



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 1

Bill #: AF-02

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39

**Sponsors** Rachel Blake, Alex Maddaloni, Natalie Bianchi

**An Act To** Add § 282-d to New York Tax Law to create a fund to research carbon neutral through SUNY schools by marginally increasing nonagricultural gasoline and diesel fuel tax.

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

**Purpose** Advance New York State towards a greener economy and society by building a foundation for carbon neutral fuels in an effort to lower the carbon emission rate from vehicles and utilize the remainder.

**Summary of Provisions**

Section 1

Definitions:

Carbon neutral fuels: Synthetic hydrocarbons which convert carbon dioxide into the building block for sustainable liquid fuels.

Section 2

§ 282-d. Tax on nonagricultural motor and diesel fuel. In addition to the taxes imposed by sections two hundred eighty-two-a, two hundred eighty-two-b, and two hundred and eighty-two-c of this chapter, a like tax shall be imposed at the rate of three cents per gallon. The revenue generated from this tax would be placed into a trust to fund the creation of research centers for carbon neutral fuels through the SUNY school system.

**Justification** Carbon emissions comprise over 80 percent of Earth’s greenhouse gasses. This buildup results in climate change and causes extreme weather, which costs billions of damage to New York State annually. Carbon neutral fuels are an efficient way to reduce carbon emissions and remove existing amounts in the atmosphere. It has not been extensively implemented because funding for in depth research has not been raised. This simple 3 cent tax would build a fund to create research centers through SUNY schools, which already do quite a bit of research in science and other related fields. The tax would be small enough to be insignificant to taxpayers, but large enough to create a substantial fund within a few years. Carbon neutral fuels would open up more job opportunities and create a flourishing new science career path. Additionally, although the tax increase is very small, it may be an incentive to practice cleaner transportation methods, such as carpooling and public transport.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 1

Bill #: AF-02

40

41 **Fiscal Implications** The bill would impose a 3 cent tax to nonagricultural  
42 commercial and diesel fuel. This would be a very small increase, so taxpayers  
43 wouldn't be burdened, but it would serve as an incentive to conserve energy. Any  
44 impact on the taxpayer would be negated several times over due to the money  
45 saved from a more sustainable society.

46

47 **Environmental Implications** Research and future implementation of carbon  
48 neutral fuels in New York State will reduce carbon emissions and remove existing  
49 carbon from the atmosphere. This will slow the deterioration of the ozone layer as  
50 well as global warming.

51

52 **Effective Date** The most recent fiscal year following the passage of this bill.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 1

Bill #:AF-05

1 **Sponsors:** Macey Bryant, Elaina McGrath, Alicia Prieto, and Henry Reichman

2  
3 **An Act To** Amend the New York State Environmental Conservation Law Article 27  
4 to add Title 27-a to implement a restriction on the use of plastic utensils in schools  
5 in New York State.

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

8  
9 **Purpose** The purpose of this bill is to restrict the use of plastic utensils in schools  
10 to only those instances where food is to be consumed outside of the cafeteria or  
11 designated area for food consumption in an effort to keep as much plastic waste as  
12 possible from the waste stream.

13  
14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 **Section 1**

16 **Plastic utensil:** a plastic fork, knife, spoon or other utensil used for consuming food.

17 **New York State School:** any public or charter school or school receiving funding  
18 from the State for education in any form.

19 **Reusable utensil:** a fork, knife, spoon or other utensil used for consuming food  
20 which is intended to be washed and utilized multiple times.

21  
22 **Section 2**

23 Amends New York State Environmental Conservation Law Article 27 to add Article  
24 27-a **Use of Plastic Utensils in Schools in New York State**

- 25 a. **No school shall provide plastic utensils for use with food consumption unless**  
26 **the consumer makes a specific request in order to consume food outside of**  
27 **the cafeteria or other area designated for food consumption within the**  
28 **school.**

29  
30 **Justification**

31 Every day, 100 million plastic utensils are disposed of in the United States alone.  
32 These same utensils take over 1,000 years to break down. Even after they do, the  
33 effects they have on the environment are highly detrimental. These plastics keep  
34 breaking down into smaller pieces but will never fully decompose back into the  
35 earth. Polypropylene or polystyrene, the main components in disposable plastic, do  
36 not decompose into our environment. The permanence of such substances poses  
37 catastrophic threats to our environment, including life-threatening effects on  
38 marine life, the release of toxic chemicals into the atmosphere, and pollution in vital  
39 waterways. Plastic production is also very harmful to the environment. Plastic is  
40 made of toxic chemicals such as benzene and vinyl hydrochloride, which are known  
41 to cause cancer and pollute the air. The effects of these chemicals never expire or  
42 go away. Single-use plastics, such as disposable utensils, account for 60-90% of all



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 1

Bill #:AF-05

43 marine debris, making it imperative to legally adjust our standards in order to  
44 combat this disaster. One way to combat the impact of plastic utensils on New York  
45 State's environment is to restrict their use in schools. By introducing reusable  
46 utensils into schools, school budgets could increase. In a test conducted by the  
47 Minnetonka Middle Schools, over the course of three years, \$23,000 was saved  
48 when reusable utensils replaced disposable utensils.

49

50 **Fiscal Implications**

51 School districts will realize increased savings by the replacement of disposable  
52 utensils with reusable utensils. Most schools in the State already have reusable  
53 utensils for use by students. There should, therefore, be no additional cost to the  
54 school.

55

56 **Environmental Implications**

57 Elimination or limitations on the use of plastic utensils in schools will limit the entry  
58 of plastic waste into the New York State waste stream. This bill contemplates  
59 occasions where a student would need to use, upon request, a plastic utensil for  
60 travel or occasions where they consume food outside of a cafeteria. The  
61 commitment to limiting the use and presence of plastic within the schools will  
62 educate consumers to choose reusable utensils so they may realize and enjoy a  
63 cleaner environment.

64

65 **Effective Date**

66 This law will become effective August 1, 2021.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 1

Bill #:AF-07

1 **Sponsors:** Ashika Prakash, Christopher McLaughlin, Nicole Ahern

2 **An Act To:** Amend Section 2.30, Title A, Part one under criminal  
3 procedures the NYS Consolidated Law to add training requirements for  
4 peace officers to establish training programs on de-escalation tactics and  
5 awareness of bias, mental illness, and cultural competency.

