifield

2

3 **RESOLUTION** - The Members of the Assembly urge Congress to prohibit all "for-
4 profit" prisons, which serve as custody and supervision of persons in state and local
5 correctional facilities

6

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8

9 **Purpose** This resolution is intended to amend corrections law regarding corporate
10 prisons and "for-profit prisons", to be strictly prohibited within the United States.

11

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 ***Whereas,*** these prisons have violated the 8th amendment right of the
14 Constitution of the United States of America.

15 ***Whereas,*** the unjust procedures these facilities implement in their judiciary
16 decisions, is ethically intolerant

17 ***Whereas,*** inmates in corporately owned prisons and in public prisons do not
18 receive the same treatment, which the prison corporations have promised to
19 the states

20 ***Whereas,*** the government has decided to ignore these previously stated
21 problems, only due to it positively affecting the economy

22 ***Resolved,*** by the Assembly and Senate of the State of New York jointly, that
23 the Legislature of the State of New York respectfully implores the Congress of
24 the United States to prohibit the ability for corporations and private
25 industries to be able to use private prisons for the incarceration inmates or
26 prisoners.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-02

1 **Sponsors:** Stephen Gilbert, Andrew Patterson

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend § 2603 of Education Law to allow students sixteen years or older to vote in
5 school board elections.

6 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:***

7

8 **Purpose**

9 The purpose of this bill is to allow students sixteen years of age or older who are
10 directly affected by school board elections to be able to vote for the school board
11 members in their district.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 § 2603. Qualifications of voters. A person shall be entitled to vote
15 at a school election in a city school district who is:

16 1. A citizen of the United States.

17 2. ~~Eighteen years of age.~~ Sixteen years of age.

18 3. a. A resident of the state and of the city school district for
19 thirty days next preceding the election.

20 b. Where territory is added to a city school district by consolidation
21 or alteration of boundaries pursuant to article thirty-one of this
22 chapter, residence in the territory so added shall be and shall be
23 deemed to be residence in the city school district for the purposes of
24 this section.

25 c. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this subdivision, no
26 Indian who shall have resided on the Allegany Indian reservation for a
27 period of thirty days preceding the election at which he offers to vote,
28 shall be deemed ineligible to vote at any such election in the city
29 school district of the city of Salamanca because of his residence on
30 part of such reservation located outside of such city school district.

31 4. No person shall have the right to register for or vote at any
32 school meeting or election who would not be qualified to register for or
33 vote at an election in accordance with the provisions of section 5-106
34 of the election law-, unless that person is a student in the school district
35 and is sixteen years of age or older.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-02

36 **Justification**

37 Seeing that voting turnout is on the rise, New York should make an attempt to
38 continue the trend. By implementing a lower voting age for school elections,
39 younger citizens can have their voices heard in what directly affects them: their
40 education. This will help cultivate a precedent for young voters to vote in elections
41 and increase voter turnout. This can be observed in seventeen states such as
42 Vermont, Connecticut, and others, as well as towns in Maryland and California that
43 have lowered the age requirement for voting in state and/or local elections. The
44 lowered voting age has not only been shown to increase voter turnout of the
45 younger generation, but also voter turnout of their parents. In order to prevent a
46 drastic change, lowering the school board voting age would allow for New York to
47 gradually become more democratic and embracing the thoughts and ideas of the
48 younger generations. Additionally, each school district holds the right to set other
49 requirements, meaning that each district would be able to keep the current age if
50 desired.

51

52 **Fiscal Implications**

53 This bill will have no fiscal implications for New York State.

54

55 **Effective Date**

56 This bill will go into effect one year after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-03

1 **Sponsors:** Luke Caserta, Hannah Fuchs

2
3 **An Act To**

4 Amend NYS election law § 8–100 pertaining to dates of elections and hours for
5 voting to move the date of New York State primary elections to the second Sunday
6 of the pertaining month as opposed to the second Tuesday of the pertaining month.

7
8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

9
10 **Purpose**

11 To move the date of New York Primary Elections (state and local) from Tuesday to
12 Sunday (both fall and spring) with hopes of increasing voter participation in New
13 York State.

14
15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 **Section 1: Definitions**

17 Primary/Primary Election: defined in NYS election law as “only the mandated
18 election at which enrolled members of a party may vote for the purpose of
19 nominating party candidates and electing party officers”.

20 Party: defined in NYS election law as “any political organization which at the last
21 preceding election for governor polled at least fifty thousand votes for its candidate
22 for governor”.

23 Run-Off: generally defined as an “election to select a winner following a primary or
24 a general election, in which no candidate in the contest received the required
25 minimum percentage of the votes cast”.

26
27 **Section 2: Provisions**

28 § 8–100. Elections; dates of and hours for voting

- 29 1. (a) A primary election, to be known as the fall primary, shall be held on the
30 ~~first Tuesday after the second Monday~~ first Sunday after the second
31 Saturday in September before every general election unless otherwise
32 changed by an act of the legislature. In each year in which electors of
33 president and vice president of the United States are to be elected an
34 additional primary election, to be known as the spring primary, shall be held
35 on the first Tuesday in February unless otherwise changed by an act of the
36 legislature, for the purpose of electing delegates to the national conven-tion,
37 members of state and county committees and assembly district leaders and
38 associate assembly district leaders.

39



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Bill #: AL-03

40 (b) In the event a run-off primary election is required in the city of New York,
41 it shall be held on the ~~second Tuesday~~ second Sunday next succeeding the
42 date on which the initial primary election was held.

43

44 **Justification**

45 Voter turnout has arguably been one of the largest issues in recent American
46 elections, especially locally. While New York is arguably one of the most progressive
47 states in the country, our voter turnout rates are some of the lowest, especially for
48 primaries. In the primaries for the most recent midterm elections, turnout for some
49 of New York City's most contested congressional districts stood under fifteen
50 percent. This is clearly problematic, since an alarmingly large number of registered
51 voters are failing to show up and exercise their civic duty. One of the major reasons
52 why voters do not show up to the polls is the difficulty of finding the time in their
53 busy workday to go to their polling place. By changing the date of non-federal
54 primary elections in New York state from Tuesday to Sunday, more New Yorkers
55 will have flexibility to cast their vote on their schedule. While it is understood that
56 some voters may have religious and/or family obligations on Sunday, current
57 polling place hours of noon to nine would be maintained, ensuring ample time for
58 travel to one's polling place. Furthermore, numerous countries, including France,
59 Germany, Japan and Mexico, currently hold elections on Sundays, and this has
60 been proven successful for voter turnout.

61

62 **Fiscal Implications**

63 There are no known fiscal implications.

64

65 **Effective Date**

66 This bill would go into effect as of January 1 of the year following its passage and
67 would apply to state and local primaries thereafter.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-04

1 **Sponsors:** Justin Cooke, Sara Ann Rochford, Kenneth Schneider

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend section § 695-g of the New York State Education Law to create a more
5 efficient way to pay back student loans.

6

7 *The People of the State of New York represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8

9 **Purpose**

10 To make a more structured and efficient system to pay off student loan debt where
11 6.2% of an individual's pay is allocated to their student loans.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 Section 1: Definitions

15 Drastic Situations: Such situations may include but are not limited to the inability to
16 make mortgage, child support, medical and insurance payments. Drastic situations
17 may also include but are not limited to, the inability to pay necessitates such as
18 water, oil, electric and food.

19 Distributor: an agent who supplies goods to stores and other businesses that sell to
20 consumers.

21 Allocated: distribute (resources or duties) for a particular purpose.

22 Tuition: a sum of money charged for teaching or instruction by a school, college, or
23 university

24 Section 2:

25 § 695-g. Scholarships and financial aid.

26 Money in a family tuition account shall not be used toward the calculation of New
27 York state financial aid under a financial aid program administered by the state.
28 Specifically for private student loan providers in New York State.

29 (i) 6.2% of an individual's paycheck will be directly deposited to unpaid student loans
30 starting six months after graduating college or disenrollment.

31 (ii) Each minimum payment will be made on a payment bases determined by the
32 private loan distributors only in New York State and the student upon filling for said
33 loan.

34 (iii) This 6.2% direct deposit may be suspended by the private loan distributor only
35 if the individual is in a drastic situation.

36 (iv) In the event that 6.2% of an individual paycheck does not amount to their
37 minimum student loan payment, said individual will be responsible for the
38 remainder of the payment.

39 (v) In the event that 6.2% of an individual's paycheck exceeds their minimum
40 student loan payment, the individual may choose to have the addition funds
41 returned or allocated to minimizing their loan.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-04

42 **Justification**

43 According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, New York State residents with
44 outstanding student loans owed an average of \$32,200. This being much higher
45 than the national average of \$29,700. Within New York State, student loan debt
46 increased 112% over the past decade raising to an all-time high of \$82 billion.
47 Furthermore, the number of New York State residents taking out student loans has
48 increased by 41% within the past decade. To decrease this amounting student loan
49 debt, this bill intends to establish a direct deposit-based system to ensure that
50 payments are being made on time and in full.

51

52 **Fiscal Implications**

53 The implementation of this bill will have no direct impact on the New York State
54 Government. Furthermore, this bill will take 6.2% out of an individual pay check to
55 pay off their private student loan bills. Although, this 6.2% direct deposit may be
56 suspended by the private loan distributor if the individual is in a drastic situation.

57

58 **Effective Date**

59 This bill will go into effect as soon as possible.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-05

1 **Sponsors:** Macey Bryant, Thomas Chung, Elaina Mcgrath, Aaron Mattupurath

2
3 **AN ACT TO:** Amend Environmental Conservation Law Article 27, Title 27 to add
4 section 27-2708 to implement a five-cent tax on single use plastic carryout bags.

5
6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

7
8 **PURPOSE:**

9 The purpose of this bill is to place a tax on single use plastic carryout bags to
10 discourage their use and to encourage the use of reusable bags. This bill will
11 generate income for use by the New York State Department of Environmental
12 Conservation for use in its efforts to keep as much plastic waste as possible from
13 the waste stream.

14 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

15 Section 1: Definitions

16 1. "Plastic carryout bag" means a plastic carryout bag provided by a store to a
17 customer at the point of sale.

18 Section 2: Amends Environmental Conservation Law Title 27, to add paragraph
19 2708 as follows:

20 A five-cent tax shall be collected at the point of sale by merchants for each single
21 use plastic carryout bag provided to a consumer. The tax collected shall be
22 remitted on a monthly basis to the State by the merchant. Said funds shall be
23 remitted to the Department of Environmental Conservation for use in its efforts to
24 keep as much plastic waste as possible from the waste stream. Also, anyone using
25 public assistance programs such as food stamps and WIC the tax shall be waived.
26 Stores shall be encouraged to adopt "leave-a-bag" "take-a-bag" initiatives that
27 encourage consumer engagement on the use of reusable bags and that aim to
28 enable wide adoption in communities with a high proportion of customers with
29 incomes.

30 **JUSTIFICATION:**

31 Throughout New York State, plastic carryout bags have become an eyesore to
32 society. They get caught on trees and become littered in our cities, become loose in
33 our waterways and have become a normalized vision to the general public. Plastic
34 carryout bags have become a menace to the health of our communities and our
35 natural wildlife. The immense disposal and recycling issue of plastic carryout bags
36 has caused harm to the environment; their effect can be seen anywhere you go.
37 These issues with plastic carryout bags are affecting us not just statewide, but
38 nationally and internationally as well.

39 Placing a tax on plastic carryout bags will result in a reduction of waste, lowering
40 the environmental impacts of plastic in our society. There are already 5.25 trillion
41 pieces of debris in the ocean, and the numbers are still increasing. Annually



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-05

42 100,000 marine animals are killed annually from plastic carryout bags. Over 23
43 billion plastic carryout bags are circulating through New York state every year. New
44 York City alone estimates they can save 12.5 million on disposal of plastic carryout
45 bags by reducing the number of disposable bags used. Less single-use bags given
46 back at checkout could reduce the amount of recycling and disposal costs for
47 municipalities and recycling facilities.

48 In New York State there have been a number of cities, towns or villages that have
49 enacted plastic carryout bag bans. Multiple other states in the United States have
50 enacted this tax as well. This taxation will give an impetus to consumers to use
51 reusable bags which has shown is more effective and appropriate means to carry
52 products and goods. A Statewide solution is crucial to exterminate the costly and
53 unfavorable impacts of plastic carryout bags on New York State

54 Placing a tax on plastic carryout bags will result in a reduction of waste, lowering
55 the environmental impacts of plastic in our society. The ocean is getting the
56 majority of the backlash of using plastic carryout bags: There are already 5.25
57 trillion pieces of debris in the ocean, and the numbers are still increasing, annually,
58 100,000 marine animals are killed from plastic carryout bags, and at least two
59 thirds of the world's fish stocks are suffering from plastic ingestion. However, there
60 is proof that putting limits on plastic carryout bags will help with the effects of this
61 prolonged epidemic; After the plastic bag ban was passed in California, the percent
62 of plastic bags accountable for litter on the west coast went down by 4.3%. Our
63 very own state of New York is too being slowly ravaged by the effects of plastic
64 carryout bags. Over 23 billion plastic carryout bags are circulating through New
65 York state every year, a disfigurement to our scenic flora and fauna which we so
66 often take for granted. This proposal to put a 5-cent tax on plastic carryout bags
67 has economical value to our government and localities as well. New York City alone
68 estimates they can save 12.5 million on disposal of plastic carryout bags by
69 reducing the number of disposable bags used. This would greatly benefit our
70 citizens, government and wildlife. Furthermore, less single-use bags given out at
71 checkout could reduce the amount of recycling and disposal costs for municipalities
72 and recycling facilities.

73 **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

74 The cost will be negligible to the State as the State will be earning revenue from
75 the Tax the state will earn about two billion three hundred dollars from this Tax
76 annually. An administrative fee may be charged to merchants by their credit card
77 processing companies for collection and segregation of the tax.

78 **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

79 The law will go into effect one year after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-06

1 **Sponsors:** Princess D'Andrea, Patricia Motlhankana, Jada Pickett

2 **An Act To** Amend the Executive Law § 837 section 21 to remove photographic
3 arrays in police investigations

4 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

5 **Purpose** To remove picture identification in police investigations.

6 **Summary of Provisions**

7 Section 1: Definitions

8 Photo Lineup: A presentation of photographs to a victim or witness of a crime

9 Photographic Array: also known as a photo array and or photo display, is a
10 procedure used by law enforcement personnel to discover or confirm the identity of
11 a criminal suspect.

12 Section 2: Provisions

13 21. Promulgate a standardized and detailed written protocol that is
14 grounded in evidence-based principles for the administration of
15 ~~photographic array~~ and live lineup identification procedures for police
16 agencies and standardized forms for use by such agencies in the
17 reporting and recording of such identification procedure. The protocol
18 shall address the following topics:

19 (a) the selection of ~~photographic array~~ and live lineup filler
20 photographs or participants;

21 (b) instructions given to a witness before conducting a ~~photographic~~
22 ~~array~~ or live lineup identification procedure;

23 (c) the documentation and preservation of results of a ~~photographic~~
24 ~~array~~ or live lineup identification procedure;

25 (d) procedures for eliciting and documenting the witness's confidence
26 in his or her identification following a ~~photographic array~~ or live
27 lineup identification procedure, in the event that an identification is
28 made; and

29 (e) procedures for administering a ~~photographic array~~ or live lineup
30 identification procedure in a manner designed to prevent opportunities
31 to influence the witness.

32 **Justification**

33 Today, there has been many cases of Americans serving time for crimes that they
34 did not commit. Most of these cases have been a result of the photographic array
35 system. This system is unregulated, outdated, and is ruining innocent people's
36 lives. In 2017, 130 people were exonerated from prison after being accused under
37 a faulty photo lineup system. The Scales of Justice, which is a core belief in our
38 Justice System, talks about letting more guilty people go than having one innocent
39 person in jail. However, this belief is not being followed because more and more
40 people are being put in Jail and are actually innocent. There has been 12 states that
41 are moving closer to taking these photographic arrays out of their investigations,
42 and are beginning to regulate them.

43 **Fiscal Implications** N/A

44 **Effective Date** This bill will go into effect 2 years after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-07

1 **Sponsors:** Sarah Duenzl, Jailynn Thrane

2

3 **An Act To** Amend §1399-CC of the Public Health Law to increase the legal age of
4 purchasing tobacco-related products to twenty-one years of age.

5

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose**

9 The purpose of our bill is to increase the legal age to buy tobacco products and e-
10 cigarettes. Smoking at a young age will negatively affect brain development and
11 overall health.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Adolescence: The period following the onset of puberty during which a young
16 person develops from a child into an adult.

17 Prefrontal cortex: The prefrontal cortex is a part of the brain located at the front of
18 the frontal lobe. It is implicated in a variety of complex behaviors, including
19 planning, and greatly contributes to personality development.

20 Frontal Lobe: Each of the paired lobes of the brain lying immediately behind the
21 forehead, including areas concerned with behavior, learning, personality, and
22 voluntary movement.

23 E-Cigarette: A cigarette-shaped device containing a nicotine-based liquid that is
24 vaporized and inhaled, used to simulate the experience of smoking tobacco.

25 Juul: A popular e-cigarette

26 **Section 2:**

27 § 1399-cc. Sale of tobacco products, herbal cigarettes, liquid
28 nicotine, shisha, rolling papers or smoking paraphernalia to ~~minors~~

29 ~~Prohibited~~ people under the age of 21.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-07

30 **Justification**

31 At the adolescent stage the brain has not completed maturation. The prefrontal
32 cortex is a part of the brain located at the front of the frontal lobe. It is implicated
33 in a variety of complex behaviors, including planning, and greatly contributes to
34 personality development. The rational part of a teens brain isn't fully developed and
35 won't be until at least age 25. Smoking will also lead to chronic diseases such as,
36 lung cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. Smoking at a young age is also seen as
37 "cool" by youth and that needs to be changed.