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

7 **Purpose** The purpose of this bill is to prevent unnecessary deaths caused  
8 by police brutality

9 **Summary of Provisions**

10 **Section 1**

11 **Definition:** The term "de-escalation" refers to reduction of the intensity of a  
12 situation that may otherwise evoke violence.

13 **Section 2**

14 Every Peace officer in the state of New York must successfully complete a  
15 training program, a portion of which shall be prescribed by the municipal  
16 police training council and a portion of which shall be prescribed by his or her  
17 employer. The portion prescribed by the municipal police training council  
18 shall be comprised of subjects, and the hours each is to be taught, that  
19 shall be required of all types or classes of peace officers. "Such training  
20 should establish programs on de-escalation tactics, and awareness of bias,  
21 mental illness, and cultural competency." The hours of instruction required  
22 by the municipal. police training council shall not exceed one hundred  
23 eighty, unless a greater amount is either required by law or regulation, or  
24 is requested by the employer.

25 **Justification**

26 Police should be aware of factors such as mental illness and bias before  
27 making a decision that could end someone's life and always try to  
28 deescalate the situation before using excessive force.

29 **Fiscal Implications**

30 Training is already funded by the State Of New York,

31 **Effective Date**

32 1 year after the bill is passed

33



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-09

**Sponsors:** Cael Hamel, Aaron Mattupurath, Kendrick McCann and Jon Thibodeau

**An Act To** Amend the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, Article 75, Section 75-0107 and the New York Public Service Law Section 66-p to set the State's goals of achieving 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2030 and 80 percent of electricity from renewable sources by 2030.

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

**Purpose**

This legislation will amend the New York State Environmental Conservation Law. Article 75, known as the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act to set the state's goals of achieving 100 percent carbon-free electricity by 2030 and 80 percent of electricity from renewable sources by 2030 to reduce the severity of climate change.

**Summary of Provisions**

Section 1

Greenhouse Gas Emissions: the release of greenhouse gases and/or their precursors into the atmosphere over a specified area and period of time.

Renewable Resources: a resource is a natural resource which will replenish to replace the portion depleted by usage and consumption, either through natural reproduction or other recurring processes in a finite amount of time in a human time scale.

Section 2

New York State Environmental Conservation Law

§ 75-0107. Statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits.

1. No later than one year after the effective date of this article, the department shall, pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated after at least one public hearing, establish a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit as a percentage of 1990 emissions, as estimated pursuant to section 75-0105 of this article, as follows:

a. 2030: 0% of 1990 emissions.

New York State Public Service Law

§ 66-p. Establishment of a renewable energy program.

1. As used in this section:

(a) "jurisdictional load serving entity" means any entity subject to the jurisdiction of the commission that secures energy to serve the electrical energy requirements of end-user customers in New York state;

(b) "renewable energy systems" means systems that generate electricity or thermal energy through the use of the following technologies: solar thermal, photovoltaics, on land and offshore wind, hydroelectric, geothermal electric, geothermal ground source heat, tidal energy, wave energy, ocean thermal, and fuel cells which do not utilize a fossil fuel resource in the process of generating electricity.

2. No later than June thirtieth, two thousand twenty-one, the commission shall establish a program to require that: (a) a minimum of eighty percent of the statewide electric generation secured by jurisdictional load serving entities to meet the electrical energy requirements of all end-user customers in New York state in



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-09

46 two thousand and thirty shall be generated by renewable energy systems; and (b)  
47 that by the year two thousand forty (collectively, the "targets") the statewide  
48 electrical demand system will be zero emissions. In establishing such programs, the  
49 commission shall consider and where applicable formulate the program to address  
50 impacts of the program on safe and adequate electric service in the state under  
51 reasonably foreseeable conditions. The commission may, in designing the program,  
52 modify the obligations of jurisdictional load serving entities and/or the targets upon  
53 consideration of the factors described in this subdivision.

54 **Justification**

55 The average temperature in New York State has risen by 2.4 degrees Fahrenheit for  
56 the summer months and 4.4 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter months since  
57 1970. These numbers only continue to rise. By 2080, the temperature is  
58 calculated to be 10 degrees warmer. This temperature increase will have  
59 catastrophic effects on our state's agriculture and animals. Changes will occur in  
60 the migration patterns and gestation periods for species. Food production and  
61 availability of natural resources will be negatively impacted. Fish and bird  
62 populations will shift northward and pollinating spring bees will arrive 10 days  
63 earlier than they did in the 1880's, directly and negatively impacting the food  
64 chain. The adverse effects of climate change are already being seen all around New  
65 York State from our great Adirondacks to major cities in the form of annual  
66 flooding, storms and heat waves which cause direct human death, injury to  
67 property and ecological damage. Mitigating the impacts of climate change is vital to  
68 the future of New York State. The recently enacted Climate Leadership and  
69 Community Protection Act set admirable goals to reduce emissions and increase  
70 renewable energy goals, but they were not enough. This bill seeks to reassess  
71 those aspirational goals to more aggressively counteract the impact of emissions on  
72 climate change and to more fully commit to renewable energy efforts. As Governor  
73 Andrew Cuomo noted when the original Climate Leadership and Community  
74 Protection Act was passed, the passage of this bill will solidify New York State's  
75 undisputed position as a global leader in climate and clean energy".

76 **Fiscal Implications**

77 There are no known negative fiscal implications to the State. This bill provides a  
78 slight increase to the aspirational goals set forth in the Climate Leadership and  
79 Community Protection Act recently passed to more aggressively combat climate  
80 change. Although there may be a slight increase in cost to meet the goals set forth  
81 but the savings on environmental cleanup costs will offset any increased expenses  
82 and will save the state funds over the long term.

83 **Environmental Implications**

84 The state and its communities will benefit from this bill. This bill will bring many  
85 positive effects to health for the citizens of our state by ensuring that they have  
86 safe and healthy water and air. This commitment will induce individuals to want to  
87 move to New York State to take advantage of the clean air and water.

88 **Effective Date**

89 The law will go into effect one year following the date of its passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-10

1 **Sponsors:** Armand Chancellor, Jacob Taylor, Matthew Vlacich, George Laopodis

2

3 **An Act To:** Amend § 120.08 of penal law to make assaulting a first responder a class  
4 A felony.

5

6

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

8

9 **Purpose:** To make assaulting a first responder a class A felony.

10

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1: Definitions**

13 **First Responder: Peace officer, police officer, firefighter or emergency medical**  
14 **services professional.**

15 **Class C Felony: 3 ½ – 15 years maximum sentence.**

16 **Class A Felony: 20 years to life imprisonment.**

17

18 **Section 2:** A person is guilty of assault on a peace officer, police officer,  
19 firefighter or emergency medical services professional when, with intent to prevent  
20 a peace officer, police officer, a firefighter, including a firefighter acting as a  
21 paramedic or emergency medical technician administering first aid in the  
22 course of performance of duty as such firefighter, or an emergency medical  
23 service paramedic or emergency medical service technician, from performing a  
24 lawful duty, he or she causes serious physical injury to such peace officer, police  
25 officer, firefighter, paramedic or technician. Assault on a peace officer, police  
26 officer, firefighter or emergency medical services professional is a ~~class C felony~~  
27 **class A felony.**

28

29

30 **Justification**

31 Every day, thousands of people all across New York leave their homes in the name  
32 service. These people are first responders who keep our streets and communities  
33 safe. Despite their heroic actions, these people are harassed, assaulted and  
34 sometimes even murdered. It is past time that we protect the men and women who  
35 risk their lives every day. Over 50,000 first responders were assaulted while  
36 performing their duties in 2016. We need ensure our first responders are safe and  
37 able to carry out their jobs successfully.

38

39

40 **Fiscal Implications**





**New York State YMCA  
Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-10

41 It costs around \$69,000 to house an inmate each year in New York. There will not  
42 be a raise in taxes because there is already funding in the state budget.

43

44 **Enviornmental Implications**

45 It will allow first responders to feel protected while performing their duties.

46

47 **Effective Date**

48 One year after passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-12

1 **Sponsors:** Owen Hunt, Jake Conger, Cameron Conger, Michael Berger

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend Section §85 of Article 5A of the New York Cooperative Corporations Law to  
5 add a tax reduction for Worker cooperatives.

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 encourage the development of start-up cooperative corporations in New York by  
11 providing startups with a tax reduction.

12

13 **Summary of Provision**

14 Section 1. Definitions

15 Worker cooperative- A business where worker-members participate in the profits,  
16 oversight, and often management of the enterprise using democratic practices.

17 Section 2

18 § 85

19 a. Applicability of the cooperative corporations law. Except where limited or  
20 excluded in this article, all provisions of this chapter shall apply to worker  
21 cooperatives. The following sections of the cooperative corporations law shall not  
22 apply to worker cooperatives paragraph (e) of section three, section eleven,  
23 section twelve, section fifteen, section sixteen, section seventeen, section eighteen,  
24 section forty-six, section seventy, section seventy-one, section seventy-two  
25 section seventy-four, section seventy-five, section seventy-six and section  
26 seventy-seven.

27 b. Tax Reductions for Worker cooperative: If a startup cooperative corporation  
28 meets the above previously stated criteria, and has not been operating for over 10  
29 years, it will fall into one of three tax brackets. The maximum amount of years a  
30 cooperative corporation can receive the following tax breaks is 10 consecutive

31 c. If a cooperative corporation employs 2-3 full-time personnel, it will receive a  
32 10% gross tax reduction. If a cooperative corporation employs 4-19 full-time  
33 personnel, it will receive a 12% gross tax reduction. If a cooperative corporation  
34 employs 20 or more full-time personnel, it will receive a 15% tax reduction.

35

36

37

38



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-12

39 **Justification**

40 In modern times, the movement of jobs overseas and the automation of several  
41 industries has negatively impacted working standards. One of the primary causes of  
42 these detrimental developments is the prioritization of profit over workers'  
43 livelihoods. Worker cooperatives offer the best solution to this issue. Worker  
44 cooperatives allow employees to vote in a democratic system to decide company  
45 affairs and policies. This ensures not only that the staff's needs are considered, but  
46 also encourages the invigoration and involvement of their workers. Worker  
47 cooperative models are proven in several studies to lead to a rise in working  
48 standards, as well as an increase in businesses' resilience in the market. For  
49 example, a 2008 study in Quebec showed that co-ops had a five-year survival rate  
50 of 62% and a ten-year survival rate of 44%. This is compared to 35% and 20%  
51 respectively, for other Quebec businesses based on the traditional model. By  
52 utilizing a tiered tax break system, this beneficial and employee-business structure  
53 can develop and prosper in New York State.

54

55 **Fiscal Implications**

56 The fiscal implications of this bill include the previously stated tax reductions for  
57 startup cooperative corporations.

58

59 **Environmental Implications**

60 There are no environmental implications in this bill.

61

62 **Effective Date**

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

64

65

66



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-15

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39

**Sponsors:** Alex Fenstermacher, Benjamin Finkel, Uriel Korin, Ayden Williams

**An Act To**

Amend section §3210 of NYS Consolidated Law, Education Law to add physical and mental sickness days excused from school.

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

**Purpose**

The bill will grant students excused absences from school on the basis of physical or mental illness.

**Summary of Provisions**

**Section 1**

**Excused absence:** any occasion in which a student misses school and may make up work from classes missed.

**Physical illness:** a disease or period of sickness affecting the body.

**Mental illness:** a disorder that affects mood, thinking, and behavior.

**Medical Professional:** one who provides healthcare treatment and advice based on formal training and experience, i.e. those who work as a physician, surgeon, nurse, dentist, psychologist, or psychiatrist.