38

39 **Fiscal Implications**

40 As punishment for being caught having tobacco products underage, there will be
41 mandatory correctional classes. These classes will be mandatory and will last from
42 two weeks to a month, and will be immediately put in place after payment. The
43 price of the classes will range from \$200-\$500 in total. This class will be paid by the
44 parent or guardian of the underage teen found illegally smoking, this will come out
45 of pocket. If your family has medical care coverage/ insurance the classes will be
46 paid through that, coming from a lower class family that is unable to pay the fine,
47 there will be payment plans available.

48

49 **Effective Date**

50 12 months after approval of New York State.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-08

1 **Sponsors:** Adam Brown, Molly Burhans, Benjamin Herman

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend Public Health Law § 2732 to prohibit amniocentesis testing before the
5 twenty-first week of a woman's pregnancy.

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose**

9 The purpose of this bill is to ban amniocentesis testing during the time period in
10 which it is used for only genetic testing, which has many possible health risks for
11 the baby.

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 "Amniocentesis" means the procedure in which amniotic fluid is removed from the
15 uterus for testing or treatment.

16 **Section 2 Provisions:**

17 § 2731. Birth defects institute. The commissioner shall establish within the
18 department a birth defects institute for the purposes of initiating and conducting
19 investigations of the causes, mortality, methods of treatment, prevention and cure
20 of birth defects and genetic and allied diseases.

21 1. Amniocentesis testing for pregnant women is outlawed before the twenty-first
22 week of her pregnancy.

23 **Justification**

24 Amniocentesis is a procedure that is used in many cases to detect any genetic
25 defects. This procedure has many risks associated with it; the most dangerous
26 being miscarriage. Administering amniocentesis before the twenty-first week of
27 pregnancy is used solely to detect genetic deformations. There is currently no cure
28 for any genetic abnormalities, which means that the information is arbitrarily
29 necessary not medically necessary. Obtaining this information is a selfish risk that
30 is imposed upon the life of the child. This testing also leads to discrimination, some
31 parents resort to abortion rather than having a defective child which discriminates
32 against humans with disabilities. Most importantly, newer tests can take the place
33 of amniocentesis without the risks, such as "cell-free fetal DNA testing". Overall,
34 amniocentesis is a risky procedure with no true advantages. The benefits of
35 knowing of any abnormalities are heavily outweighed by the risk of miscarriage.

36 **Fiscal Implications**

37 This bill will have no fiscal implications for New York State.

38 **Effective Date**

39 This bill will go into effect one year after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-09

1 **Sponsors:** Simon Minich, Andre DeSalvo, and Justin Larry

2

3 **An Act To** Amend article 220.00 of NYS Penal Law to remove marijuana as an
4 illegal drug.

5

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose** To remove marijuana as an illegal drug in New York State for all people
9 21 years and older.

10 **Summary of Provisions:**

11 Section 1: Definitions

12 Drug- a medicine or other substance with has a physiological effect when ingested
13 or otherwise introduced into the body.

14 Recreational Drug- any substance that can be purchased and used without a
15 prescription.

16 Criminal Possession- possession of an illegal substance.

17 Section 2: Provisions:

18 v. "Illegal drug" shall mean ~~marijuana or concentrated cannabis,~~
19 cocaine and its derivatives, opiates, amphetamines, phencyclidine and
20 any other drug the board of education shall designate by rule pursuant
21 to section 17-609 of this chapter.

22 **Justification**

23 Removing marijuana as an illegal drug will boost the economy by increasing taxable
24 revenue, and allow the government to regulate the quality, sale, and consumption
25 of marijuana. It will also free up space in jails, release non-violent offenders, and
26 reduce the amount of money the police force spends in apprehending marijuana
27 dealers and users.

28 **Fiscal Implications**

29 Cost for regulation will average around \$12,603,174 per year. This cost will be
30 offset by an average total revenue of \$244,907,128 collected from taxes, licenses,
31 and fees per year.

32 **Effective Date**

33 This bill will go into effect 3 years after the date of passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-10

1 **Sponsors:** Jayden Fritz-Berrios, Calvin Jean, and Jasmine Willard

2

3 **An Act To**

4 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

5 Amend § 187 of New York State Correction Law to raise the pay grade of inmate
6 workers to at least half that of the state minimum wage.

7

8 **Purpose**

9 The purpose of this bill is to raise the minimum wage an inmate worker can earn to
10 at least half that of the state minimum wage, and to raise each work grade's pay
11 proportionately

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1**

15 **Correctional Facility-** Refers to a jail, prison, or other place of incarceration by
16 government officials. They serve to confine and rehabilitate prisoners and may be
17 classified as minimum, medium, or maximum security facilities, or contain separate
18 divisions for such categories of prisoners.

19 **Prison Industries-** Jobs created by prison labor programs

20 **Non-Personal Service-** Rendering the services are not subject, either by the
21 contract's terms or by the manner of its administration, to the supervision and
22 control usually prevailing in relationships between the Government and its
23 employees.

24 **Section 2**

25 § 187. Earnings of inmates. 1. Every inmate confined in a state correctional facility,
26 subject to the rules and regulations of the department of corrections and
27 community supervision, and every inmate confined in a local correctional facility, in
28 the discretion of the sheriff thereof, may receive compensation for work performed
29 during his or her imprisonment. Such compensation shall be graded by the
30 department of corrections and community supervision with regard to inmates
31 employed in prison industries, based upon the work performed by such prisoners
32 for prisoners confined in state correctional facilities, and by the sheriffs in all local
33 correctional facilities for inmates confined therein.

34 2. The department of corrections and community supervision shall adopt rules,
35 subject to the approval of the director of the budget, for establishing in all of the
36 state correctional facilities a system of compensation for the inmates confined
37 therein. Such rules shall provide for the payment of compensation to each inmate,
38 who shall meet the requirements established by the department of corrections and
39 community supervision, based upon the work performed by such inmates.

40 3. The department shall prepare graded wage schedules for inmates, which
41 schedules shall be based upon classifications according to the value of work
42 performed by each. Such schedules ~~need not be~~ must be uniform in all institutions.

43 The lowest wage grade provided shall be no less than half that of the state



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-10

1 minimum wage in their county for the current fiscal year. The minimum pay grade,
2 as well as each grade above it, shall all be updated annually to remain consistent
3 with any changes to the state minimum wage. The rules of the department shall
4 also provide for the establishment of a credit system for each inmate and the
5 manner in which such earnings shall be paid to the inmate or his or her dependents
6 or held in trust for him or her until his or her release.

7 4. Any compensation paid to an inmate under this article shall be based on the
8 work performed by such inmate. Compensation may be paid from moneys
9 appropriated to the department and available to facilities for non-personal service.
10

11 **Justification**

12 An issue in the world that we live in is the disregard of moral principles. A crime is a
13 crime regardless of the severity of the offense. However, it should be asked if all
14 criminals are felons by choice, or rather victims of the environment around them.
15 Prison is designed for rehabilitation. Prisoners often work in excess of 60 hours a
16 week, and their wage has not increased since the Great Depression. At this time,
17 .33 cents per hour was a reasonable rate for those working both outside prison and
18 as prisoners. Times have since changed drastically. Now, minimum wage for most
19 counties in New York is \$9.70. Felons working in prison, up until the 1930's, were
20 paid the same hourly rate as non-convicts. Serving time in prison should not be
21 inclusive of essentially, unpaid labor. Incarcerated jobs can include anything from
22 industrial labor to mural painting, and oftentimes prisoners work in place of outside
23 employees, providing necessary maintenance care for the facility. Despite the
24 considerable amount of hours they work, prisoners still barely have enough to
25 purchase commissary items necessary for survival, such as feminine products.
26

27 **Fiscal Implications**

28 The money needed for this bill will be coming from a sin tax added onto the sale of
29 electronic cigarettes. The current sin tax for traditional cigarettes in New York State
30 is \$4.35 per 20 cigarettes, which is equivalent to about 75¢ per every 120mg of
31 nicotine. Proportionately, this amounts to about \$8.70-\$13.05 per e-cigarette,
32 which will provide us with the \$1.2 billion that is needed to be allocated towards
33 higher inmate pay. Any excess money will be funneled into inmate drug
34 rehabilitation programs, seeing as these are also severely underfunded.
35

36 **Effective Date**

37 This bill will go into effect the January 1st following its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-11

1 **Sponsors:** Adrianna Alicea, Lauren Andersen, Madison Catania and Erica Whitman

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend Article 13 of the New York State Education to have student athletes be
5 given a voucher in the sport season they participate in for SUNY division one
6 schools.

7

8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

9

10 **Purpose**

11 The purpose of this bill is to give student athletes a voucher to allow them to buy
12 basic necessities deemed appropriate by the school.

13

14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 Section 1: Definitions

16 Student Athlete: a participant in an organized competitive sport sponsored by the
17 educational institution in which he or she is enrolled.

18 Voucher: a small printed piece of paper that entitles the holder to a discount or that
19 may be exchanged for goods or services

20 Section 2:

21 Article 13-C Student Athlete Compensation Act

22 All students who participate in SUNY division one athletics during either the fall,
23 winter or spring season will receive compensation for their participation on the
24 team. Students will only receive compensation if they were on the active team
25 roster for a majority (60%) of the games during the term of payment. The term of
26 payment will be every seven days. Students will receive their compensation
27 fourteen business days after a term is over.

28 The Athletic Department will be responsible for the distribution of the vouchers.
29 Each athlete will get a card for the school year that will act as a voucher to stores
30 on the school campus. The SUNY schools can regulate and change what is allowed
31 on the card The card will be considered invalid if they try to purchase an item that
32 is unregulated by the school.

33 The school database will have a list available with the regulated items. Based on
34 the schools previous income for fall, winter or spring sports, the school can dictate
35 the amount of profit that goes back to the students. This percent cannot fall under
36 .02% per student per term. To calculate this, schools will divide the overall profit by
37 the amount of students who played during the term of payment and then give each
38 student a third of their profit. The profits during the fall, winter or spring sport
39 seasons will be divided evenly between all students who were on active
40 rosters during that term



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-11

41 **Justification**

42 By giving these student athletes compensation for playing in the division one
43 program, they will be able to provide themselves with the necessities that other
44 non-playing students are able to. The student athletes are unable to hold a job that
45 will give them the finances to buy necessities like food and toiletries during the
46 season. The schools are not losing money, as they are losing a profit. This will not
47 affect the overall school budget.

48

49 **Fiscal Implications**

50 This will cause the SUNY schools to lose profit gained from their NCAA division one
51 athletic program, but will not lose money that goes towards their school budget.

52

53 **Effective Date**

54 This bill will go into effect three years after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-12

1 **Sponsors:** Aidan Westfall, Colin Hansen

2
3 **AN ACT TO:** Amend the New York State Penal Law Section 230.00 to make
4 prostitution sanctionable only without a license issued from the New York State
5 Department of Health, and to amend New York State Public Health Law Sections 2310
6 – 2334 to create a license for prostitution and houses of prostitution issued and
7 regulated by the Department of Health.

8
9 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and assembly, do*
10 *enact as follows:*

11
12 **PURPOSE:** An Act to amend the New York State Penal Law Section 230 and New
13 York State Public Health Law sections 2320 – 2334 to legalize the profession of
14 prostitution with a license issued and regulated by the New York State Department of
15 Health.

16
17 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

18 **Section 1:** Definitions:

- 19 **1. "Unlicensed prostitution"** shall mean any act of prostitution, as defined in
20 the Penal Law and Public Health Law, that is not licensed by the New York State
21 Department of Health pursuant to Section 2310 of the New York State Public
22 Health Law.
23 **2. "License holder"** one who was licensed by the Commissioner of the Department
24 of Health a license to practice prostitution.

25 **Section 2:** Amends the New York State Penal Law as follows:

26 **§ 230.00 Unlicensed Prostitution.**

27 A person is guilty of unlicensed prostitution when such person engages or agrees or
28 offers to engage in sexual conduct with another person in return for a fee without a
29 license issued by the New York State Department of Health pursuant to Section 2310
30 of the New York State Public Health Law. Unlicensed Prostitution is a class B
31 Misdemeanor.

32 Amends the New York State Public Health Law as follows:

33 § 2310 License and registration required. On and after January 1, 2021, no person
34 shall practice prostitution unless he or she is licensed by the commissioner of the
35 department of health or his or her designee and registered by the department
36 pursuant to the provisions of this article.

37 1. An applicant shall be eligible for a license as provided in this article upon payment
38 to the department of an application fee of forty dollars and the submission of
39 satisfactory evidence, verified by oath or affirmation, that the applicant:

40 ___ (a) is at least twenty-one years of age; and

41 ___ (b) is of good mental and physical health as determined by the department.

42 2. An applicant who is denied licensure may petition the commissioner for
43 reconsideration.

44 3. The department shall issue a license to candidates who meet the requirements
45 specified in this chapter. The license shall expire at the end of six months from the



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

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46 time of issuance. To maintain a license, the license holder must provide to the
47 department with satisfactory evidence that the license holder fulfills the application
48 requirements for license set forth in this chapter. In addition, when seeking to
49 maintain a license, the license holder must pay the department a license fee of two
50 hundred dollars.

51 4. The department may promulgate regulations for the practice of prostitution. After
52 a public hearing and with satisfactory evidence of violation of departmental
53 regulations, the commissioner, or his or her designee, may revoke a license without
54 any compensation to the license holder.

55 Section 4: Amends the New York State Public Health Law as follows:

56 §§ 2320 -2334 within these sections, any statement of "prostitution" shall be replaced
57 with "unlicensed prostitution".

58

59 **JUSTIFICATION:**

60 Prostitution is widely recognized as the oldest profession. It exists, and will continue
61 to do so, even with criminal sanctions against the activity. By recognizing this fact,
62 the State may, through licensure, control the act of prostitution. By requiring licenses
63 for prostitution, the Department of Health will regulate health standards for licensed
64 professionals. In addition, the Department of Health will collect funds from license
65 fees, which will be entered into the General Fund. Moreover, licensing prostitution will
66 remove the business from the hands of organized crime, and reduce sex trafficking
67 and other associated activities. Lastly, by removing the risk of sexually transmitted
68 diseases from prostitution, it is anticipated that New York will save additional millions
69 of dollars by reducing the number of victims treated for such diseases.

70

71 **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

72 This bill is expected to generate millions of dollars in revenue through licensure fees
73 and income taxes. In addition, this Act will save the public millions of dollars by
74 reducing the number of victims treated for sexually transmitted diseases.

75

76 **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

77 The law will go into effect January 1, 2021.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-13

1 **Sponsors:** Grayson Hawthorn

2

3 **AN ACT TO:** Modify Article 33-A Section 3397-A to allow legal research of MDMA's
4 effect on PTSD for possible treatment.

5

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:*

7

8 **PURPOSE:** To help provide care and assistance for those with PTSD by researching
9 further into the use of MDMA for treatment.

10 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

11 **Section 1:** Definitions

12 MDMA (*3,4-methylenedioxy-methamphetamine*): a synthetic drug that alters mood and
13 perception

14 PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder): A disorder in which a person has difficulty
15 recovering after experiencing or witnessing a terrifying event.

16 **Section 2:**

17 **§ 33-A 3397-A**

18 The legislature finds that recent research has shown that the use of marijuana may
19 alleviate the nausea and ill-effects of cancer chemotherapy, may alleviate the ill-
20 effects of glaucoma and may have other therapeutic uses. **Furthermore, recent**
21 **research has shown the use of MDMA may alleviate symptoms of Post-**
22 **Traumatic Stress Disorder.** The legislature further finds that there is a need for
23 further research and experimentation with regard to the use of marijuana **and MDMA**
24 for therapeutic purposes under strictly controlled circumstances. It is for such
25 research programs that the controlled substances therapeutic research act is hereby
26 enacted.

27 **JUSTIFICATION:**

28 PTSD is an astounding issue among veterans, witnesses of traumatic events or those
29 who've experienced them and more. Anyone can be susceptible to it if they have
30 experienced any form of trauma, and currently many PTSD treatments have not
31 proven effective for those who are suffering. A 2018 study by MAPS showed that 68%
32 of veterans who formerly had PTSD no longer had symptoms to qualify for a diagnosis
33 after a year of MDMA therapy. We desperately need to find a way to relieve PTSD
34 suffering and this is an experimental way to do so. Despite the experimental nature of
35 the studies, it has currently proven to be useful in aiding in treating PTSD.

36 **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

37 There will be no fiscal implications as private companies will be providing money
38 towards studies of the effect of MDMA on veterans.

39 **EFFECTIVE DATE:**

40 This bill will go into effect on September 1st, 2019.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-14

1 **Sponsors:** Morgan Maschewski, Gabrielle Mowery, Katelyn Van Auken, Maria
2 Baker

3
4 **An Act To**

5 Amend article 81 subsection 8109 of the civil practice law to add a clause protects
6 defendants financially in an successful trial.

7
8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*
9

10 **Purpose**

11 Have defendants be monetarily compensated if found not guilty to protect their
12 personal finances.

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Financially Compensated: The payment of money equated to the defendants legal
16 fees.