**Section 2**

**Section 3210**

1. c. In the event that a person requests the release of a minor required by the provisions of part one of this article to attend upon instruction, the identity of such person shall be verified against a list of names provided by the person or persons in parental relation to the minor, as defined in section two of this chapter, at the time of such minor's enrollment. The school district may adopt appropriate procedures for the purpose of submitting a list of names at a later date or updating the list of names provided by the person or persons in parental relation. If such person is identified as one of those persons included on such list, such minor may be released from attendance. If such person is identified as a person not included on such list, such minor may not be released except in the event of an emergency as determined in the sole discretion of the principal of the school, or his designee, provided that the person or persons in parental relation to the minor have been contacted and have agreed to such release. A school district may presume that either



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 2

Bill #:AF-15

40 parent of the student has authority to obtain the release of said minor unless  
41 the school district has been provided with a certified copy of the legally  
42 binding instrument such as the court order or decree of divorce, separation  
43 or custody which provides evidence to the contrary. No situation shall be  
44 deemed an emergency until the facts of such situation have been verified by  
45 such principal or his designee. No civil or criminal liability shall arise or attach  
46 to any school district or employee thereof for any act or omission to act as a  
47 result of, or in connection with, the duties or activities authorized or directed  
48 by this paragraph. The foregoing procedure shall not apply to release of a  
49 minor pursuant to the protective custody provisions of the social services law  
50 and the family court act.

51 d. Absence for any of the below reasons shall be excused by the school for  
52 up to three days per marking period with any additional day requiring written  
53 consent from a medical professional:

54 (i) Physical or mental illness

55 (ii) Any other reason deemed fit by the school district

56

57 **Justification**

58 This bill is important because nearly half (49%) of high school students reported  
59 feeling extreme stress on a daily basis (NYU Study). Excessive stress can lead to  
60 lifelong illnesses such as auto-immune disorders. To reduce stress, letting students  
61 take mental health days would greatly allow them to catch up on work and manage  
62 their time. Moreover, in the United States, almost half of adults (46.4 percent) will  
63 experience a mental illness during their lifetime. It would give a substantial  
64 opportunity for those with mental illness to thrive in the school atmosphere by  
65 taking a day off when needing to recalibrate. This bill will also promote openness in  
66 regard to mental health, helping millions of students who struggle with it find aid  
67 more easily. Fighting mental illness is an important step for modern society, and it  
68 begins at the school level, helping students succeed.

69

70 **Fiscal Implications**

71 There are minimal fiscal implications for this bill due to the fact that changing  
72 attendance has no monetary cost.

73

74 **Environmental Implications**

75 There are minimal environmental implications to this bill.

76

77 **Effective Date**

78 This bill will go into effect on July 1st, 2020.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-16

1 **Sponsors:** Kate Happy, Allison Lapinski, and Colin Hansen

2

3 **An Act To** Amend Agriculture and Markets Law Section 353-A to prohibit New York  
4 State residents with animal cruelty felony charges from working with demographics  
5 that are most at-risk for abuse through a classification on every felon's driver's  
6 license, which is newly designated to them after their sentencing.

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 ensure the safety of all demographics that are directly at risk for abuse by a  
12 previously convicted animal cruelty felon.

13

14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 **Section 1**

16 **Felony:** a title given to any individual who has perpetuated or instigated a crime  
17 related to animal cruelty, of any class or level.

18 **Foster child:** any child who is currently in the custody of the foster system or is a  
19 ward of the state.

20 **Domestic violence victim:** any man, woman, or child that is the victim of domestic  
21 violence and is living outside of the home, in a shelter, or has claimed that the  
22 home is not safe enough to reside in due to the threat of a domestically abusive  
23 parent, sibling, guardian, spouse, or an otherwise abusive member of a family.

24 **Rehabilitation:** a facility in which an individual is working on or seeking to solve an  
25 issue such as drug addiction, sex addiction, alcohol addiction, mental illness, or  
26 other issue that interferes with the person's stability and/or everyday life. A  
27 combination of any previously mentioned rehabilitation methods (i.e. someone  
28 seeks to rid themselves of drug and sex addiction simultaneously) is especially  
29 important in the context of the bill.

30 **Animal Cruelty:** the degradation or legitimate harming of an animal. In the context  
31 of the bill, animal cruelty shall have resulted in the conviction of a felony charge  
32 pursuant to section 55.10 of the New York State penal code.

33

34 **Section 2**

35 Aggravated cruelty to animals is a felony. A defendant convicted of this offense  
36 shall be sentenced pursuant to paragraph (b) of subdivision one of section 55.10 of  
37 the penal law provided, however, that any term of imprisonment imposed for  
38 violation of this section shall be a definite sentence, which may not exceed two  
39 years. In addition, a classification on the felon in question's driver's license shall be  
40 presented after conviction in the form of a label above the "organ donor"  
41 classification that reads "ACF" for "animal cruelty felon". The felon will pay \$100 for  
42 a new driver's license with the incorporated label unless the felon is at or below the  
43 poverty line, in which case they will receive a fee waiver. The label will be present



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-16

44 on every license in the felon’s possession thereafter. A felon with this classification  
45 shall be prohibited from holding a position of power over or a position of work with  
46 inherently helpless or otherwise at-risk demographics, including foster children,  
47 students, people in rehabilitation, or domestic violence victims. The classification  
48 will be reviewed by employers who oversee places of work that involve caring for or  
49 working closely with the demographics outlined in section 1, and felons with this  
50 specific classification cannot be hired by these establishments by law. If an  
51 employer hires a felon with the aforementioned label on their driver’s license, they  
52 will be subject to a fine of \$5,000.

53

54 **Justification**

55 Animal abusers are overlooked when it comes to the social classification of violent  
56 felons. There is a direct correlation between animal abuse and abuse of people,  
57 specifically towards those in a position of supposed inferiority towards the abuser.  
58 Domestic violence and violence against animals are specifically linked, according to  
59 American Humane; a survey of pet-owning families with substantial child abuse and  
60 neglect run by this organization found that 88% of homes where child abuse was  
61 present also involved abuse of pets. The abuse of children and animals is correlated  
62 because abusers target demographics that are both accessible and typically viewed  
63 as inferior to them to carry out aggressive acts. Children are often moved to foster  
64 care as a preventative method against abuse and neglect, both of which leave them  
65 vulnerable and often traumatized. This, in turn, makes it easy for an abuser to take  
66 advantage of their fragility and target them. While animal cruelty certainly does not  
67 always entail bestiality, an abuser can also take advantage of children in a sexual  
68 manner. If foster children are placed in an abuser’s care or allowed to work closely  
69 with an abuser, there is a high risk that they will ultimately suffer the  
70 consequences. Violent felons, especially cruelty-related ones, should not be allowed  
71 to work with this demographic.. By prohibiting animal cruelty felons from working  
72 with New York State residents that are most at-risk for abuse, the State can be a  
73 leader in the prevention of abuse and ensuring the safety of all people who are at  
74 risk due to their youth or low level of stability.

75

76 **Fiscal Implications**

77 The state will make \$10-\$20 profit for every new driver’s license issued to each  
78 felon (given that they are not at liberty to utilize the fee waiver). Otherwise, there  
79 are no expected fiscal implications.

80

81 **Environmental Implications**

82 There are no expected environmental implications of this bill.

83

84 **Effective Date**

85 The law will go into effect one calendar year after passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #: AF-17

1 **Sponsors:** Orion Crossman, Alison Diaz, Abigail Stringer

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend section 125.05 of the penal code in order to make the intentional killing of a  
5 pregnant person and their fetus a first-degree murder.

6

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

9 **Purpose**

10 This bill is necessary because it is important to ensure appropriate justice for  
11 serious offenders who are responsible for the death of a parent and fetus.

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1**

14 Class D felony: A class D felony results in fines and prison sentences typically  
15 ranging from 3-6 years

16 Abortional act: An Abortional act is an action with the ultimate outcome being the  
17 miscarriage of an unborn fetus:

18 Viable fetus: A viable fetus is a fetus that is far enough into development to where  
19 it can survive outside of the uterus under normal circumstances.

20 First-degree murder: A first degree murder in New York State is classified as a  
21 premeditated murder, felony murder or murder under "special circumstances"  
22 which include killing police officers or firefighters.

23 **Section 2**

24 S 125.45 abortion in the first degree.

25 a person is guilty of abortion in the first degree when he commits

26 upon a female pregnant for more than twenty-four weeks an abortional act

27 which causes the miscarriage of such female, unless such abortional act is

28 justifiable pursuant subdivision three of section 125.05. If this abortional act results

29 in the death of the pregnant person as well as their unborn fetus, this will

30 automatically be qualified as a first-degree murder under the New York State penal  
31 code.

32 **Justification**

33 A study has proven that from 1990 to 2016, a recorded 20% of people who are

34 pregnant and die during their pregnancy are murdered. Due to the current laws

35 regarding abortion, the non-consensual abortion of a fetus only requires minimal

36 punishment. The fact that according to the CDC the second leading cause of death

37 for pregnant women is homicide in the US, we can ensure that following through

38 with this amendment will ensure that those who are murdered during their

39 pregnancy and lose their unborn fetus in the process are provided justice. The





**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #: AF-17

40 results of this bill will be that the murderer(s) will be sentenced to life in prison  
41 without parole and without judge discretion.

42 **Fiscal Implications**

43 This bill after being taken into effect will cost roughly \$60,000 per inmate annually.

44 **Environmental Implications**

45 There are minimal environmental implications for this bill.

46 **Effective Date**

47 This bill will be taken into effect one year after passing.

48



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-18

1 **Sponsors:** Harrison Bender, Skyler Mongardi, Baylee Vester

2  
3 **An Act To**

4 Amend § 70.70 of the New York State Penal Law to mandate the rehabilitation of  
5 minors convicted of possession of controlled substances.

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 provide rehabilitation for minors convicted of possession of controlled  
11 substances.

12  
13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Controlled Substance: A drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession, or use is  
16 regulated by a government, such as illicitly used drugs or prescription medications  
17 that are designated by law.

18 Schedule II Drug: Substances in this schedule have a high potential for abuse  
19 which may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.

20 Minor: A person under the age of full legal responsibility.

21 Class A Misdemeanor: A court may sentence an individual to a maximum of one  
22 year in jail or three years probation. In addition, a fine of up to \$1,000 or twice the  
23 amount of the individual's gain from the crime may be imposed.

24 Class D Non-Violent Felony: Ranges from No Jail with Probation, to a maximum of 7  
25 years.

26 **Section 2:**

27 § 70.70 Sentence of Imprisonment for felony drug offender other than a class A  
28 felony.

29 (d) The court may direct that a determinate sentence imposed on a  
30 defendant convicted of a class B felony, other than the class B felony defined in  
31 section 220.48 of this chapter, pursuant to this subdivision be executed as a  
32 sentence of parole supervision in accordance with section 410.91 of the criminal  
33 procedure law.

34  
35 (e) The court will direct that a determinate sentence imposed on a  
36 defendant, who is a minor, convicted of a class A misdemeanor or a class D felony  
37 pursuant to this subdivision, will be executed as a sentence of appropriate  
38 mandatory rehabilitation in accordance with section §220.03 and §220.06 of the  
39 penal law.

40  
41 **Justification**



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-18

42 One in five adults admit to abusing recreational or prescription drugs during their  
43 teenage years, meaning nearly two hundred thousand children admitted to being  
44 victimized by the lack of guidance in our communities and court system. There are  
45 certainly thousands more people not admitting to abusing these drugs that are  
46 likely feeling the lasting effects every day, and something needs to lower this  
47 number. Community organizations such as the Office of Addiction Services and  
48 Supports (OASAS), New York State Health Council, and The Substance Abuse and  
49 Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) are doing their part, yet our court  
50 systems seem to frequently come up short with a seventy-seven percent recidivism  
51 rate of drug offenders. With our bill, there will be less recidivism due to the  
52 rehabilitation of these vulnerable minor offenders as there were in other nations.

53

54 **Fiscal Implications**

55 State rehabilitation centers are already covered by the state budget. Any non-state  
56 rehabilitation centers will be paid for by the insurance company the individual is  
57 under, and the difference will be paid for by the state. If needed, funds will be  
58 added to the budget to compensate for the influx of new patients as it has in the  
59 past.

60

61 **Effective Date**

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



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-19

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38

**Sponsors:** Nadia Nitollano, Maya Reiken, Raquel Sarig

**An Act To**

Amend section 2.20 of the NYS Criminal Procedure Law to state that NYS law enforcement agencies cannot detain, arrest or investigate individuals for immigration enforcement purposes.