17 Frivolous Lawsuit: any lawsuit filed intentionally to harass, annoy, or disturb the
18 opposite party.

19 Defendant: the individual or company being sued.

20 Plaintiff: the one who brings a case against the other.

21 **Section 2**

22 8109. Defendant's costs against the state. (a) Action brought for
23 benefit of municipal corporation. Costs awarded to the defendant in an
24 action brought by the state for the benefit of a municipal corporation
25 shall be awarded against the municipal corporation and not against the
26 state.

27 (b) Payment of defendant's costs against the state. Where costs are
28 awarded to the defendant and against the state in an action brought by a
29 public officer, and the proceedings have not been stayed, the
30 comptroller shall draw his warrant upon the treasurer for the payment of
31 the costs out of any money in the treasury appropriated for that
32 purpose, upon the production to him of an exemplified copy of the
33 judgment or order awarding the costs, a copy of a taxed bill of costs
34 and a certificate of the attorney-general to the effect that the action
35 was brought pursuant to law. The fees of the clerk for the exemplified
36 copy shall be certified thereupon by him and included in the warrant. In the case
37 where the defendant wins the case, they shall be compensated for their legal
38 finances by the prosecution.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-14

39 **Justification**

40 Frivolous lawsuits cause defendants to struggle financially. A study found
41 that 22% of frivolous lawsuits were filed in New York City. In one year alone, \$250
42 billion was spent on these lawsuits. Not only do these lawsuits negatively impact
43 the government, they are often a hassle for the defendant. Many Americans take
44 time off of work to address these cases, therefore damaging their income.

45 **Fiscal Implications**

46 Fiscal implications will be minimal as money is refunded to the defendant.

47 **Effective Date**

48 One year after passage of bill.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-15

Sponsors: Maria Bideiwy, Bianca Koether, Julia Mourikis, and Eduarda Costa

1 **An Act To**

2 Amend Article 10 §146-G of the Agriculture and Markets Law to tax phosphorus
3 fertilizers and use the revenue to fund state composting programs.

4
5 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:***

6
7 **Purpose**

8 The purpose of this bill is to tax producers of fertilizers with phosphorus 15% and
9 use the funds for state composting programs.

10

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1**

13 **Producers:** A producer is someone who creates goods or services, in the case,
14 creates fertilizers

15 **Retailer:** a person or business that sells goods to the public in relatively small
16 quantities for use or consumption rather than for resale.

17 **Consumer:** a person who purchases goods and services for personal use.

18 **Fertilizer:** a chemical or natural substance added to soil or land to increase its
19 fertility, but also has many negatives regarding the effects of its use.

20 **Lawn or non-agricultural turf:** means any non-crop land area that is covered by any
21 grass species. Lawn or non-agricultural turf does not mean flower or vegetable
22 gardens, pasture, hayland, trees, shrubs, turf grown on turf farms, or any form of
23 agricultural product

24 **Phosphorus Fertilizer:** mineral and organic substances that contain phosphorus and
25 that are used for improving the nutrition of plants. Phosphorus fertilizers are the
26 only means for replenishing phosphorus in soil.

27 **Runoff:** the draining away of water (or substances carried in it, like phosphorus)
28 from the surface of an area of land, a building or structure, etc.

29 **Composting:** A mixture of decayed or decaying organic matter used to fertilize soil.
30 Compost is usually made by gathering plant material, such as leaves, grass
31 clippings, and vegetable peels, into a pile or bin and letting it decompose as a result
32 of the action of aerobic bacteria, fungi, and other organisms.

33 **Commercial Fertilizer:** a substance containing one or more recognized plant
34 nutrients and that is used for its plant nutrient content or that is designated for use
35 or claimed to have value in promoting plant growth.

36 **Section 2**

37 §146-G. Retail Sale

38 ~~Any retailer who sells or offers for sale to~~ producer who creates for retailers and
39 consumers specialty fertilizer in which the available phosphate (P2O5) content is
40 greater than 0.67 percent, shall:

41 (a) display such phosphorus-containing specialty fertilizer separately from non-
42 phosphorus specialty fertilizer; and



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #: AL-15

43 (b) post in the location where phosphorus-containing specialty fertilizer is
44 displayed a clearly visible sign which is at least eight and one-half inches by eleven
45 inches in size and states that:

46 "Phosphorus runoff poses a threat to water quality. Therefore, under New York
47 law, phosphorus-containing fertilizer may only be applied to lawn or non-
48 agricultural turf when:

49 (1) A soil test indicates that additional phosphorus is needed for growth of that
50 lawn or non-agricultural turf; or

51 (2) The fertilizer is used for newly established lawn or non-agricultural turf during
52 the first growing season."

53 (c) be taxed in the amount of fifteen percent. The revenue collected from the tax
54 will be directed to city composting programs.

55

56 **Justification**

57 Phosphorus fertilizers should be regulated due to the many negative impacts they
58 have on our environment, our people, and our lives. Synthetic fertilizers, like
59 phosphorus fertilizers, contain high amounts of acidic chemicals lot of acid, and can
60 therefore burn the skin negatively impact soil quality, and burn plants. Most
61 polyphosphate fertilizers will have 40 to 60 percent of the phosphorus remaining in
62 the orthophosphate form. This means that about 40 to 60 percent of the waste will
63 be included in the runoff, which carries phosphorus from the land to streams and
64 lakes. The phosphorus is either attached to eroded soil particles or dissolved in the
65 runoff. Phosphorus in runoff can pollute surface waters and cause excessive algal
66 and plant growth. When algal blooms exhaust the supply of phosphorus, they die
67 and start to decompose. During decomposition, dissolved oxygen is removed from
68 the water by micro-organisms that break down the organic material. The lack of
69 dissolved oxygen makes it difficult for aquatic organisms to survive. Significant fish
70 kills can result. Algal blooms and excessive weed growth can have negative effects
71 on aquatic ecosystems as well as harm human and livestock health. Blue-green
72 algae contain toxins that can affect the liver and nervous system. Livestock and
73 wildlife have died from consuming water containing toxins from blue-green algae.
74 Algae blooms can plug water pumps and impair water delivery as well as produce
75 algal scums that smell and look bad.

76

77 **Fiscal Implications**

78 A tax of 15% would be placed on all phosphorus fertilizers at the producing level,
79 which would mean that creators of phosphorus, corporations, would be taxed. The
80 average bag of phosphorus fertilizer costs about \$15, raising the price to create it
81 by \$2.25. The money would be collected and invested in state composting
82 programs.

83

84 **Effective Date**

85 This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2020.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-16

1 **Sponsors:** Brady Stark, Jackson LaSarso, Kellen Gannon, and Emily Lucy

2
3 **An Act To**

4 Decriminalize drug use and constructively institute solution-based policy to the public
5 health crisis

6
7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8
9 **Purpose**

10 To institute evidence-based policy in order to solve the most prevalent public health
11 crisis facing New York State.

12
13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 **Controlled Substance:** Shall consist of any substance by whatever name or chemical
16 designation proscribed in §3306 of Public Health Law.

17 **Eligible Defendant:** Any individual in possession of a personal use quantity of controlled
18 substance

19 **Personal Use:** A quantity of controlled substance not to exceed the quantities described
20 in and including §220.09 possessed for the purposes of recreational usage.

21 **Panel:** Shall consist of a psychiatrist, attorney and social worker, all of whom are
22 licensed and in good standing to practice in their respective field in the state of New
23 York. Panel membership shall be construed to be a form of jury duty and thus panel
24 members shall receive summons, be recognized as jurors in all purposes and receive
25 the same protections and benefits.

26 **Section 2: Provisions**

27 A. The penal law is amended by modifying §220.03 to read as follows:

28 ~~(A.) Criminal possession of a controlled substance in the seventh degree is~~
29 ~~a class A misdemeanor.~~

30 B. The penal law is amended by modifying §220.06 to read as follows:

31 ~~(A.) Criminal possession of a controlled substance in the fifth degree is a~~
32 ~~class D felony.~~

33 C. The penal law is amended by modifying §220.06 to read as follows:

34 ~~(A.) Criminal possession of a controlled substance in the fourth degree is~~
35 ~~a class C felony.~~

36 D. The penal law is amended by modifying §221.05 to read as follows:

37 (A.) A person is guilty of unlawful possession of a personal quantity of a
38 controlled substance when he knowingly and unlawfully possesses a
39 controlled substance for the purposes of personal use. Unlawful
40 possession of a controlled substance for the purposes of personal use is a
41 violation punishable only by (i) a fine of not more than ten thousand
42 dollars, and imprisonment of not more than ten years.

43 (B.) At any time after the arraignment of an eligible defendant, prior to
44 the entry of a plea of guilty or the commencement of trial, the court at
45 the request of the eligible defendant shall move the eligible defendant to a
46 judicial diversion program as proscribed in §216.06

47 E. The criminal procedure law is amended to add §216.06 as follows:



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-16

48 (A.) A committee consisting of a panel shall be established by the judge or
49 the magistrate who presides on a case in which a charge described in
50 §221.05 is levied against the defendant. Such committee shall exist under
51 the supervision of the court. The committee's panel shall make a
52 determination, pending the approval of the court, to be punishable to
53 include any combination, including none, of the following: (i) mandatory
54 enrollment and compliance with a registered substance abuse treatment
55 center (ii) community service not in excess of two-hundred (200) hours
56 (iii) periodic court appearances, which may include periodic urinalysis, (iv)
57 deferred term of incarceration not to exceed one (1) year, pending
58 periodic urinalysis indicating a refrain from consumption controlled
59 substances. The committee may also require as terms of release that the
60 eligible defendant comply with the terms §216.05.5.

61 F. The state finance law is amended to modify §52 as follows:

62 (A.) One (1) percent of the current fiscal year's budget for state operations
63 for the Department Of Corrections And Community Supervision will be directed to the
64 state operations of the Department of Mental Hygiene, Office of Alcoholism And
65 Substance Abuse Services.

66

Justification

67 This bill will help New York state reduce its needless spending and alleviate the burden
68 that drug crimes place on the state. According to the reports by New York State in 2006
69 more than 400,000 people reported that they needed treatment for drug addiction or
70 dependence but did not get it. This bill would also focus on rehabilitation for those
71 addicted by collaborating with the counties and organizations such as OASAS.
72
73

74

Fiscal Implications

75 As a result of reduced incarceration rates, we expect a reduction of \$2,500,000,000
76 (Two And A Half Billion) annually in spending towards inmates. In addition to the
77 \$2,500,000,000 (Two And A Half Billion) saved by the state, we will be directing
78 approximately 250,000,000 (Two Hundred And Fifty Million) from the budget of the
79 Department of Corrections to the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services in
80 order to handle the increase caseload.
81

82

Effective Date

83 This bill will go into effect on January 1 2020



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-17

1 **Sponsors:** Wells Liscomb, Grace Brody

2
3 **AN ACT TO:** Amend Section 1 Article 2 of the New York State Constitution to
4 change the voting date of state and local elections to the first Saturday and Sunday
5 after the first Monday of November.

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as Follows:*

7
8 **PURPOSE:** This would amend Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution to change
9 the voting date to the first Saturday and Sunday from 9AM-5PM after the first
10 Monday of the month of November in order to increase voter turnout.

11 12 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

13 Section 1:

14 "Registered voters" is a citizen that is able to vote in elections.

15 "Polling place" is a place that people go to vote.

16 "Poll worker" is the person who operates the polling place.

17 Section 2:

18 Every citizen shall be entitled to vote at every election for all officers elected by the
19 people and upon all questions submitted to the vote of the people provided that
20 such citizen is eighteen years of age or over and shall have been a resident of this
21 state, and of the county, city, or village for thirty days next preceding an election:

22 To change state and local elections voting day within New York State to the first
23 Saturday and Sunday from 9AM to 5PM after the first Monday of November.

24 25 **Justification:**

26 The United States was built on the principle of freedom. Free speech, freedom of
27 religion and press, and the freedom to vote. Despite voting being an extremely
28 important part of Americans' fundamental rights, New York consistently ranks
29 extremely low in voter turnout. New York has the fourth most registered voters in
30 the country, yet is still ranked amongst the bottom in voter turnout. In New York
31 City, only %12 of eligible voters voted in the mayoral primary, and only 26% in the
32 general election. On a federal scale, in the 2016 presidential election, New York
33 State ranked 8th lowest in voter turnout out of all 50 states. Before this, New York
34 ranked in the bottom half of states for voter turnout in all but one election in the
35 last two decades. By changing the day of the week to a Saturday and Sunday on a
36 local scale, people may be encouraged to also begin participating in federal
37 elections as well. This bill will set an important precedent for other states to
38 reevaluate their voting system.

39 40 **Fiscal Implications:**

41 The cost to keep polling places open for an additional day will cost about \$55,000
42 per county, which is about \$3.4 million overall.

43
44 **Effective Date:** This bill will go into effect the next presidential election.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-18

1 **Sponsors:** Allison Caines, Ally Cottier, Olivia DiFelice, Sophia Fusilli

2
3 **An Act To** Amend § 520.30 to increase the bail cost through time or money by
4 50% for violent crimes

5
6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7
8 **Purpose** to increase the bail cost through time or money by 50% if a violent crime
9 is committed after the first offense.

10
11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 Section 1: Definitions

13 Bail: the temporary release of an accused person awaiting trial, sometimes on
14 condition that a sum of money be lodged to guarantee their appearance in court.

15 Bail Bonds: a written promise signed by a defendant to ensure that the defendant
16 will appear in court at the scheduled time and date, as ordered by the court.

17 Affidavit: a written statement confirmed by oath or affirmation, for use as evidence
18 in court.

19 Obligor: a person who is bound to another by contract or other legal procedure.

20 Contravene: violate the prohibition or order of (a law, treaty, or code of conduct).

21 Indemnity: a contractual obligation of one party to compensate the loss occurred to
22 the other party due to the act of the indemnitor or any other party

23 Violent Crime: a crime in which an offender or perpetrator uses or threatens to use
24 force upon a victim

25 Section 2: Provisions

26 § 520.30 Bail and bail bonds; examination as to sufficiency.

27 1. Following the posting of a bail bond and the justifying affidavit
28 or affidavits or the posting of cash bail, the court may conduct an
29 inquiry for the purpose of determining the reliability of the obligors
30 or person posting cash bail, the value and sufficiency of any security
31 offered, and whether any feature of the undertaking contravenes public
32 policy; provided that before undertaking an inquiry, of a person posting
33 cash bail the court, after application of the district attorney, must
34 have had reasonable cause to believe that the person posting cash bail
35 is not in rightful possession of money posted as cash bail or that such
36 money constitutes the fruits of criminal or unlawful conduct. The court
37 may inquire into any matter stated or required to be stated in the
38 justifying affidavits, and may also inquire into other matters
39 appropriate to the determination, which include but are not limited to
40 the following:

41 (a) The background, character and reputation of any obligor, and, in
42 the case of an insurance company bail bond, the qualifications of the
43 surety-obligor and its executing agent; and

44 (d) The background, character and reputation of any person who has



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Bill #: AL-18

45 indemnified or agreed to indemnify an obligor upon the bond; and whether
46 any such indemnitor, not being licensed by the superintendent of
47 financial services in accordance with the insurance law, has within a
48 period of one month prior to such indemnity transaction given
49 indemnification or security for like purpose in more than two cases not
50 arising out of the same transaction; and

51 (f) The background, character and reputation of the person posting
52 cash bail.

53 (g) The number of times the defendant has been posted for bail for a violent
54 crime. If it is the defendant's second violent offense within a year and is eligible to
55 be posted for bail, then half of the previous set bail amount will be added to the
56 current bail price, or if the criminal can't pay bail, half of their holding sentence will
57 be added in addition to their current sentence.

58 ex/ original bail amount /time for violent crime: \$500 / 4 weeks

59 second offence amount / time: \$750 / 6 weeks

60 3. At the conclusion of the inquiry, the court must issue an order
61 either approving or disapproving the bail.

62

63 **Justification**

64 Currently, the judges who determine a defendant's bail time or amount are not
65 required to take into account the defendant's previous violent criminal record and
66 how likely they are to commit another violent crime. Although it might be a
67 consideration, the judge is not required by law to examine the previous violent
68 actions. By increasing the penalty, it decreases the flight risk of the defendant and
69 the likelihood of committing another violent crime. The public safety and security of
70 New York State citizens will be further protected.

71

72 **Fiscal Implications**

73 The state will make an additional 1/2 of original profit made on violent crime bail.
74 The cost of the inmates who can't pay the increased bail will result in jail time
75 which will cost the state more money.

76

77 **Effective Date**

78 January 1, 2021



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-19

1 **Sponsors:** Cheyenne Smothergill, Eren Gulmez, Makaylei Thrane

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend chapter 96-a of the Public Officers Law to add subsection H to prohibit police
5 officers from asking witnesses or victims of a crime about their immigration status.

6

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8

9 **Purpose**

10 We initiate this bill, to prohibit officers from asking witnesses or victims to a crime
11 about their immigration status.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Illegal immigrant: Someone who is in the U.S. illegally either because he or she
16 entered the country illegally or because he or she overstayed a visa.

17 Witness: a person who sees an event, typically a crime or accident, take place.

18 Victim: a person harmed, injured, or killed as a result of a crime, accident, or other
19 event or action.

20 Officer: a person holding a position of command or authority in the armed services,
21 in the merchant marine, or on a passenger ship.

22 Crime: an action or omission that constitutes an offense that may be prosecuted by
23 the state and is punishable by law.

24 **Section 2:**

25 (g) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a county clerk or court from making
26 available a document publicly recorded or filed prior to the effective date of this
27 section, provided that if any individual requests redaction of a social security
28 number from a publicly recorded document available to the public online, such
29 number shall be promptly redacted by the county clerk. Nothing in this section
30 shall limit disclosure of criminal history record information currently permitted.

31 (h) If a person shall be involved in a crime, as a witness to the crime, or a victim of
32 the crime, a police officer may not question the immigration status of said person
33 reporting the incident. If officers fail to follow this procedure, they will be subject to
34 disciplinary action.

35



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-19

36 **Justification**

37 The passing of this bill will do nothing less than help immigrants who are facing
38 dangerous situations, as well as contributing to the reduction of crime by
39 encouraging reporting. When people feel more safe and secure with their ability to
40 trust the police, they are more likely to report a crime, therefore, the people at
41 fault are less likely to commit these crimes, in fear of the consequences they may
42 be faced with upon being reported. The reduction of crime will greatly increase
43 safety among many communities, as well as allowing people the comfort in knowing
44 that they can safely and effectively report something at any time, without being
45 questioned, or deported. A person, no matter their origin should not have to suffer
46 every day in fear that if they reach out to receive help, they will be turned away, or
47 worse, deported. In California, a similar bill called the California Sanctuary Act
48 improved the lives of immigrants greatly by allowing them to reach out for help,
49 and eliminating the fear of deportation.

50

51 **Fiscal Implications**

52 There are no fiscal implications for this bill.

53

54 **Effective Date**

55 The bill will go into effect 1 year after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-20

Sponsors: Karen Urrutia, Tracey Weng, Sherin Mathew, and Karla Zamora

1 **An Act To**

2 Amend Article 13-F §1399-CC subsection 3 of the Public Health Law to change the
3 legal age for the sale of tobacco from 18 to 21.

4 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

5

6 **Purpose**

7 To raise the legal sale of tobacco products from 18 to 21 in New York.

8

9 **Summary of Provisions**

10 **Section 1**

11 **Smoking:** act of inhaling and exhaling fumes.

12 **Electronic Cigarette:** a cigarette-shaped device containing a nicotine-based liquid
13 that is vaporized and inhaled, used to simulate the experience of smoking tobacco.

14 **Nicotine:** a toxic colorless or yellowish oily liquid that is the chief active constituent
15 of tobacco. It acts as a stimulant in small doses, but in larger amounts blocks the
16 action of autonomic nerve and skeletal muscle cells.

17 **Tobacco:** a preparation of the nicotine-rich leaves of an American plant, which are
18 cured by a process of drying and fermentation for smoking or chewing.

19 **Shisha:** a water-pipe, popular in many Arab countries, in which fruit-scented
20 tobacco is burnt using coal, passed through an ornate water vessel and inhaled
21 through a hose.

22 **Section 2**

23 § 1399-cc. Sale of tobacco products, herbal cigarettes, liquid nicotine, shisha,
24 rolling papers or smoking paraphernalia to minors prohibited.

25 3. Sale of tobacco products, herbal cigarettes, liquid nicotine, shisha or
26 electronic cigarettes in such places, other than by a vending machine, shall be
27 made only to an individual who demonstrates, through (a) a valid driver's license or
28 non-driver's identification card issued by the commissioner of motor
29 vehicles, the federal government, any United States territory, commonwealth
30 or possession, the District of Columbia, a state government within the United
31 States or a provincial government of the dominion of Canada, or (b) a valid
32 passport issued by the United States government or any other country, or
33 (c) an identification card issued by the armed forces of the United
34 States, indicating that the individual is at least ~~eighteen years of age~~ twenty-one
35 years of age. Such identification need not be required of any individual who
36 reasonably appears to be at least twenty-five years of age, provided, however, that
37 such appearance shall not constitute a defense in any proceeding alleging the sale
38 of a tobacco product, herbal cigarettes, liquid nicotine, shisha or
39 electronic cigarettes to an individual under ~~eighteen years of age~~ twenty-one years
40 of age.

41



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-20

42 **Justification**

43 Raising the legal age from 18-21 for smoking is beneficial for everyone. Smoking at
44 a young age carries risks relating to lung problems and respiratory issues. Those
45 that smoke at a younger age also have the risk of getting lung cancer. There's also
46 a chance that they could have brain damage. At the age of 18, research shows that
47 brains aren't fully developed yet and exposing them to these products puts their
48 health as well as their lives at risk. Tobacco also happens to be the leading cause of
49 preventable deaths in the United States.

50
51 Counties such as Cortland county, Hempstead, New York City, Nassau County,
52 Rockland County and Westchester County have all changed their legal age already.
53 Smoking at a young age damages a person's physical, mental, and emotional
54 health and affects their stamina and endurance. Research shows that someone who
55 smokes a pack a day lives seven years less then someone who doesn't smoke. More
56 than 16 million Americans live with smoking related diseases. There are also more
57 than 480,000 deaths per year because of smoking. Seven out of ten adult smokers
58 would like to quit smoking; however, they are so addicted to it because they
59 started at a young age in which they cannot.

60
61 **Fiscal Implications**

62 The NYS revenue would decrease since 95% of adult smokers begin before the age
63 of 21 and there's a \$4.35 tax on each pack of cigarettes.

64
65 **Effective Date**

66 This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2020.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-21

1 **Sponsors:** Nadia Alzoubi, Mary Long, Ana Wegman

2
3 **An Act To** Amend NYS tax law § 471-b to add a tax on vape products.

4
5 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

6
7 **Purpose** This bill will increase taxation on vape products in New York State.

8
9 **Summary of Provisions**

10 **Section 1: Definitions**

11 Electronic Cigarette: a cigarette shaped device containing a nicotine-based liquid
12 that is vaporized, using a vaporizer, and inhaled, used to stimulate the experience
13 of smoking tobacco.

14 Tobacco: A preparation of the nicotine rich leaves of an American plant which are
15 cured by a process of drying and fermentation for smoking or chewing

16 Vaporizer: a device that generates a particular substance in the form of vapor,
17 especially for medicinal inhalation

18 Vape: an electronic cigarette or similar device. Including but not limited to: juuls,
19 e-cigs

20 Carcinogens: A substance capable of causing cancer in living tissue

21 **Section 2: Provisions**

22 There is hereby imposed and shall be paid a tax on all tobacco products possessed
23 in this state by any person for sale, except that no tax shall be imposed on tobacco
24 products sold under such circumstances that this state is without power to impose
25 such tax, or sold to the United States, or sold to or by a voluntary unincorporated
26 organization of the armed forces of the United States operating a place for the sale
27 of goods pursuant to regulations promulgated by the appropriate executive agency
28 of the United States, to the extent provided in such regulations and policy
29 statements of such an agency applicable to such sales.

30 (a) Such tax on tobacco products other than snuff and little cigars shall be at the
31 rate of seventy-five percent of the wholesale price, and is intended to be imposed
32 only once upon the sale of any tobacco products other than snuff and little cigars.

33 (b) Such tax on snuff shall be at the rate of two dollars per ounce and a
34 proportionate rate on any fractional parts of an ounce, provided that cans or
35 packages of snuff with a net weight of less than one ounce shall be taxed at the
36 equivalent rate of cans or packages weighing one ounce. Such tax shall be
37 computed based on the net weight as listed by the manufacturer, and is intended to
38 be imposed only once upon the sale of any snuff.

39 (c) Such tax on little cigars shall be at the same rate imposed on cigarettes under
40 this article and is intended to be imposed only once upon the sale of any little
41 cigars.

42 (d) Such tax on all vape products shall be at the rate of seventy-five percent of the
43 wholesale price, and is intended to be imposed only once upon the sale of any vape
44 products.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-21

45 **Justification**

46 Currently, there is very little legislation concerning vape usage. This is highly
47 alarming as data analysis by Office on Smoking and Health at the Centers for
48 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Ga shows that in 2015, 2.39
49 million high schoolers vaped. These popular vape products are not as innocent as
50 many may think they are. Many electronic-cigarettes contain carcinogens such as
51 formaldehyde and other such chemicals that have been shown to affect the
52 developing minds of children, impacting memory and attention. Furthermore,
53 studies by the Karolinska Institute, a medical university in Stockholm that show
54 that the nicotine inhaled in electronic cigarettes can be damaging to DNA
55 structures, decreasing the effectiveness of the body's natural repair functions, thus
56 increasing risks for cancer and heart disease. This leads to increased cost for
57 healthcare and decreased quality of healthcare for all as resources are spread more
58 thinly. Additionally, 98.7% of vape products sold in convenience stores,
59 supermarkets, etc. contain nicotine which medical experts believe may lead to the
60 dual usage of tobacco products, further causing increased rates of sickness and
61 disease. This bill is vital to the health of today's youth and thus, their future and
62 the future of our society.

63

64 **Fiscal Implications**

65 There are very little negative fiscal implications as a result of this bill as New York
66 currently does not generate revenue from vape products and the additional taxation
67 outlined in the bill will lead to a huge increase in revenue for the state of New York.
68 The bill sponsors recommend that said revenue generated from this bill be used to
69 supplement grant funding for medical institutions researching causes and
70 cures/medications for respiratory diseases and/or further education for teens on the
71 dangers of vaping.

72

73 **Effective Date**

74 This bill will go into effect six months after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-22

1 **Sponsors:** Natalie Bianchi, John Byrne, Emmett Sullivan Kemper

2
3 **An Act To**

4 Amend the ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW definitions of § 27-1003 to
5 include that type one and type two plastics should have a five cent deposit
6 associated with them.

7
8 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do***
9 ***enact as follows:***

10
11 **Purpose**

12 The purpose of this bill is to expand the definition of recyclable plastic bottles in
13 order to improve New York State's environment.

14
15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 **Section 1. Definitions**

17 **Beverage container** means the individual, separate, sealed glass, metal, aluminum,
18 steel or plastic bottle, can or jar, used for containing less than one gallon or 3.78
19 liters at the time of sale or offer for sale of a beverage intended for use of
20 consumption in this state beverage containers sold or offered for sale or distribution
21 aboard aircraft or ship should be considered for use or consumption outside the
22 state. **Type one plastics (polyethylene terephthalate) and type two plastics (High-**
23 **Density Polyethylene) that fit the requirements above must be associated with a**
24 **five cent deposit.**

25
26 **Justification**

27 This bill will increase recycling incentive in the state of New York. Plastic pollution is
28 an expanding problem, and these recyclable materials are unnecessarily clogging
29 our waterways and increasing the size of landfills. less This change in the law will
30 lead to decreased pollution and littering, as associating more containers with a five
31 cent will encourage proper disposal of these items.

32
33 **Fiscal Implications**

34 This bill costs the state nothing due to the fact that the bottle collecting is a private
35 industry. It will also boost the economy due to less being spent on cleaning up
36 plastic litter.

37
38 **Effective Date**

39 This act will go into effect six months after date of passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #: AL-23

1 **Sponsors:** Sydney Whitley, Cael Hamel and Sam Constantini
2

3 **AN ACT TO:** Amend Environmental Conservation Law Article 27 to add Title 30
4 entitled "Elimination of Use of Plastic Straws".
5

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*
7

8 **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this bill is amend Article 27 of the Environmental
9 Conservation Law to add Title 30 to eliminate the use and distribution of plastic
10 straws or stirrers in New York State with a goal to keep as much plastic waste as
11 possible from the waste stream and the environment.

12 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

- 14 1. "Plastic straw" means a single use, disposable plastic straw or stirrer provided to
15 a consumer at the point of sale.
16 2. "Point of sale" means the point at which a consumer is provided a straw or
17 stirrer, including, but not limited to, restaurants, bars, convenience stores, cafes,
18 food trucks and food or snackstands.
19 3. "Biodegradable" means a substance or object capable of being decomposed by
20 bacteria or other living organisms.

21 **Section 2:** Amends Environmental Conservation Law Title 27, to add paragraph
22 2708 as follows:

23 Section 2708: Elimination of Use of Plastic Straws

24 A. The distribution of plastic straws to consumers at the point of sale is hereby
25 eliminated. Vendors are permitted to offer and provide alternative straws and
26 stirrers that are manufactured from biodegradable materials.

27 B. A violation of this Section shall carry a fine of \$50.00 for the first infraction,
28 \$100.00 for the second infraction and \$150.00 for each subsequent infraction.

29 **JUSTIFICATION:**

30 Americans use 500 million straws each day, which is enough to circle the earth 2.5
31 times. Plastic straws are the ocean's eleventh most found trash item. It takes up
32 to 200 years for a plastic straw to decompose and most straws cannot be recycled.
33 Each year, one million seabirds and 100,000 marine animals die from ingesting
34 plastic. Plastic straws do not biodegrade and never fully degrade. They will always
35 be on the earth releasing chemicals that are toxic to animals and the environment.
36 Biodegradable and reusable straws present alternatives that are better for our
37 environment. This bill will ban the use of single use plastic straws in an effort to
38 keep as much plastic waste as possible from our waste stream and environment.

39 **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** The cost will be negligible to the State as the State will
40 be earning revenue from the Tax. An administrative fee may be charged to
41 merchants by their credit card processing companies for collection and segregation
42 of the tax. There will be a benefit to the State by a decrease in the cleanup costs
43 associated with plastic waste.

44 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** The law will go into effect sixty days after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-24

Sponsors: Matthew Tobin, Katrina Christopher, Amy Kugelman, and Dominique Eric Varier

1 **An Act To**

2 Amend Article 19 § 652 subsection 4 of the Labor Law to increase the minimum
3 wage of tipped food service workers from $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{4}{5}$ of minimum wage in counties with
4 a population of more than 50,000 but less than 250,000.

5 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

6
7 **Purpose**

8 The purpose of this bill is to increase the fraction of the minimum wage that
9 employers pay to their tipped employees and thus increase the total wage that the
10 employees earn.

11
12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1**

14 **Minimum wage:** the least monetary compensation an employer can legally pay their
15 employees on an hourly basis for their services.

16 **Section 2**

17 § 652. Minimum wage.

18 1. Statutory....

19 (a) New York City....

20 (b) Remainder of downstate. Every employer shall pay to each of its employees
21 for each hour worked in the counties of Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester...

22 (c) Remainder of state. Every employer shall pay to each of its employees for
23 each hour worked outside of the city of New York and the counties of Nassau,
24 Suffolk, and Westchester, a wage of not less than: \$9.70 on and after December
25 31, 2016, \$10.40 on and after December 31, 2017, \$11.10 on and after December
26 31, 2018, \$11.80 on and after December 31, 2019, \$12.50 on and after December
27 31, 2020, and on each following December thirty-first, a wage published by the
28 commissioner on or before October first, based on the then current minimum wage
29 increased by a percentage determined by the director of the budget in consultation
30 with the commissioner, with the result rounded to the nearest five cents, totaling
31 no more than fifteen dollars.

32 2. Existing wage orders....

33 3. Non-profitmaking institutions....

34 4. Notwithstanding subdivisions one and two of this section, the wage for an
35 employee who is a food service worker receiving tips shall be a cash wage of at
36 least four-fifths of the minimum wage rates set forth in subdivision one of this
37 section in counties with a population of more than 50,000 but less than 250,000
38 based on the last United States federal census and at least two-thirds of the
39 minimum wage rates set forth in subdivision one of this section in all remaining



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-24

40 counties, both being rounded to the nearest five cents or seven dollars and fifty
41 cents, whichever is higher, provided that the tips of such an employee, when added
42 to such cash wage, are equal to or exceed the minimum wage in effect pursuant to
43 subdivision one of this section and provided further that no other cash wage is
44 established pursuant to section six hundred fifty-three of this article.

45
46 **Justification**

47 This bill, if passed, would guarantee food service workers an additional \$1.57.
48 Seven states have already passed laws giving tipped workers the same wage as
49 non-tipped workers. Tipped workers in these "equal treatment" states earn an
50 average of 15% more than tipped workers in other states. Nationally, the average
51 tipped worker receives \$6.26 less than the average American worker. 48.9% of
52 waiters and waitresses live off of tips, and 18.5% of waiters and waitresses live in
53 poverty. Since 1990, the amount of food service workers has increased by 85%,
54 whereas the amount of all private sector employees has only grown by 24%. New
55 York has the highest rates of poverty in St. Lawrence, Tompkins, Bronx, and Kings
56 County, two of which fall within the population guidelines set in this bill. Servers in
57 New York City receive an hourly wage of \$23.34, bartenders earning \$27.48 an
58 hour, or \$31.21 at clubs and \$32.35 at lounges, while servers (who are often
59 college students) in smaller counties with less business for tips struggle on the
60 poverty line as they fail to make minimum wage. This bill strikes a balance between
61 helping tipped food service workers in smaller counties who struggle with poverty
62 due to the lack of tips, while preventing harm on small businesses in small counties
63 (less than 50,000) where there may not be much business.

64
65 **Fiscal Implications**

66 There will be no fiscal implications on the state budget, as increases in minimum
67 wage for tipped food service workers be paid by the employers, not the state.

68
69 **Effective Date**

70 This bill will go into effect on January 1st, 2020.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-25

Sponsors: Celeste Voutsinas-Klose, Kaila Crouch, Aalia Crouch, Jenni Haera

1 **An Act To**

2 Amend § 2801-C of the Education Law, in relation to requiring the commissioner to
3 issue regulations to include school mental health practitioners and authorizing
4 school districts to employ school mental health services program coordinators,
5 providing school aid grants to encourage mandatory mental health counseling for
6 students that receive at least two suspensions from school.

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8
9 **Purpose**

10 This bill creates a school certificate title for school mental health practitioners
11 including licensed mental health counselors, licensed marriage and family
12 therapists, licensed psychoanalysts and licensed creative arts therapists to allow
13 schools districts to hire these licensed mental health professionals, and to require
14 that any student suspended from school be required to undergo mandatory mental
15 health counseling before being permitted to return to school.