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

**Purpose** The purpose of this bill is to make it much more difficult for NYS peace officers to deliberately target individuals due to their immigration status.

**Summary of Provisions**

**Section 1:**

**Detain:** to hold a person in custody, often for purposes of questioning.

**Peace Officer:** any employee of a state, county, or a municipality, a sheriff or other public law enforcement agency.

**Hold Request:** a request to a jail (regarding someone in custody) asking the jail to notify ICE when the person will be released, and to hold the person for an extra 48 hours so that ICE has an opportunity to come get them.

**Civil Immigration Warrant:** a form issued by certain immigration officers that names an allegedly deportable non-citizen and directs various federal immigration enforcement agents to arrest that individual.

**Immigration Status:** the way in which a person is present in the United States.

**Section 2:**

3. A peace officer, whether or not acting pursuant to his special duties, who lawfully exercises any of the powers conferred upon him pursuant to this section, shall be deemed to be acting within the scope of his public employment for purposes of defense and indemnification rights and benefits that he may be otherwise entitled to under the provisions of section fifty-k of the general municipal law, section seventeen or eighteen of the public officers law, or any other applicable section of law.

**4. New York law enforcement agencies shall not use department money or resources to arrest, detain or investigate persons for the purpose of immigration enforcement. This includes any of the following:**

**(A) Inquiring into an individual's immigration status.**

**(B) Detaining an individual on the basis of ICE hold requests.**



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-19

39 (C) Making arrests based on civil immigration warrants.

40

41 **Justification** This bill must be passed due to its enormous significance and  
42 relevance in the world today. The success of sanctuary states and counties is  
43 extremely apparent when looking at the statistics of sanctuary versus non-  
44 sanctuary areas. For instance, a 2019 article from the *Center for American Progress*  
45 expresses that sanctuary counties have lower crime, unemployment, and poverty  
46 rates than non-sanctuary ones. In addition, these regions encourage good  
47 relationships between law enforcement and undocumented immigrants, making  
48 them safer and more humane. NYS becoming a sanctuary state is crucial for  
49 protecting these individuals, statewide, against federal immigration laws that have  
50 the potential to significantly harm or endanger them.

51

52 **Fiscal Implications** This bill will have very limited to no fiscal implications because  
53 the salary of NYS peace officers will not change, only their roles and limitations. In  
54 addition, jail and holding facility expenses will have no reason to rise, since the bill  
55 actually puts limits on arrests and detainment.

56

57 **Environmental Implications** This bill will have limited to no impact on the  
58 environment.

59

60 **Effective Date** This bill will go into effect 6 months after passage.

61



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-22

1 **Sponsors:** Isabella Negron-Main, Sarah Kane, Matthew Murrell

2  
3 **An Act To:** Amend section 2803, subsection j, of the New York Public Health Law to  
4 ensure that no discrimination is placed on viable female sterilizations.

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

7  
8 **Purpose:** This bill is intended to give autonomy back to women attempting to be  
9 sterilized by making it illegal for public hospitals to place egregious discrimination  
10 on women.

11  
12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

- 14 1. **Egregious Discrimination:** Discrimination based on factors such as marital  
15 status, age (over 21), or number of existing children  
16 2. **Tubal Ligation:** a surgical procedure for female sterilization which involves  
17 severing and tying the fallopian tubes  
18 3. **Hysterectomy:** surgical operation to remove all or part of the uterus.  
19 4. **Endometriosis:** a condition resulting from the appearance of endometrial  
20 tissue outside the uterus and causing pelvic pain.  
21 5. **Ovarian Cancer:** Cancer that forms in tissues of the ovary  
22 6. **Fibroids:** a benign tumor of muscular and fibrous tissues, typically developing  
23 in the wall of the uterus.

24 **Section 2:**

25 (j) The commissioner shall require that the statement regarding patient rights  
26 and responsibilities, described in paragraph (g) of this subdivision, shall include a  
27 provision informing the patient of his or her right to not be discriminated against on  
28 account of age, marital status, or number of preexisting children.

29 **Justification:**

30 Many women who are medically perfect candidates for regular sterilization  
31 procedures are denied based on outdated and frankly sexist practices. Some  
32 doctors may cite age, marital status, or lack of existing children as reasons to deny  
33 women sterilizations. There is no medical or scientific basis for these beliefs, and  
34 the denial of these procedures is blatantly ignoring the health of the woman in favor  
35 of saving the functions of her body for her husband or future partner and non-  
36 existent children.

37 **Fiscal Implications:** Funding for these procedures is already allotted for each  
38 hospital, and this bill will not cause any additional cost.

39 **Effective Date:** January first after the passing of the bill.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-23

1 **Sponsors:** James Daniels, Andrew Mastrole

2 **An Act To**

3 Amend Tax Law § 601 changing the New York State personal income tax to 4% for  
4 all income levels.

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

6 **Purpose** This bill will be placed in order to change the New York State personal  
7 income tax at all levels to 4%.