16
17 **Summary of Provisions**

18 **Section 1**

19 **Mental Health Counselor:** a medical professional who helps patients achieve
20 emotional wellness.

21 **Psychoanalysis:** A system of psychological theory and therapy which aims to treat
22 mental disorders by investigating the interaction of conscious and unconscious
23 elements in the mind and bringing repressed fears and conflicts into the conscious
24 mind by techniques such as dream interpretation and free association.

25 **Creative arts therapist:** Uses active engagement in the arts to address emotional,
26 mental, and behavioral disorders.

27 **“School Mental Health Services Program Coordinator”:** a mental health services
28 professional, with qualifications determined by regulation by the commissioner,
29 whose role and responsibility shall be to work with students, faculty and other
30 mental health and health care professionals to identify, report and address mental
31 health issues of students, faculty, and administration at any public or non-public
32 school that could pose threat to public safety.

33 **Section 2**

34 The education law is amended by adding a new section 2801-d to read as follows:
35 **§ 2801-d. new york state school mental health services program coordinator.**

36 **1. any public or non-public school may employ a mental health services**
37 **professional, in either the classified or unclassified service, determined in regulation**
38 **by the commissioner to be qualified, as a mental health services program**
39 **coordinator. any such public or non-public school may also contract with the state**
40 **of new york, a county, city, town or village, or with a private mental health services**



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-25

41 provider, for the provision of a mental health services professional, determined in
42 regulation by the commissioner to be qualified, to serve as a mental health services
43 program coordinator.

44
45 Section 3641 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 18 to
46 read as follows:

47 18. mental health services program coordinator grants.

48 a. in the two thousand eighteen--two thousand nineteen school year and thereafter,
49 \$50,000 shall be appropriated for services and expenses related to the expense of
50 school mental health services program coordinators, the commissioner shall provide
51 grants pursuant to this subdivision to: (1) public school districts, (2) charter
52 schools, and (3) non-public schools.

53

54 **Justification**

55 There is also an unmet need for mental health services in New York schools.
56 Educators recognize that access to mental health services can increase a student's
57 likelihood to remain in school and achieve academically. Schools report an
58 increasing need for mental health services but, without a school certificate title,
59 school districts are prohibited from employing a number of licensed mental health
60 professionals who could help students. This bill would give schools access to more
61 mental health professionals who, in turn, could provide more mental health services
62 in the schools.

63 In many of these tragedies, it has been demonstrated that the failure to properly
64 identify and address mental illness of the attacker has led, at least in part, to the
65 failure to prevent the attack. Therefore, one of the best possible preventive and
66 responsive measures is the deployment of mental health services to identify, report
67 and address individuals who they, in their clinical and professional judgment could
68 pose a threat to public safety and security.

69

70 **Fiscal Implications**

71 This bill will establish a new state education aid program, the cost of which will
72 depend upon the number of schools hire mental health services program
73 coordinators. This program would establish a mental health service program
74 coordinator aid program and would provide \$50,000 in state aid for every district
75 that chooses to participate.

76

77 **Effective Date**

78 This act would take effect immediately.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-26

1 **Sponsors:** Jayden A. Mignot, Emmett G. Clesceri, Jane E. Pfau, and Garrick
2 Morrow

3 **An Act To:** Amend Section 3202 - Title IV, Article 65, Part I to make Public school
4 tuition free to resident pupils and to those who own a small business who apply to
5 this law.

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7 **Purpose**

8 Allow people with a small business who have claimed residency in New York to get
9 discounted or no tuition if qualified.

10 **Summary of Provision**

11 Section 1

12 **Small Business-** A business that is resident in New York State, independently
13 owned and operated, not dominant in its field, and has 100 or less employees.

14 **Public School-** A school that receives government funds and follows a government
15 issued curriculum.

16 **Tuition-** Sum of money charged for teaching or instruction by a school, college, or
17 university.

18 **County-** A section of the 62 divisions of New York State granting powers to create
19 local governments.

20 **Boundary Crossers-** People who claim false residency to gain access to free public
21 education elsewhere from their actual claimed residency.

22 **School District-**a geographical unit for the local administration of schools.

23 Section 2

24 Section 3202 - Title IV, Article 65, Part I

25 S 3202. Public schools free to resident pupils; tuition from nonresident pupils.

- 26 1. A person over five and under twenty-one years of age who has not received
27 a high school diploma is entitled to attend the public schools maintained in
28 the district in which such person resides without the payment of tuition. A
29 veteran of any age who shall have served as a member of the armed forces
30 of the United States and who shall have been discharged therefrom under
31 conditions other than dishonorable, may attend any of the public schools of
32 the state upon conditions prescribed by the board of education, and such
33 veterans shall be included in the pupil count for state aid purposes. A non
34 veteran under twenty-one years of age who has received a high school
35 diploma shall be permitted to attend classes in the schools of the district in
36 which such person resides or in a school of a board of cooperative
37 educational services upon payment of tuition under such terms and
38 conditions as shall be established in regulations promulgated by the
39 commissioner; provided, however, that a school district may waive the
40 payment of tuition for such non veteran, but in any case such a non veteran
41 who has received a high school diploma shall not be counted for any state aid



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42 purposes. Nothing herein contained shall, however, require a board of
43 education to admit a child who becomes five years of age after the school
44 year has commenced unless his birthday occurs on or before the first of
45 December. Resident pupils of New York State owning a small business shall
46 be granted tuition-free education in the location of the businesses in a
47 specific school district. To apply, one must be a resident of New York State,
48 must own a singular state registered small business, have owned that small
49 business for two or more years, and the business must pay the average
50 amount of residential school taxes or more in the business's current location
51 to apply to free tuition in the allotted school district. If one owns a percentage
52 of a small business and still exceeds the residential average for school taxes
53 in that specific county of New York State, then that citizen will be eligible to
54 apply to free-tuition education in the select school district. If a citizen owns a
55 percentage of a small business and pays less than the average residential
56 school tax in that specific county in New York State that citizen only has to
57 pay the remaining percentage of their ownership's worth of the desired public
58 school's tuition in the select school district.

59 **Justification**

60 Two of the main pillars of the development of young children and adults is
61 through an education. While other states are now focusing their efforts on bettering
62 the quality of education, New York State is slowly letting their educational pillar
63 deteriorate over time. According to a study conducted on May 14, 2018 by U.S.
64 News, New York was ranked a mere thirty-first for the states with the most
65 successful prek-12 education. Even worse: according to The Education Trust stated
66 that New York State had the second lowest funding for schools in impoverished
67 districts. To get out of these horrendous educational districts, many families have
68 participated in a new issue: boundary hopping. This is where a person claims a
69 faulty residency in another district to receive free public education without the
70 payment of tuition. This recently arising legal issue has quickly spread like wildfire
71 over the past five years, and landed thousands of parents behind bars, just so that
72 their kids could receive a better education. This sad reality of our state's education
73 system's success rate cannot be fixed by only one bill; but, this can be one step
74 towards the goal of academic advancement. Our bill is simple, those who have a
75 registered small business and fit certain criteria will be able to apply for free tuition
76 to a public school within their business's school district. In this way, more kids will
77 be able to get the best education they can to not only make their lives successful,
78 but New York State successful as well.

79 **Fiscal Implications**

80 No fiscal implication for this bill.

81 **Effective Date**

82 2 years after the passage of bill



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-27

1 **Sponsors:** Gabrielle Pancir, Madison Mentz, Charlie Cowan, Samantha Towle

2
3 **An Act to:** Amend section 137 of correction law to ban the use of solitary
4 confinement for non-violent inmates.

5
6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7
8 **Purpose**

9 With the passage of our bill we plan to bring reform to the NYS prison system. This
10 bill will prevent the confinement of non-violent inmates seeing as they are not a
11 danger to themselves or others and are confined for illegitimate reasons.

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 Solitary Confinement: The isolation of a prisoner in a separate cell as a punishment.

15 Keyplock: 23 hours-a-day confinement in one's own cell or a separate cellblock

16 Non-Violent: Using peaceful means rather than force, especially to bring about
17 political or social change.

18 **Section 2:**

19 6. Except as provided in paragraphs (d) and (e) of this subdivision,
20 the superintendent of a correctional facility may keep any violent inmate
21 confined in a cell or room, apart from the accommodations provided for
22 inmates who are participating in programs of the facility, for such
23 period as may be necessary for maintenance of order or discipline, but
24 in any such case the following conditions shall be observed:

25 (a) The inmate shall be supplied with a sufficient quantity of
26 wholesome and nutritious food, provided, however, that such food need
27 not be the same as the food supplied to inmates who are participating in
28 programs of the facility;

29 (b) Adequate sanitary and other conditions required for the health of
30 the inmate shall be maintained;

31 (c) Where such confinement is for a period in excess of twenty-four
32 hours, the superintendent shall arrange for the facility health services
33 director, or a registered nurse or physician's associate approved by the
34 facility health services director to visit such inmate at the expiration
35 of twenty-four hours and at least once in every twenty-four-hour period
36 thereafter, during the period of such confinement, to examine into the
37 state of health of the inmate, and the superintendent shall give full
38 consideration to any recommendation that may be made by the facility
39 health services director for measures with respect to dietary needs or
40 conditions of confinement of such inmate required to maintain the health
41 of such inmate; and

42 (d) (i) Except as set forth in clause (E) of subparagraph (ii) of this



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43 paragraph, the department, in consultation with mental health
44 clinicians, shall divert or remove inmates with serious mental illness,
45 as defined in paragraph (e) of this subdivision, from segregated
46 confinement, where such confinement could potentially be for a period in
47 excess of thirty days, to a residential mental health treatment unit.

48 Nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to prevent the disciplinary
49 process from proceeding in accordance with department rules and regulations for
50 disciplinary hearings. (f) If a jail is found to have used solitary confinement for a
51 non-violent inmate, a 0.5% fine will be implemented on their yearly budget per
52 occurrence.

53 **Justification:**

54 In NYS there are nearly 5,000 "Special Housing Units" where prisoners are confined
55 by themselves for 22 to 23 hours a day. NYS has been found to use "SHU"
56 frequently and arbitrarily. Cases have emerged where inmates were put into these
57 units due to cursing, having a varying political view, and for failing to make the
58 bed. These are just some of the unjustified cases where inmates were treated
59 wrongly. Solitary confinement has been linked to cause emotional and psychological
60 to prisoners and corrections staff inducing apathy, lethargy, anxiety, depression,
61 despair, rage and uncontrollable impulses, even among the healthy and mentally
62 stable. For the vulnerable, especially those with mental illness, extreme isolation
63 can be devastating and potentially life-threatening. From the year 2001 to 2010 the
64 rate of prison suicide has gone up 186%. This rate can partially be attributed to the
65 use of unjust solitary confinement. When prisoners are released, they do not fare
66 well due to the fact that they do not receive any forms of rehabilitation like
67 education, or transitional training and programming. Not only does this negatively
68 affect the prisoners but the community seeing as the isolation can cause them to
69 have outbursts in public.

70 **Fiscal Implications**

71 Our bill will in fact be saving the state of New York tens of millions of dollars seeing
72 as we currently put over \$76 million into solitary confinement housing each year.
73 With this money NYS could add to other budgets in the state and help rebuild
74 prisons and aid in the rehabilitation of inmates to decrease reimprisonment rates.
75 Also the money from this 0.5% fine on the prisons and jails that continue to use
76 solitary confinement on non-violent inmates will go back to the state who is
77 responsible for giving them these budgets. This means that the state will be saving
78 money from the implementation of this ban.

79 **Effective Date**

80 This bill will go into effect one year after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill # AL-28

1 **Sponsors:** Hannah Schildknecht Alex Laignel

2

3 **AN ACT TO** Amend Education Law Title 1 Article 171 to mandate school uniforms
4 in all public schools in New York.

5

6 *The people of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **PURPOSE:** To show equality, stop discrimination and bullying.

9

10 **SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:**

11 **Section 1:**

12 Uniform: An outfit the students must wear everyday to school (excluding extra
13 curricular activities)

14 Lunch assistants:

15 **Section 2:**

16 Edn Title 1 Article 171

17

18 New York. public school students are required to wear a uniform to school. The
19 policy, to be enforced by the N.Y. Department of Education, would exclude physical
20 education and extracurricular activities. Shorts and skirts should be a business card
21 above the knee. Polo shirts and button downs allowed. Khakis and black/navy
22 pants with pockets allowed. Jackets should have no sayings and be solid color.

23

24 **JUSTIFICATION:**

25 Having uniforms will allow students from the lower, middle and upper class go to
26 school and not discriminate each other over the clothing they are wearing. Having
27 uniforms ensures the school to keep the appropriate level in order. Each school will
28 be given a basic dress code to follow. If the school wants to change anything they
29 must bring it to the state to get it approved.

30

31 **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:** The government will not be paying for uniforms unless
32 the parent is unable to pay for the uniform. The parents of the child(ren) will be
33 paying for the uniform. If the child gets lunch assistants then they are eligible to
34 get the to school pay for it.

35

36 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill will be effective in the beginning of the next academic
37 school year.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-29

Sponsors: Meghan Cenci and Josie Mattraw-Johnston

An Act To: Amend §353-b of Agriculture and Markets Law to require the presence of a veterinarian technician in shelters.

The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Purpose:

An act to require the full time employment of a veterinarian technician in all New York State animal shelters in order to reduce unwarranted euthanizations, uninhabitable living conditions, and medical mishaps.

Summary of Provisions:

Section 1 - Definitions

Euthanasia- the painless killing of a patient suffering from an incurable and painful disease or in an irreversible coma. The practice is illegal in most countries.

Facility- a place, amenity, or piece of equipment provided for a particular purpose

Appropriate- suitable or proper in the circumstances.

Veterinarian technician-a person who has graduated from a veterinary technology program accredited or approved by the Committee on Veterinary Technician Education and Activities (CVTEA) of the American Veterinary Medical Association, or other accrediting agency approved by the Board, or a person who has received equivalent training as set forth in the rules of the Board.

Veterinarian- a person qualified to treat diseased or injured animals.

Uninhabitable Living Conditions- unsuitable for living in, such as; no available medical attention, continuous medical mishaps, and cages too small for animals to be held in.

Section 2

§353-b. Appropriate shelter for dogs left outdoors

4. Inadequate shelter may be indicated by the appearance of the housing facility itself, including but not limited to, size, structural soundness, evidence of crowding within the housing facility, healthful environment in the area immediately surrounding such facility, the presence of a full-time, veterinarian technician, or by the appearance or physical condition of the dog.

5. Upon a finding of any violation of this section, any dog or dogs seized pursuant to the provisions of this article that have not been voluntarily surrendered by the owner or custodian or forfeited pursuant to court order shall be returned to the owner or custodian only upon proof that appropriate shelter as required by this section is being provided.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

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39 **Justification:**

40 By requiring a veterinarian technician to be in animal shelters, animals will receive
41 proper care and treatment, thus eliminating unjust euthanizations, and inhumane
42 living conditions. New York State has just under 100,000 animal shelter intakes
43 annually as of a 2016 Report from the Shelter Animals Count Database. Just under
44 half of the shelters in New York State have a binding contract with our government,
45 meaning the remaining shelters are independently run. Nationally, 16.9% of
46 sheltered cats and 9.2% of sheltered dog are euthanized yearly.

47 **Fiscal Implications:**

48 There are approximately 330 registered animal shelters in New York. Since the
49 veterinarians are state-employed, and the median income for a veterinarian
50 technician is approximately \$33,400, and one veterinarian is required per shelter,
51 this bill will cost the State approximately \$11 million.

52 **Effective Date:**

53 One calendar year after passing.

54



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-30

1 **Sponsors:** Madison Brown, Leah Alaimo, Ashtyn Bishop, Meghan Gleason

2
3 **An Act To** Amend Juvenile Law 508 section 2 c&d

4
5 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

6
7 **Purpose** To provide behavioral counseling and community service obligations to
8 minors committing misdemeanors for the first time rather than serving jail time.

9
10 **Summary of Provisions**

11 Section 1: Definitions

12 Behavioral counseling: A type of therapy focusing on improving the behavioral
13 habits of patients.

14 Misdemeanor: A crime less serious than a felony; usually in a minor's wrongdoing
15 resulting in incarceration.

- 16 • Class A: One step down from a felony; can spend up to 12 months in jail
17 (assault, theft, drug position, etc.)
- 18 • Class B: Crimes involving behind the wheel intoxication or impairment
19 (vandalism, shoplifting); less offensive than Class A.

20 Minor: A person who is under the age of 18.

21 Larceny: The theft of personal property.

22 Incarcerated: The imprisonment or confinement of a person.

23 Section 2: Provisions

24 ~~* § 510.15 Commitment of principal under seventeen or eighteen.~~

25 ~~— 1. When a principal who is under the age of sixteen is committed to the~~
26 ~~custody of the sheriff the court must direct that the principal be taken to and~~
27 ~~lodged in a place certified by the office of children and family services as a juvenile~~
28 ~~detention facility for the reception of children. When a principal who (a)~~
29 ~~commencing October first, two thousand eighteen, is sixteen years of age; or~~
30 ~~(b) commencing October first, two thousand nineteen, is sixteen or seventeen~~
31 ~~years of age, is committed to the custody of the sheriff, the court must direct~~
32 ~~that the principal be taken to and lodged in a place certified by the office of~~
33 ~~children and family services in conjunction with the state commission of correction~~
34 ~~as a specialized secure juvenile detention facility for older youth. Where such a~~
35 ~~direction is made the sheriff shall deliver the principal in accordance therewith~~
36 ~~and such person shall although lodged and cared for in a juvenile detention facility~~
37 ~~continue to be deemed to be in the custody of the sheriff. No principal under the~~
38 ~~age specified to whom the provisions of this section may apply shall be detained in~~
39 ~~any prison, jail, lockup, or other place used for adults convicted of a crime or under~~
40 ~~arrest and charged with the commission of a crime without the approval of the~~
41 ~~office of children and family services which shall consult with the commission of~~
42 ~~correction if the principal is sixteen years of age or older in the case of each~~
43 ~~principal and the statement of its reasons therefor. The sheriff shall not be liable for~~
44 ~~any acts done to or by such principal resulting from negligence in the detention~~



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #: AL-30

45 of and care for such principal, when the principal is not in the actual custody of
46 the sheriff.

47 ~~—2. Except upon consent of the defendant or for good cause shown, in any case~~
48 ~~in which a new securing order is issued for a principal previously committed~~
49 ~~to the custody of the sheriff pursuant to this section, such order shall further~~
50 ~~direct the sheriff to deliver the principal from a juvenile detention facility to~~
51 ~~the person or place specified in the order.~~

52 Minors that commit misdemeanors for the first time will receive behavioral
53 counseling and be required to do community service. The duration of counseling will
54 be determined by the director.
55

56 **Justification**

57 Misdemeanors include vandalism, petty theft, simple assault, drunkenness in public
58 and other minor crimes. Misdemeanors are still public offenses and will be applied
59 to a minor's criminal record even though time in juvie is not being served, unless
60 the court petitions otherwise. The most common crimes committed by minors are
61 theft and larceny. These crimes are not dangerous to the wellbeing of others,
62 especially when they are first time offenses. Minors are often impulsive in
63 performing actions that seem to be unjust. Most of the time those individuals who
64 have never before committed a petit or misdemeanor crime are doing so without
65 complete knowledge or recognition of their actions and the consequences of that
66 action. Some may even be in the wrong place at the wrong time. Instead of
67 spending time in juvie for first time misdemeanors, minors will perform community
68 service and receive counseling. Considering the amount of time these minors would
69 be serving in juvie, it most likely wouldn't be as beneficial as spending up to a year
70 or more in counseling facilities or performing community service. Nor would time in
71 juvie teach them the severity of the specific crime they've committed or help them
72 refrain from committing another misdemeanor or even a greater crime in the
73 future. By participating in community service, youth will have the opportunity to
74 give back to their community and reflect on their wrongdoings.
75

76 **Fiscal Implications**

77 The average cost to incarcerate juvenile delinquents is \$407 per person per day.
78 This bill allows New York State to save money by having less individuals in prison
79 who are not considered a danger to the public. The only fiscal implication would be
80 payment towards behavioral counseling for the offender. The cost of therapy in NYS
81 varies greatly depending on location, duration and the therapist. Most behavioral
82 therapists charge \$75-\$200.
83

84 **Effective Date**

85 This bill will go into effect 1 year after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-31

1 **Sponsors:** Edward Gubelman, Kenneth Gillio, Cheryl Attard

2 **An Act To**

3 Amend §897. Of the New York General Business Law in order to increase the
4 penalty to sell firearms to criminals at gun shows from a Class A Misdemeanor to a
5 Class D Felony.

6 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:***

7 **Purpose**

8 The purpose of the bill is to increase the penalty of selling firearms to criminals with
9 a violent background at gun shows in New York State from a Class A Misdemeanor
10 to a Class D Felony in an attempt to decrease gun violence.

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1: Definitions**

13 **Firearms-** a rifle, pistol, or other portable gun.

14 **Gun shows-** an event where promoters generally rent large public venues and then
15 rent tables for display areas for dealers of guns and related items, and charge
16 admission for buyers.

17 **Section 2:**

18 § 897. Sale of a firearm, rifle or shotgun at a gun show. 1. A
19 national instant violent criminal background check shall be conducted and no
20 person shall sell or transfer a firearm, rifle or shotgun at a gun show,
21 except in accordance with the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 922(t).

22 2.) No person shall offer or agree to sell or transfer a firearm, rifle
23 or shotgun to another person at a gun show and transfer or deliver such
24 firearm, rifle or shotgun to such person or person acting on his or her
25 behalf thereafter at a location other than the gun show for the purpose
26 of evading or avoiding compliance with 18 U.S.C. 922(t).

27 3.) Any person who knowingly violates any of the provisions of this
28 section shall be guilty of a ~~class A misdemeanor~~ Class D felony punishable as
29 provided for in the penal law.

30 **Justification**

31 The danger of guns and gun violence is a growing issue in our society, and mass
32 shootings are on the rise. This bill attempts to make it safer for everyone at gun
33 shows, and even in society as a whole. Mass shootings are becoming a statistic,
34 rather than a tragedy and its plaguing our communities. We should all be able to
35 enjoy our 2nd Amendment rights as citizens of the United States safely and
36 securely.

37 **Fiscal Implications**

38 This bill could increase general funding for the increase in penalty, and could also
39 hurt the budget by housing more possible prisoners.

40 **Effective Date**

41 This bill will go into effect immediately after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-32

1 **Sponsors:** Robert Henn, Casey Kriss, Teresa Tran, Joshua Seura

2 **An Act to** Amend §3204 of New York state education law to delay public high
3 school start times to no earlier than 8:30 A.M.

4 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

5 **Purpose**

6 The purpose of this bill is to ensure that no public New York state High Schools start
7 earlier then 8:30 A.M. in attempt to ensure enough sleep every night, reduce the
8 rates of tardiness, truancy, and lower the high school drop-outs.

9 **Summary of Provisions**

10 **Section 1: Definitions**

11 Truancy: the action of staying away from school without good reason; absenteeism

12 High School: a school that typically comprises grades 9 through 12, attended after
13 primary school or middle school.

14 Tardiness: the quality or fact of being late; lateness.

15 Drop-Out: a person who has abandoned a course of study or who has rejected
16 conventional society to pursue an alternative lifestyle.

17 **Section 2:**

18 **Amend § 3204**

19 4. Length of school sessions. a. A full time day school or class, except as
20 otherwise prescribed, shall be in session for not less than one hundred ninety
21 days each year, inclusive of legal holidays that occur during the term of said
22 school and exclusive of Saturdays, starting no earlier than 8:30 A.M

23 b. A part time day school or class shall be in session each year for at least four
24 hours of each week during which the full time day in school, starting no earlier than
25 8:30 A.M

26 **Justification**

27 The Center for Disease Control recommends that adolescents get at least nine
28 hours of sleep each night. Those who don't face a number of health risks that can
29 have serious consequences on their mental and physical well-being. Teens need all
30 that extra sleep to support their still-developing brains, But surveys consistently
31 show that only about eight or nine percent of teens are getting that much sleep.
32 Because teens' brains are naturally wired to keep them up past 11 p.m., with
33 serotonin not setting in until that point of later, starting the school day later is
34 essentially a requirement for allowing most of them to get adequate sleep. In
35 addition, Ellin Holohan, author of. "Earlier School Start Times Endanger Teen
36 Drivers." Teen Driving, agrees strongly that early school start times physically put
37 students in danger of early morning car accidents.

38 **Fiscal Implications** There will be no major fiscal implications to this bill.

39 **Effective Date** This bill will go into effect at the begin of the next school year two
40 years after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-33

1 **Sponsors:** Ethan Beck, Ryan Davern, and John Susz

2

3 **An Act To:** Amend New York State Penal Law Section 270 to Legalize all firework use
4 and sales in the state of New York

5

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose**

9 This bill will legalize the possession of, use of, and sale of fireworks in the State of New York

10

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1**

13 i. "Sparkling Devices"- Ground-based or hand-held devices that produce a
14 shower of white, gold, or colored sparks as their primary pyrotechnic effect.
15 These devices do not rise into the air, do not fire inserts or projectiles into
16 the air, and do not explode or produce a report. These are neither considered
17 as "fireworks" nor "dangerous fireworks"

18 ii. "Fireworks"- Pyrotechnic devices that are aerial in performance and include,
19 but are not limited to sky rockets, bottle rockets, missile type rockets, aerial
20 spinners, roman candles, and audible ground devices which are commonly
21 referred to as firecrackers. These are primarily commercial displays which are
22 designed to produce visible and/or audible effects by combustion,
23 deflagration or detonation

24 iii. "Dangerous fireworks"- Any fireworks capable of causing serious physical
25 injury and which are: firecrackers containing more than fifty milligrams of
26 any explosive substance, torpedoes, skyrockets and rockets including all
27 devices which employ any combustible or explosive substance and which rise
28 in the air during discharge, Roman candles, etc.

29 **Section 2**

30 1. ~~Any person who shall offer or expose for sale, sell or furnish, any fireworks or~~
31 ~~dangerous fireworks is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.~~



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-33

- 32 2. ~~Any person who shall offer or expose for sale, sell or furnish any fireworks or~~
33 ~~dangerous fireworks valued at five hundred dollars more shall be guilty of a~~
34 ~~class A misdemeanor;~~
- 35 3. ~~Any person who shall possess, use, explode or cause to explode any~~
36 ~~fireworks or dangerous fireworks is guilty of a violation;~~
- 37 4. Any person who shall offer or expose for sale, sell or furnish, any dangerous
38 fireworks, fireworks or sparkling devices to any person who is under the age
39 of eighteen is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. (b) A person who has
40 previously been convicted of a violation of subparagraph (iv) of paragraph
41 (a) of this subdivision within the preceding five years and who shall offer or
42 expose for sale, sell or furnish, any dangerous fireworks to any person who is
43 under the age of eighteen, shall be guilty of a class E felony. (c) ~~Possession~~
44 ~~of fireworks or dangerous fireworks valued at one hundred fifty dollars or~~
45 ~~more shall be a presumption that such fireworks were intended to be offered~~
46 ~~or exposed for sale.~~

47

48 **Justification**

49 Fireworks are an American tradition. They are a staple of any 4th of July
50 celebration. They should be available to be used by the American public. Americans
51 already spend \$1 billion a year on fireworks. By legalizing fireworks more money
52 will come into New York's economy. If people want to use fireworks in the state,
53 they buy them in Pennsylvania and bring them here. Little is being done to prevent
54 this because it isn't a big deal. If people will use fireworks anyways, allow New York
55 businesses to benefit from them.

56

57 **Fiscal Implications**

58 The government will receive more income as a result of sales taxes on the
59 fireworks.

60

61 **Effective Date**

62 January 1, 2020



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-34

1 **Sponsors:** Abigail Coble, Genevieve Greene, Sofia Marra

2

3 **An Act To:**

4 Amend to add subsection 6 of New York State Education Law § 1502 to mandate
5 cameras installed on the exterior of a school bus, underneath the stop arm.

6

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8

9 **Purpose**

10 This bill will increase safety and awareness by mandating that cameras be installed
11 on school buses to catch drivers who illegally pass a stopped school bus. The bill
12 will enable school districts to send the recorded violation to the local police
13 department, who will enact the appropriate penalty.

14

15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 **Section 1**

17 Reds- Flashing red lights on a school bus that instruct drivers to stop. Reds are
18 often accompanied by a stop arm.

19 Stop Arm- Stop sign(s) attached to the driver's side of a school bus that extends to
20 tell drivers to stop.

21 Ambers- Flashing yellow lights on a school bus that warn drivers to slow down and
22 be prepared to stop.

23 Exterior- the outer surface or structure of a vehicle

24

25 **Section 2**

26 § 1502. Passengers on school buses.

27 5. In the event any person is authorized to ride on school buses pursuant to the
28 provisions of this section, the school district shall maintain records indicating
29 the number of such trips and any revenues collected therefrom. Any funds
30 collected for such non-pupil transportation as authorized by this section shall be
31 credited to an account so designated.

32 6. When a school district purchases a school bus after the effective date, cameras
33 must be installed on the exterior of the bus on the driver's side underneath the stop
34 arm. When the bus is inspected, it will not pass if it does not have one or more
35 exterior camera(s) in the specified spot. This area of the bus enables the best view
36 to record the license plates of the vehicle. School officials may then have the
37 authority to forward the footage evidence of the traffic violation to the local
38 authorities. The authorities may then enact the penalties of \$250-\$1000 in fines,
39 possible jail time, and five points on the driver's license. This will be based on the
40 number and severity of the violation at the discretion of the local authorities.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-34

41 **Justification**

42 Every morning and every afternoon, children cross the road to get on their school
43 buses. School buses are often associated with top of the line safety so cameras that
44 record vehicles passing through reds should already be an active safety measure.
45 Every year an estimated nine million people will illegally pass a school bus. These
46 dangerous acts could result in several consequences. One could hit the bus, or
47 worse, hit a child, possibly resulting in the death of that child. This is an entirely
48 preventable action, but the driver is the only one who can prevent it. The camera
49 installations will increase awareness by aiding the authorities in actively punishing
50 this violation and fining the person(s) responsible. The person(s) will then be aware
51 of this violation. The cameras will also assist in catching repeat offenders by giving
52 the authorities evidence to penalize the person(s) with the accurate penalty for
53 their offenses.

54

55 **Fiscal Implications**

56 Transportation departments are the most heavily funded departments in
57 New York State, related to education. Once the penalties of fines are
58 enforced, the money paid from the fine will go back into the system. Over
59 time the cameras will pay for themselves. The initial installation of these
60 cameras will, however, raise the price of camera systems up to \$1000.

61

62 **Effective Date**

63 This bill will go into effect January 1st, 2020.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-35

Sponsors: : Isabella LaFreniere, Katherine Happy

An Act To: Amend New York State Education Law Article 19 Section 904 to add a provision that mandates mental and emotional health screenings for public school students in grades 7 through 12.

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33

The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Purpose: Amend New York State Education Law Article 19 Section 904 to mandate mental and emotional health screenings for public school students in grades 7 through 12.

Summary of Provisions

Section 1: Definitions:

1. "Psychiatrist" shall mean a licensed medical practitioner whose license allows for the diagnosis and treatment of mental illness.
2. "Psychologist" shall mean a professional who studies mental processes and behaviors.
3. "Trained professional" shall mean a trained guidance counselor, psychiatrist or psychologist employed by a school district within New York State.
4. "Deficiencies" shall mean any mental or emotional health condition that presents a risk to a student or to others in a school setting.

Section 2: The New York State Education Law is amended by adding the following language:

If it should be ascertained, upon such test or examination, that any of such students have defective sight or hearing, or other physical disability, including sickle cell anemia, as above described, the principal or his or her designee shall notify the parents of, or other persons in parental relation to, the child as to the existence of such disability. Additionally, every academic year between grades 7 and 12, public school students will be screened for mental and emotional health deficiencies and illnesses. The examination will be non-invasive and conducted by psychiatrist or psychologist outside of school, or a trained professional employed by the school district. No medication will be prescribed or provided by the school, and no formal diagnosis will be given to the student via the school unless a trained professional is licensed to do so. If the parents or other persons in parental relation are unable or unwilling to provide the necessary relief and treatment for such students, such fact shall be reported by the principal or his or her designee to the director of school health services, whose duty it shall be to provide relief for such students.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-35

34 **Justification:**

35 According to the Association for Children’s Mental Health, 1 in 5 students have a
36 diagnosable emotional or mental health disorder, and as many as 80% of them do not
37 receive the care that they need. Disorders such as these are treatable, and early
38 intervention is key to improving the opportunity for success in school and throughout
39 a child’s life. Passing this bill would work towards dissolving the stigma around mental
40 illness and the subsequent lack of treatment of children who often do not have the
41 means to understand the issues that they are having. In lower-income environments,
42 parents do not have the economic advantages that are needed to treat their children.
43 The yearly screenings can also be used as a deterrent to school-related violence
44 incidents, especially since such incidents often involve a person with illnesses that
45 have not been diagnosed. Additionally, teen suicide rates have climbed 70% in the
46 last decade. Depression that is untreated or undiagnosed is the primary cause of
47 suicide, and one in 65,000 children die by suicide every year. Through yearly
48 screenings, schools can ensure that students are safe and healthy, and districts will be
49 able to help children through their school careers and their lives by helping them
50 towards access to care that they need. Although no states currently mandate mental
51 and emotional health screenings, New York can lead the way for mandatory mental
52 health evaluation and ultimately create a safer, more enjoyable environment for
53 students and faculty throughout public schools.

54 **Fiscal Implications:**

55 We believe in the long term, this will save Americans money. If we educate an entire
56 generation how to properly look after their mental health and give them healthy
57 coping mechanisms, American businesses can be expected to save an immense
58 amount of money each year. According to the APA, American businesses lose \$225.8
59 billion each year due to mental health and substance abuse issues.

60 **Effective Date:**

61 The law will go into effect one calendar year after this bill is passed.

62



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-36

1 **Sponsors:** Rokia Sangre, Okira Sangre, Iyana Latour-Small
2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend Section 72-A of Article 5 of New York State agricultural and market laws
5 regarding the feeding of garbage, offal, or carcasses to cattle, swine or poultry. This
6 Bill will help in preventing dangerous diseases and sicknesses which result in the
7 consumption of contaminated meat.

8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*
9

10 **Purpose**

11 This Bill will help prohibit the unlawful feeding of garbage, offal, or carcasses, to
12 cattle, swine, or poultry. Amending the bill from a Class A Misdemeanor to a Class
13 D Violent Felony will provide further assistance in limiting future crimes and repeat
14 offenders.
15

16 **Summary of Provisions**

17 **Section 1:** Definitions

18 Garbage: Means putrescible animal and poultry wastes from the handling,
19 processing, preparation, cooking, and consumption of foods.