8 **Summary of Provisions**

9 Section 1

10 Imposition of Tax a) Resident married individuals filing joint returns and resident  
11 surviving spouses. There is hereby imposed for each taxable year on the New York  
12 taxable income of every resident married individual who makes a single return  
13 jointly with his spouse under subsection (b) of section six hundred fifty-one and on  
14 the New York taxable income of every resident surviving spouse a tax determined  
15 in accordance with the following tables: (iv) For taxable years beginning in two  
16 thousand twenty-one the following rates shall apply: For resident married  
17 individuals filing joint returns the New York State personal income tax is 4% for all  
18 income amounts. Not over \$17,150 4% of the New York taxable income Over  
19 \$17,150 but not over \$23,600 \$686 plus 4.5% of excess over \$17,150 Over  
20 \$23,600 but not over \$27,900 \$976 plus 5.25% of excess over \$23,600 Over  
21 \$27,900 but not over \$43,000 \$1,202 plus 5.9% of excess over \$27,900 Over  
22 \$43,000 but not over \$161,550 \$2,093 plus 5.97% of excess over \$43,000 Over  
23 \$161,550 but not over \$323,200 \$9,170 plus 6.33% of excess over \$161,550 Over  
24 \$323,200 but not over \$2,155,350 \$2,155,350 plus 6.85% of excess over  
25 \$2,155,350 \$144,905 plus 8.82% of excess over \$2,155,350  
26 (v) For taxable years beginning in two thousand twenty two the following rates  
27 shall apply: If the New York taxable income is: The tax is: Not over \$17,150 4% of  
28 the New York taxable income Over \$17,150 but not over \$23,600 \$686 plus 4.5%  
29 of excess over \$17,150 Over \$23,600 but not over \$27,900 \$976 plus 5.25% of  
30 excess over \$23,600 Over \$27,900 but not over \$161,550 \$1,202 plus 5.85% of  
31 excess over \$27,900 Over \$161,550 but not over \$323,200 \$9,021 plus 6.25% of  
32 excess over \$161,550 Over \$323,200 but not over \$2,155,350 \$19,124 plus 6.85%  
33 of excess over \$323,200 Over \$2,155,350 \$144,626 plus 8.82% of excess over  
34 \$2,155,350  
35 (vi) For taxable years beginning in two thousand twenty three the following rates  
36 shall apply: If the New York taxable income is: The tax is: Not over \$17,150 4% of  
37 the New York taxable income Over \$17,150 but not over \$23,600 \$686 plus 4.5%  
38 of excess over \$17,150 Over \$23,600 but not over \$27,900 \$976 plus 5.25% of  
39 excess over \$23,600 Over \$27,900 but not over \$161,550 \$1,202 plus 5.73% of  
40 excess over \$27,900 Over \$161,550 but not over \$323,200 \$8,860 plus 6.17% of  
41 excess over \$161,550 Over \$323,200 but not over \$18,834 plus 6.85% of



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 3

Bill #:AF-23

42 ~~\$2,155,350 excess over \$323,200 Over \$2,155,350 \$144,336 plus 8.82% of excess~~  
43 ~~over \$2,155,350~~

44 ~~(vii) For taxable years beginning in two thousand twenty four the following rates~~  
45 ~~shall apply: If the New York taxable income is: The tax is: Not over \$17,150 4% of~~  
46 ~~the New York taxable income Over \$17,150 but not over \$23,600 \$686 plus 4.5%~~  
47 ~~of excess over \$17,150 Over \$23,600 but not over \$27,900 \$976 plus 5.25% of~~  
48 ~~excess over \$23,600 Over \$27,900 but not over \$161,550 \$1,202 plus 5.61% of~~  
49 ~~excess over \$27,900 Over \$161,550 but not over \$323,200 \$8,700 plus 6.09% of~~  
50 ~~excess over \$161,550 Over \$323,200 but not over \$18,544 plus 6.85% of~~  
51 ~~\$2,155,350 excess over \$323,200 Over \$2,155,350 \$144,047 plus 8.82% of excess~~  
52 ~~over \$2,155,350~~

53 ~~(viii) For taxable years beginning after two thousand twenty four the following rates~~  
54 ~~shall apply: If the New York taxable income is: The tax is: Not over \$17,150 4% of~~  
55 ~~the New York taxable income Over \$17,150 but not over \$23,600 \$686 plus 4.5%~~  
56 ~~of excess over \$17,150 Over \$23,600 but not over \$27,900 \$976 plus 5.25% of~~  
57 ~~excess over \$23,600 Over \$27,900 but not over \$161,550 \$1,202 plus 5.5% of~~  
58 ~~excess over \$27,900 Over \$161,550 but not over \$323,200 \$8,553 plus 6.00% of~~  
59 ~~excess over \$161,550 Over \$323,200 \$18,252 plus 6.85% of excess over~~  
60 ~~\$323,200~~Section 2

61 **Justification**

62 New York is currently facing a severe problem in which many residents are leaving  
63 the state simply because they cannot afford to live here anymore. Lowering the  
64 personal income tax rate would not only alleviate the stress many residents are  
65 facing but would help stop the mass exodus given that 190,000 residents left to  
66 other states in 2017-2018. The decrease of the tax rate to 4% across all levels of  
67 income would make New York more competitive with other states; currently nine  
68 other states have a flat tax, and seven U.S. states do not impose state income tax  
69 at all. New York had the highest net loss of adjusted gross income with only \$10.7  
70 billion replacing the \$19.1 billion that left in 2016. This is a concerning statistic  
71 since the state of New York is losing a large portion of its tax revenue every year.  
72 In conclusion, this tax cut would save New York families thousands of dollars  
73 depending on income, allowing that extra money to be spent in the local economy,  
74 increasing revenue generated through the sales tax.

75 **Fiscal Implications**

76 Using figures from tax year 2016, the personal income tax collections by NYS would  
77 decrease by roughly 28% while the overall tax collections (including sales, business  
78 tax, etc.) would decrease by only 17% if this bill was enacted.

79 **Environmental Implications** There would be no environmental implications.

80 **Effective Date** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021





**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-24

1 **Sponsors:** Cheryl Attard, Calvin Jean, Sara Rochford

2  
3 **An Act To.** Add § 70.81 of New York State penal law to allow the chemical  
4 castration of criminals who commit rape in the first degree

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

6 **Purpose** The purpose of this bill is to mandate the use of chemical castration on  
7 criminals who commit rape in the first degree. This will allow the rehabilitation of  
8 these criminals and protect the people of New York State from further harm.

9 **Summary of Provisions**

10 Section 1: Definitions

11 Medroxyprogesterone: a hormone used to reduce the sexual desires by offsetting  
12 testosterone in men and estrogen in women.

13 Chemical castration: castration via anaphrodisiac drugs, whether to reduce libido  
14 and sexual activity, to treat cancer, or otherwise

15 Sex offender: a person who commits a crime involving a sexual act.

16 Section 2: summary of provisions

17 § 70.80 5. Sentence of imprisonment for a predicate felony sex offender. (a)

18 Applicability. This subdivision shall apply to a predicate felony sex  
19 offender who stands convicted of a non-violent felony sex offense and  
20 who was previously convicted of one or more felonies.