20 Offal: means the waste parts of butchered animals or poultry.

21 Carcasses: means the dead bodies of animals or poultry.

22 Person: any individual, firm, partnership, public, or private corporation, public or
23 private institution, public authority, municipal corporation, and the state.

24 Felony: a crime punishable by a term of imprisonment of not less than one year or
25 by the death penalty.

26 Misdemeanor: defined as offenses punishable only by fines or by short terms of
27 imprisonment in local jails.
28

29 **Section 2** (is usually the actual law that you're amending)

30 Garbage fed to cattle, swine or poultry contributes to the spread of vesicular
31 exanthema, cholera, erysipelas, foot and mouth disease, trichinosis and other
32 infectious animal diseases. Meat from animals so afflicted, when consumed by
33 human beings, is a primary source of trichinosis and other human illnesses. It is
34 therefore declared to be the public policy of this state to prohibit the feeding of
35 garbage, offal or carcasses to cattle, swine or poultry to assist in the eradication of
36 animal diseases and for the protection of the public health and public welfare.
37



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-36

38 Feeding of garbage, offal or carcasses to cattle, swine or poultry prohibited. 1.
39 Garbage fed to cattle, swine or poultry contributes to the spread of vesicular
40 exanthema, cholera, erysipelas, foot and mouth disease, trichinosis and other
41 infectious animal diseases. Meat from animals so afflicted, when consumed by
42 human beings, is a primary source of trichinosis and other human illnesses. It is
43 therefore declared to be the public policy of this state to prohibit the feeding of
44 garbage, offal or carcasses to cattle, swine or poultry to assist in the eradication of
45 animal diseases and for the protection of the public health and public welfare.
46 Violation of this section shall constitute as a felony.

47

Justification

48 (Insert 11 point Verdana Font text here)

49 This Bill is currently a Class A Misdemeanor which only charges the max fine of
50 \$1,000 and up to a year in jail. Raising the charge to a Class D Violent Felony will
51 help to effectively punish the individual who commits this crime and prevent them
52 from perpetrating it in future. A criminal of this type of crime will have more regard
53 for the consequences of a Felony Charge which will decrease the number of times
54 this crime will be committed. A Class D violent Felony is an appropriate charge for
55 this type of crime because it jeopardizes the wellbeing and safety of animals and
56 the humans who ingest the contaminated meat. Humans who consume meat will
57 less likely be put at risk for hospitalization or fatality.

58

Fiscal Implications

59 There are no fiscal implications for the introduction of this bill.

60

Effective Date

61 This bill will be effective 1 year after passage.

62

63 <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/AGM/72-A>

64

65

66



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-37

1 **Sponsors:** Sienna Constante, Nessa Cullen, Nicholas Incorvaia

2

3 **An Act To:** Mandate that all public school districts donate perishable and wrapped food to non-
4 profit organizations for needy individuals under protection of the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan
5 Food Donation Act.

6

7 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:***

8

9 **Purpose**

10 The purpose of this bill would to help combat food waste within New York State by donating
11 often discarded, uneaten food by students such as fruits to non-profit organizations for needy
12 individuals.

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Anaerobic Environment: an environment that is characterized by lack of free oxygen but may
16 contain atomic oxygen bound in compounds such as nitrite (NO₂), nitrate (NO₃) and sulfites
17 (SO₃). When these compounds are present, the resulting byproduct is a foul smelling, harmful
18 corrosive gas.

19 Gross Negligence: lack of care that demonstrates reckless disregard for the safety or lives of
20 others which appears to be a conscious violation of other people's right to safety.

21 Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act: Enacted in 1996 by President Clinton, the Act
22 provides a federal baseline of protection for food donors should the product donated in good
23 faith causes later harm to a recipient. The Act additionally provides protection to the recipient
24 from gross negligence if the donation was made in disregard to their safety.

25 NYSED: New York State Education Department

26 DSNY: The New York City Department of Sanitation

27 **Section 2:**

28 This program will mandate that all public schools donate perishable and wrapped food to non-
29 profit organizations such as but not limited to local shelters and charities. The districts will be
30 linked with local non-profit recipient organizations who will assist the NYSED in the development
31 of handling standards, donation reporting along with ongoing help to ensure quality and
32 implementation is being met.

33 **Justification:** In traditional landfills, anaerobic conditions cause food waste to rot and thus
34 release methane into the air. The methane that is released is an extremely potent greenhouse
35 gas that has an environmental warming potential 21 times more than carbon dioxide. In
36 research conducted by the DSNY in 2017 for their Zero Waste collaborative program, food
37 waste collected by NYC Public Schools account for 29% of their overall collection. By putting
38 this bill into action, the 29% of food waste will decrease which will in effect help reduce the
39 harmful methane that is released into the air we breathe every day.

40 **Fiscal Implications** There would be no fiscal implications.

41 **Effective Date:** January 2020



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 5

Bill #: AL-38

1 **Sponsors:** Lidianna Sierra, Kyle Murray, Christopher McLaughlin, Joshua Morgan

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend New York State General Business Law to mandate sale of safe storage
5 depository or with purchase of a rifle, shotgun, or firearm.

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose**

9 To impose the mandatory purchase of a safe storage depository, with the purchase
10 of rifle, shotgun, or firearm. This is to prevent improper use of a rifle, shotgun, or
11 firearm.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1**

15 **Section 2**

16 § 4. Subdivision 2 of section 396-ee of the general business law, as added by
17 chapter 189 of the laws of 2000, is amended to read as follows:

18 Every person, firm or corporation engaged in the retail business of selling rifles,
19 shotguns or firearms, as such terms are defined in section 265.00 of the penal law,
20 shall, in the place where such rifles, shotguns or firearms are displayed or
21 transferred to the purchaser, shall make such buyer purchase a safe storage
22 depository. For purposes of this section "safe storage depository" shall mean a safe
23 or other secure container which, when locked, is incapable of being opened without
24 the key, combination or other unlocking mechanism and is capable of preventing an
25 unauthorized person from obtaining access to and possession of the weapon
26 contained therein.

27

28 **Justification**

29 The purchase of a rifle, shotgun, or firearm should be a purchase by a responsible,
30 caring individual. That person's first responsibility keeping that rifle, shotgun, or
31 firearm safely locked or stored. This bill ensures that responsible decision of
32 purchasing a firearm, also comes with the responsible decision on how to safely
33 store it.

34

35 **Fiscal Implications**

36 Rifle, shotgun, or firearm purchasers will have to also purchase the safe storage
37 depository or. The average safe storage depository can cost as little as \$5.

38

39 **Effective Date**

40 This bill will go into effect one year following passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-39

1 **Sponsors:** Lauren Cassidy, Violet Hamlin, Celia Holden, and Liora Reiken

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend §175.5 of the Commissioner of Education's regulations to require later
5 school start times for seventh through twelfth graders

6 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do***
7 ***enact as follows:***

8

9 **Purpose**

10 The purpose of this bill is to require secondary schools to begin instruction later.
11 Pushing back school start times for middle and high school students will allow
12 teenagers to get the recommended amount of sleep, decrease teen car accidents,
13 and boost academic performance.

14

15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 Section 1: Definitions

17 Primary schools: Schools that teach pupils from Kindergarten to 6th grade,
18 elementary schools

19 Secondary schools: Schools that teach pupils from 7th to 12th grade, middle
20 schools, high schools

21 Recommended amount of sleep: studies show that teenagers need between 9 and
22 9.5 hours of sleep

23

24 Section 2: Provisions

25 (2) The daily sessions for pupils in full-day kindergarten and grades one through six
26 shall be a minimum of five hours, starting no earlier than 7:30am, including time
27 spent by students in actual instructional or supervised study activities, exclusive of
28 time allowed for lunch, and including hourly units of time spent by all teachers and
29 other instructional staff within a grade level or school building attending upon staff
30 development activities relating to implementation of new high learning standards
31 and assessments as authorized by section 3604(8) of the Education Law.

32 (3) The daily sessions for pupils in grades seven through 12 shall be a minimum of
33 five and one-half hours, starting no earlier than 8:30am, including time spent by
34 students in actual instructional or supervised study activities, exclusive of time
35 allowed for lunch, and including hourly units of time spent by all teachers and other
36 instructional staff within a grade level or school building attending upon staff
37 development activities relating to implementation of new high learning standards
38 and assessments as authorized by section 3604(8) of the Education Law.

39



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-39

40 **Justification**

41 Teenagers often have after-school activities including sports, jobs, and clubs.
42 When they get home from a long day of school and activities, they then have a
43 binder full of homework to complete, tests to study for, and essays to write. This
44 causes teens to stay up far past midnight and still wake up at six or seven in the
45 morning in order to get to school on time. In New York State, up to 44% of teens
46 are sleep deprived. Lack of sleep leads to substance abuse and physical and mental
47 health issues. One study found that the later a teenager went to bed, the more
48 likely they were to use alcohol or marijuana. Losing sleep can also lead to physical
49 health issues such as diabetes and obesity as well as an increased risk of feeling
50 sad or hopeless and an increase in suicide attempts. Starting school later will
51 improve teens health and safety.

52 As students advance in grades, they oftentimes take on more responsibilities,
53 take harder classes, and therefore, stay up later to complete homework. After a
54 long night of work, and getting far below the recommended amount of sleep,
55 student drivers are drowsy at the wheel and end up getting into car accidents. In
56 New York State, approximately ten people are killed every day due to car crashes
57 caused by a teen driver. Pushing school start times back, however, will increase the
58 number of sleep teens are getting, and therefore, decrease the number of teen car
59 accidents.

60 Not only are teens safety being put in danger by a lack of sleep, but
61 academic performance is at a low due to students inability to pay attention and
62 concentrate in class. New York State is ranked twenty-third in the country for
63 academic performance. Starting schools later will allow teens to stay awake during
64 class and therefore improve academic performance across the state. Teens who do
65 not get enough sleep are more likely to be impulsive, hyperactive, and oppositional.
66 Passing this bill to start secondary schools later will allow students to get the
67 recommended amount of sleep leading to improved physical and mental health,
68 decreased teen car accidents, and higher academic performance.

69

70 **Fiscal Implications**

71 In a multitude of school districts in New York State, secondary schools start later
72 than primary schools. Our bill proposes allowing primary schools to start earlier
73 than secondary schools, creating a switch between when each school begins. Thus,
74 the bus routes will remain the same and there will be minimal fiscal implications.

75

76 **Effective Date**

77 This bill will go into effect July 1 of the year following its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-40

1 **Sponsors:** Lauren Lammers, MacKenzie Randolph, and Phoebe Rigley

2
3 **An Act To**

4 Amend Section 99-P of the State Finance Law by creating a specialized committee
5 known as the "Embryonic Stem Cell Research Committee" and subsequently
6 allocating funds toward it.

7
8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

9
10 **Purpose**

11 The purpose of this bill is to pursue more cost effective medical treatment for the
12 citizens of New York through the allocation of funds towards embryonic stem cell
13 research.

14
15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 **Section 1: Definitions**

17 **Embryonic Stem Cell:** the simplest form of a stem cell derived from the

18 undifferentiated inner mass of an embryo capable of propagating itself indefinitely

19 **In Vitro Fertilization:** a technique that unites the egg and sperm in a laboratory dish
20 instead of inside the female body

21 **Block Grant:** a grant from the central government that a local authority can allocate
22 to a wide range of services

23 **Induced Pluripotent Stem Cell:** an adult stem cell that has been reprogrammed
24 back into an embryonic state

25 **Section 2: Provisions**

26 § 99-p. Empire state stem cell trust fund.

- 27 1. There is hereby established in the joint custody of the state comptroller and
28 the commissioner of taxation and finance a special revenue fund to be known
29 as the "empire state stem cell trust fund" within which is a specialized
30 committee known as the "embryonic stem cell research committee" that
31 utilizes in vitro fertilization.
- 32 2. The fund shall consist of all monies appropriated for its purpose, all monies
33 required by this section or any other provisions of law to be paid into or
34 credited to such fund. Among this, 15% of the funding must be allocated
35 towards the "embryonic stem cell research committee" annually for
36 specialized study, as well as an additional 5% derived from the "preventative
37 health and health services" federal block grant. Nothing contained herein
38 shall prevent the department of health from receiving grants, gifts or



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-40

- 39 requests for the purposes of the fund as defined in this section and
40 depositing them into the fund according to law.
- 41 3. Monies of the fund when allocated shall be available for administrative costs
42 of the empire state stem cell board established pursuant to title 5-A of article
43 two of the public health law administered by the commissioner of health and
44 for funding stem cell research.
- 45 4. Money shall be payable from the fund on the audit and warrant of the state
46 comptroller on vouchers approved and certified by the commissioner of
47 health.

48

49 **Justification**

50 As ascertained by the Mayo Clinic, an academic medical center based in Minnesota
51 that is regarded as one of leading experts in regenerative medicines, the
52 multifaceted capabilities of embryonic stem cell therapy present themselves as the
53 next chapter in organ transplantation. Already they have proven themselves
54 effective with repairing scar tissue, replacing neurons, and combatting numerous
55 types of cancer. As a result, they have received international interest, with research
56 being conducted in Sweden, Finland, Belgium, Greece, Britain, Denmark, Japan,
57 India, Iran, Israel, South Korea, Australia, China, and the Netherlands. By mirroring
58 this and the policies already in place in certain states such as New Jersey and
59 California, New York enables itself to better combat the myriad of health concerns
60 its occupants face, being theoretically capable of obtaining cells of all lineages.
61 Furthermore, by placing the "Embryonic Stem Cell Research Committee" beneath
62 government control, New York is able to alleviate concerns that have arisen
63 regarding the validity of private, stem cell therapy clinics ("Transplant Center" Mayo
64 Clinic, Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research, 22 Sept. 2018).

65

66 **Fiscal Implications**

67 As all funds shall be allocated from a portion of an existing government fund, there
68 will be no additional fiscal implications upon the taxpayer. In fact, it can even be
69 argued that New York is financially benefiting from the specification of researching
70 embryonic stem cells as they do not require the costly transition that the usage of
71 induced pluripotent stem cells entails.

72

73 **Effective Date**

74 This proposal shall be effective no later than April 1st, 2019.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-41

1 **Sponsors:** Zachary Phelps, Dave Rakhymzhan, Tiffany Brace, Jordan Colon

2

3 **An Act To** Amend § 9-0501 of the Environmental Conservation Law regarding
4 classification of Forest Preserve and State Forest.

5

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose** To mandate that all lands in the Adirondack and Catskill Parks purchased
9 by the State in the future are classified as State Forest, where the Department of
10 Environmental Conservation manages the forests.

11

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 Ecological Succession: the process of change in the species structure of an
15 ecological community over time

16 Climax Community: final stage in ecological succession

17 **Section 2:**

18 § 9-0501. Power to acquire reforestation areas; prohibition against
19 compensation or gratuity.

20 1. In order to provide for the acquisition of lands outside of the Adirondack park
21 and the Catskill park, which are adapted for reforestation and the establishment
22 and maintenance thereon of forests for watershed protection, the production of
23 timber and other forest products, and for recreation and kindred purposes, the
24 department may acquire in the name of the state, by gift, purchase or
25 appropriation, reforestation areas which shall consist respectively of not less than
26 five hundred acres of contiguous lands, which shall be forever devoted to the
27 planting, growth and harvesting of such trees as shall be deemed by the
28 commissioner best suited for the lands to be reforested.

29 2. Lands inside of the Adirondack park and the Catskill park purchased by the
30 State after January 1, 2020 will be managed by the Department of Environmental
31 Conservation and to be classified as a "State Forest" and will be regulated in the
32 same manner as other State Forests located outside of the Blue Line, and will
33 permit the harvesting of timber.

34

35 **Justification**

36 Keeping forest land forever wild is unhealthy and creates an unstable environment.
37 A forest at its climax community chokes out new growth and creates a layer of
38 highly burnable material on the forest floor. State Forests use timber management



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39 as a tool to enhance biodiversity and to create habitat features that might be
40 lacking in the landscape. In addition, the economies of the parks will be stimulated
41 by an increase in foresting jobs. Currently, the population in the parks has high
42 senior citizen percentages. Logging has been a base of employment for generations
43 and will attract young families into the park.

44

45 **Fiscal Implications**

46 The Department of Environmental Conservation will receive the profits for the
47 timber sold from the land. The revival of the logging industry will stimulate the
48 economies of the Adirondack and Catskill parks.

49

50 **Effective Date**

51 This bill will go into effect one year after passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-42

1 **Sponsors:** Jasmine Agosto and Fanta Wague

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend § 5-106. Qualifications of voters; reasons for exclusion and allow
5 incarcerated individuals the right to register to vote and to vote

6 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

7

8 **Purpose**

9 Grant men and women who are incarcerated and on parole in the State of New York
10 the right to vote in local and state elections and to register to do so.

11

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1**

14 Felony: a crime regarded as more serious than a misdemeanor, leading to more
15 prison time

16 Incarcerated: someone in prison

17 Right of Suffrage: the right to vote

18 **Section 2**

19 2. ~~No~~ A person who has been convicted of a felony pursuant to the laws of this
20 state, shall have the right to register for or vote at any local and state elections.
21 ~~unless he shall have been pardoned or restored to the rights of citizenship by the~~
22 ~~governor, or his maximum sentence of imprisonment has expired, or he has been~~
23 ~~discharged from parole.~~ The governor, however, may attach as a condition to any
24 such pardon a provision that any such person shall not have the right of suffrage
25 until it shall have been separately restored to him.

26

27



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-42

28 **Justification**

29 An estimated six million people nationwide are barred from voting because of felony
30 convictions, with New York being one of the states that contribute to this large
31 number. Only 57 percent of eligible voters cast a ballot in the 2016 presidential
32 election, ranking New York 41st in the nation for turnout. In 2018, New York
33 Governor Andrew Cuomo issued an executive order removing the restriction on
34 parolees voting. New York already allows those on probation to vote. On May 22,
35 2018, the Governor issued the first set of 24,086 conditional pardons, restoring
36 voting rights to more than two-thirds of the New Yorkers currently serving out a
37 period of parole in their communities. With a change to this law, men and women
38 who are currently incarcerated have the ability to vote as well as register to do so.
39 If you are human, you should be allowed to have basic rights such as voting. New
40 York is currently working towards ending voter disenfranchisement but still has a
41 long way to go. By applying with papers in the prison to register, inmates would be
42 able to vote. They would have to send in an absentee ballot as they do in Vermont
43 and Maine. This bill is needed in New York because we have such a high population
44 of humans being denied one of their inalienable rights.

45
46 **Fiscal Implications**

47 There are none. The prisoners would pay for it themselves by their commissary
48 account. In addition to this, non-profit organizations like The Marshall Project work
49 to donate the cost to inmates who might not have the money in their commissary
50 accounts. According to one very knowledgeable spokesperson at the Secretary of
51 State, the ballot typically requires 50 cents (one stamp) to mail. If your ballot has
52 more than one page, the price rises to 71 cents.

Commented [1]: "There will be no fiscal implications with the introduction of this bill."

53
54 **Effective Date**

55 This bill will be effective 1 year after passage.

Commented [2]: add this to your fact sheet if anyone asks a questions about fiscal implications

fiscal implications refer to costs to the state, it will be the jails and the inmates responsibilities to pay for it



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-43

1 **Sponsors:** Drue DeGroat, Gage Morris, Hunter Mulvey, Aleesha Washburn

2
3 **An Act To** Amend New York General Business Law Sec. 515 to require a
4 photograph of the card holder to be printed on all credit and debit cards and to
5 require PIN entry for all point of sale transactions.

6
7 ***The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do***
8 ***enact as follows:***

9
10 **Purpose** We introduce this bill to reduce Credit-Card Theft with ***in-store***
11 ***purchases.*** All credit-cards shall be issued bearing a photo-ID. All point-of-sale
12 purchases shall require the customer to enter a PIN to complete the transaction.
13 Fraudulent credit-card transactions place a burden on credit card lenders which is
14 then passed to the consumers in the form of inflated interest rates and fees.
15 However, fraudulent point-of-sale credit card transaction can be drastically reduced
16 by requiring credit-card companies to printing an image of the card-holder's face
17 upon the credit card, and by requiring PIN entry on all transactions. By requiring
18 uniform compliance across retail point-of-sale systems, millions of people would be
19 saved time and money along with the worry of their credit-card identity being
20 stolen without placing any significant burden upon the credit card companies or
21 retailers. Credit card companies will need to upgrade all the cards by 2021.

22
23 **Summary of Provisions**

24 **Section 1**

25 Credit Card: A small card issued by a bank, business, etc. allowing the holder to
26 purchase goods or services on credit (Often is engraved with the owners name and
27 when scanned shows information about the owner but does not include a photo).

28
29 Credit Card Theft: A wide-ranging term for theft and fraud committed using or
30 involving a payment card, as a fraudulent source of funds in a transaction. The
31 purpose may be to obtain goods without paying, or to obtain unauthorized funds.
32 In-Store Purchases: Relating to or being an operation or activity located or taking
33 place in store.

34 PIN: Personal Identification Number.

35 Photo ID: An identity document(license) that includes a photograph of the holder,
36 usually only his or her face a photo idea also includes the name of the user for
37 extra checking purposes.

38 Point of Sale: A sale when the customer is purchasing something in person.

39



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-43

40 Section 2

41 Credit Card Companies shall issue each credit and debit card holder a credit card
42 with a photograph of the holder's face printed upon it in a size not less than 2-
43 inches by 2-inches. All point of sale purchases may only be completed following the
44 customer's entry of a PIN. Retail clerks at the point-of-sale shall be trained to
45 compare the photo on the card against the person attempting the transaction. No
46 consumer will be allowed to complete a point-of-sale credit card transaction except
47 as provided for in this paragraph after January 1, 2021.

48

49 **Justification** Over 31.8 million people have their credit cards stolen every year.
50 Unlike other crimes, it is very hard to find the perpetrator. While the money is
51 usually replaced it can heavily ruin a person's credit score. When the card is maxed
52 out and payments are not made, it's credit score can drop 10-20 points for every
53 inquiry. If the bank or credit-company is not notified within two days of the
54 transactions, it is difficult to earn your money back. According to Files, it is harder
55 for detectives to crack down on credit card hackers that steal identities within store
56 purchases, then hackers of the internet. This is because, the only identity check
57 there is, is a signature. In 2012 there were several cases of male hackers using a
58 female's credit card and got away with it for months at a time(the time periods
59 ranging from 3-18 months).

60

61 **Fiscal Implications** While Credit Card Theft is a substantial problem that drives up
62 costs for all consumers, the burden of upgrading credit cards to be compliant with
63 this act is minimal. This is because all credit cards currently feature an expiration
64 date, and credit card issuers are continually renewing customers cards as it
65 is. Credit Card Issuers could simply provide compliant cards to their customers
66 during their next renewal period. Moreover, keypad technology for customers to
67 enter their PIN at the Point-of-Sale is inexpensive, readily available, and a small
68 burden to place on card issuers or retail merchants given the breadth of the
69 problem which it will address.

70

71 **Effective Date** This bill shall go into effect immediately upon its adoption.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-44

1 **Sponsors:** Ethan Burrell, Giovanni Martini, Mayralee Martinez, Clara Petta-
2 Gonzalez

3
4 **An Act To**

5 Amend § 667 of the Education Law by amending subsection 3c and adding
6 subsection 3e to provide free tuition for those in the foster care system.

7
8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

9
10 **Purpose**

11 The purpose of this bill is to provide free tuition for those in the foster care system
12 enrolling into SUNY and CUNY schools.

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Full cost of college: tuition, room and board, fees.

16 Undergraduate degree: a 4-year or 5-year college bachelor's degree program, or a
17 2-year associate's degree program.

18 **Section 2:**

19 § 667. Tuition assistance program awards.

20 3. Tuition assistance program awards.

21 A. Amount. The president shall make awards to students enrolled in degree-granting
22 institutions or registered not-for-profit businessschools qualified for tax exemption
23 under § 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code for federal income tax purposes in
24 the following amounts:

25 (i) For each year of undergraduate study, assistance shall be provided as computed
26 on the basis of the amount which is the lesser of the following:

27 (A) (1) In the case of students who have not been granted an exclusion of parental
28 income, who have qualified as an orphan, foster child, or ward of the court for the
29 purposes of federal student financial aid programs authorized by Title IV of the Higher
30 Education Act of 1965, as amended, or had a dependent for income tax purposes
31 during the tax year next preceding the academic year for which application is made,
32 except for those students who have been granted exclusion of parental income who
33 have a spouse but no other dependent:

34 (a) For students first receiving aid after nineteen hundred ninety-three--nineteen
35 hundred ninety-four and before two thousand--two thousand one, four thousand two
36 hundred ninety dollars; or

37 (b) For students first receiving aid in nineteen hundred ninety-three--nineteen
38 hundred ninety-four or earlier, three thousand seven hundred forty dollars; or

39 (c) For students first receiving aid in two thousand--two thousand one and



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Bill #: AL-44

40 thereafter, five thousand dollars, except starting in two thousand fourteen-two
41 thousand fifteen and thereafter before two thousand twenty--two thousand twenty-
42 one such students shall receive five thousand one hundred sixty-five dollars a; or
43 (d) For undergraduate students enrolled in a program of study at a non-public
44 degree-granting institution that does not offer a program of study that leads to a
45 baccalaureate degree, or at a registered not-for-profit business school qualified for
46 tax exemption under section 501(c)(3) of the internal revenue code for federal
47 income tax purposes that does not offer a program of study that leads to a
48 baccalaureate degree, four thousand dollars. Provided, however, that this subitem
49 shall not apply to students enrolled in a program of study leading to a certificate or
50 degree in nursing.

51 (e) For students first receiving aid in two thousand twenty--two thousand twenty-
52 one and thereafter shall receive the full cost of college to the state university of New
53 York at no expense. Students must maintain a grade point average of at least a two-
54 point sixty-seven on a four-point zero scale and must enroll in at least twelve credits
55 per term and complete thirty credits per year. Failure to meet academic requirements
56 will result in loss of financial aid award after two academic probations have been
57 administered. After obtaining an undergraduate degree, students must remain and
58 work in New York state for the number of years equal to the number of years required
59 to complete the undergraduate degree. Failure to meet these requirements will result
60 in the conversion of the student's financial award to a loan.

61 **Justification**

62 As the current system of college financial aid stands, students are expected to fill
63 out the FAFSA application while some are also eligible for the Excelsior scholarship
64 providing free tuition for NYS students. These applications require information
65 about parental income tax which proves be an issue for children in foster care.
66 These children can still appeal for independence, but they may find it hard to find
67 housing after they turn 18. Despit many hoping to pursue higher education, only
68 10% are accepted. This bill will ensure that foster care children have adequate
69 support systems to be able to afford college tution/housing so they are better
70 prepared for the competition within the work force.

71 **Fiscal Implications**

72 It will cost about \$31 million per year for New York State and about a \$1.56 per NY
73 resident. Currently, the New York State Budget provides \$7.5 billion in total support
74 for higher education.

75 **Effective Date**

76 This bill will go into effect immediately after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-45

1 **Sponsors:** Haley Cruz, Emily Mehnert, and Dario Molina

2

3 **An Act To**

4 An act to amend section 260.10 of Penal Law to charge mothers with Child 5
5 Endangerment when the child is born with defects related to the use of alcohol 6
6 and/or drugs during pregnancy.

7

8 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

9

10 **Purpose**

11 Holding mothers accountable for endangering the welfare of a child when the child
12 12 or children are born with defects directly related to the use of alcohol and/or
13 drugs 13 during pregnancy.

14

15 **Summary of Provisions**

16 **Section 1: Definitions**

17 "Child Endangerment" refers to an act or omission that renders a child to
18 psychological, emotional or physical abuse. Child abuse based on the offense of
19 child endangerment is normally a misdemeanor, but endangerment that results in
20 mental illness or serious physical illness or injury is a felony.

21 **Section 2:**

22 A person is guilty of endangering the welfare of a child when:

23 1. He or she knowingly acts in a manner likely to be injurious to the
24 physical, mental or moral welfare of a child less than seventeen years
25 old or directs or authorizes such child to engage in an occupation
26 involving a substantial risk of danger to his or her life or health; or
27 2. Being a parent, guardian or other person legally charged with the
28 care or custody of a child less than eighteen years old, he or she fails
29 or refuses to exercise reasonable diligence in the control of such child
30 to prevent him or her from becoming an "abused child," a "neglected
31 child," a "juvenile delinquent" or a "person in need of supervision," as
32 those terms are defined in articles ten, three and seven of the family
33 court act.

34 (a) When a newborn infant, tests positive for a controlled
35 substance not prescribed by a physician, in his or her bloodstream or
36 urine, is born dependent on such drugs or demonstrates drug withdrawal
37 symptoms, or has been diagnosed as having a condition which is attributable
38 to in utero exposure to illegal drugs.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-45

39 **Justification**

40 According to National Public Radio, a recent study in the Journal of Perinatology
41 found that approximately six out of every 1,000 babies born in the U.S. in 2012
42 were born with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS), a condition caused by the
43 mother's use of opiates or other illicit substances during pregnancy. Governmental
44 agencies note that a range of detrimental effects can be seen in children exposed to
45 drugs and/or alcohol. These include hyperactivity, fussiness, trouble sleeping,
46 dehydration and/or fever. When a child is born after prolonged and/or excessive
47 prenatal exposure to drugs, he or she immediately begins to experience withdrawal
48 symptoms. This is called neonatal abstinence syndrome and its often life
49 threatening enough to require a medical detox regimen. Some children are even
50 "weaned" off the drug with a legal substitute such as methadone doses for the
51 children of heroin users. Throughout the past two decades, the number of drug-
52 dependent newborns have increased. Charges of child neglect are increasingly
53 common and children are sometimes placed in foster care rather than being
54 returned to their mothers after treatment. However, every single case is different,
55 and as of right now, there is no law in New York State that can protect all children
56 equally.

57

58 **Fiscal Implications**

59 After the passage of this bill, the state government will be able to take action 58
60 against mothers who have put their unborn child in danger because of their 59
61 addiction to any harmful substance. The mother will be charged with "child 60
62 neglect," which means that the jury will decide on the sentence depending on the
63 61 severity of the abuse/neglect. This will result in more people being put in jail.
64 The 62 average annual cost of being in prison is \$60,000 per inmate so there will
65 most 63 likely be a rise in taxes due to these mothers being put in jail.

66

67 **Effective Date**

68 One year after its passage.



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-46

1 **Sponsors:** Jake Miller, Leah Kilkenny

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend Article 35 Section 1702 of the New York State Education Law to require
5 each public school district to have a voting position within the district's board of
6 education that is served by a high school student within the senior class.

7 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*

8 **Purpose**

9 To create a learning environment in which students have the opportunity to
10 be directly involved with and serve as a member of their district's board of
11 education.

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 Section 1: Definitions

14 Board of Education- a body of officials elected or appointed to oversee a local
15 school system or systems.

16 Terms of Office- the amount of time an elected official is allowed to serve on the
17 board is a school district generally formed from one or more common.

18 Union free school district- school districts to operate a high school program, which
19 common school districts cannot do.

20 Qualified voters- any tax-paying officials residing inside the school district.

21 Section 2

22 § 1702. Board of education union free school district education; election; terms of
23 office. 1. Whenever a

24 shall be established, pursuant to the
25 provisions of subdivision three of section fifteen hundred four of this
26 chapter, or, pursuant to the provisions of sections fifteen hundred
27 twenty-two and fifteen hundred twenty-three of this chapter, it shall be
28 the duty of the meeting at which such union free school district is
29 established to elect by ballot not less than three nor more than nine
30 trustees, who shall, by the order of such meeting, be divided into a
31 sufficient number of classes so that as nearly as possible an equal
32 number of members shall be elected to the board each year, based upon a
33 normal term of three, four or five years, as such meeting may determine.
34 Thereafter there shall be elected in such districts, at the annual
35 meeting, trustees to take the places of those whose terms of office
36 expire. Such successors shall be elected to serve for a full term of
37 three, four or five years, as the case may be.

38 3. Each union free school district, at the next annual meeting
39 subsequent to the effective date of the chapter of the laws of two
40 thousand five which amended this subdivision, may submit to the
41 qualified voters of the district for approval, the issue of ~~ex officio~~
42 student membership on the school district's board of education, by a
43 student attending a high school within such school district. Upon voter
44 approval, each such district shall establish a process for student



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Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 6

Bill #: AL-46

45 membership selection pursuant to paragraph c of this subdivision. If,
46 prior to August fifth, two thousand three, a school district had a
47 policy that allowed a student or students to be ~~ex-officio~~ members of
48 the school board, such policy shall be deemed to meet the requirements
49 of this subdivision and shall be deemed to have full legal effect. In
50 any district that contains more than one high school, such process shall
51 take into consideration the number of high schools within the district
52 and provide for a mechanism which allows for fair representation among
53 the schools. Such school district shall allow such selected student to
54 serve as an ~~ex-officio~~ member of such district's board of education,
55 and, if so, provided further that:

- 56 a. The ~~ex-officio~~ student member of the board shall be entitled to sit
57 with board members at all public meetings of the board and participate
58 in all board hearings and meetings.
- 59 b. The ~~ex-officio~~ student member of the board shall ~~not~~ be allowed to
60 vote, shall ~~not~~ be allowed to attend executive session, and shall not be
61 entitled to receive compensation of any form for participating at board
62 Meetings, as they are a student.
- 63 c. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the ~~ex-officio~~
64 student member of the board must be ~~any~~ all of the following: ~~the student~~
65 ~~that has been duly elected as student president of the high school; a~~
66 ~~student duly elected by the student body; a student selected by the high~~
67 ~~school student government; a student selected by the high school~~
68 ~~principal; a student selected by the superintendent of schools; a~~
69 ~~student selected by majority vote of the school board. All parties must be in~~
70 ~~agreement. Provided, however, in districts having district wide student~~
71 ~~governments or~~
72 ~~advisory committees, the student ex-officio member shall be selected by~~
73 ~~the superintendent of schools from among the members of such~~
74 ~~district wide student governments or advisory committees, subject to~~
75 ~~ratification by majority vote of the school board.~~
- 76 d. The ~~ex-officio~~ student member shall be a senior at the high school
77 and shall have attended such high school for at least two years prior to
78 Selection. The student representative will hold office for one year.

79 **Justification**

80 This bill provides an opportunity for students that will be quintessential to the board
81 of education and allow board members to gain a greater insight to the student body
82 they are making decisions based upon. Simultaneously, it will grant students the
83 ability to be an advocate for and directly impact their education.

84 **Fiscal Implications**

85 There are no fiscal implications that can be foreseen at this time regarding this bill.

86 **Effective Date**

87 This bill will go into effect January 1st, following year the bill's passage.