21 (b) Non-violent predicate felony offense. When the court has found,  
22 pursuant to the provisions of the criminal procedure law, that a person  
23 is a predicate felony sex offender, and the person's predicate  
24 conviction was for a non-violent felony offense, the court must impose a  
25 determinate sentence of imprisonment, the term of which must be fixed by  
26 the court as follows:

27 (c) Violent predicate felony offense. When the court has found,  
28 pursuant to the provisions of the criminal procedure law, that a person  
29 is a predicate felony sex offender, and the person's predicate  
30 conviction was for a violent felony offense, the court must impose a  
31 determinate sentence of imprisonment, the term of which must be fixed by  
32 the court as follows:

33 (i) for a class B felony, the term must be at least nine years and  
34 must not exceed twenty-five years;

35 (ii) for a class C felony, the term must be at least six years and  
36 must not exceed fifteen years;

37 (iii) for a class D felony, the term must be at least four years and  
38 must not exceed seven years; and

39 6. Sentence of imprisonment for a violent felony sex offense. Except  
40 as provided in subdivisions seven and eight of this section, a defendant  
41 who stands convicted of a violent felony sex offense must be sentenced  
42 pursuant to the provisions of section 70.02, section 70.04, subdivision  
43 six of section 70.06, section 70.08, or section 70.10 of this article,  
44 as applicable.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-24

45 7. Sentence for a class A felony sex offense. When a person stands  
46 convicted of a sexually motivated felony pursuant to section 130.91 of  
47 this chapter and the specified offense is a class A felony, the court  
48 must sentence the defendant in accordance with the provisions of:

49 (a) section 60.06 of this chapter and section 70.00 of this article,  
50 as applicable, if such offense is a class A-I felony; and

51 (b) section 70.00, 70.06 or 70.08 of this article, as applicable, if  
52 such offense is a class A-II felony.

53 8. Whenever a juvenile offender stands convicted of a felony sex  
54 offense, he or she must be sentenced pursuant to the provisions of  
55 sections 60.10 and 70.05 of this chapter.

56 9. Every determinate sentence for a felony sex offense, as defined in  
57 paragraph (a) of subdivision one of this section, imposed pursuant to  
58 any section of this article, shall include as a part thereof a period of  
59 post-release supervision in accordance with subdivision two-a of section  
60 70.45 of this article.

61 § 70.81 Should the perpetrator be released from prison for whatever reason, the  
62 perpetrator who has committed rape in the 1<sup>st</sup> degree will hereby be mandated to  
63 undergo chemical treatment of medroxyprogesterone every three months. Should  
64 the person refuse the chemical treatment the person will thereby be sentenced to 4  
65 months of prison as a violation of parole until they decide to take the treatment.

66 **Justification**

67 This bill is needed in New York State with the drug medroxyprogesterone  
68 significantly dropping the recidivisms rate from 75% to 5% in some cases. Giving  
69 sexual offenders this drug will keep the community safe and insure the protection  
70 of society. This bill will also allow the protection of our next generation from people  
71 who seek to harm it. Common bills alike this one are found in an overall 9 states in  
72 the United States supporting chemical castration as an option for 1<sup>st</sup> degree sex  
73 offenders. California one of the most progressive states in the nation has this bill in  
74 effect. Alabama one of the most conservative states in the nation has this bill in  
75 effect this shows how this bill is needed. Regardless of what political stance you  
76 have, one thing remains true this is a serious problem and this bill is the only way  
77 to alleviate this issue. We believe that this bill will positively affect new state as a  
78 whole.

79 **Fiscal Implications**

80 This bill has no known fiscal implications

81 **Environmental Implications**

82 This bill will have no known environmental implications

83 **Effective Date**

84 This bill will go into effect one year after its passage



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-25

**Sponsors:** Jayden Mignot, Max Gollhofer, Emmett Clesceri, Gabby Mowery

**An Act To** Amend Article 5-a § 103 of the General Municipal Law to allow a chief engineer the ability to review a state contract bid.

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

**Purpose:** This bill will create better communication between contracting officers and the engineer. This communication will allow more accurate cost projections, lead to fewer bidding mistakes, and will allow more accurate budgeting for such a project in New York State.

**Summary of Provisions**

**Section 1:**

**Contracting Officer:** Any person who, by appointment in accordance with applicable regulations, has the authority to enter into and administer contracts and make determinations and findings with respect thereto.

**Sealed Bidding:** A sealed bid is a document enclosed in a sealed envelope and is submitted in response to the invitation to bid. Can only be reviewed by contracting officers.

**Engineer and Contracting Officer Bidding:** also known as an ECO bid, it is a sealed envelope and is submitted in response to the invitation to bid. It is reviewed first by the contracting officials, then reviewed by the chief engineer.

**Section 2 m**

1. Except as otherwise expressly provided by an act of the legislature or by a local law adopted prior to September first, nineteen hundred fifty-three, all contracts for public work involving an expenditure of more than thirty-five thousand dollars and all purchase contracts involving an expenditure of more than twenty thousand dollars, shall be awarded by the appropriate officer, board or agency of a political subdivision or of any district therein including but not limited to a soil conservation district to the lowest responsible bidder furnishing the required security after advertisement for sealed ~~Engineer and Contracting Officer~~ bids in the manner provided by this section, provided, however, that purchase contracts (including contracts for service work, but excluding any purchase contracts necessary for the completion of a public works contract pursuant to article eight of the labor law) may be awarded on the basis of best value. A change to or a renewal of a discretionary purchase shall not be permitted if the change or renewal would bring the reasonably expected aggregate amount of all purchases of the same commodities,



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-25

40 services or technology from the same provider within the twelve-month period  
41 commencing on the date of the first purchase to an amount greater than the  
42 discretionary buying threshold amount. For purposes of this section, "~~sealed~~  
43 Engineer and Contracting Officer bids" and "~~sealed~~ Engineer and Contracting Officer  
44 offers", as that term applies to purchase contracts.

45

46 \* 1. Except as otherwise expressly provided by an act of the legislature or by a  
47 local law adopted prior to September first, nineteen hundred fifty-three, all  
48 contracts for public work involving an expenditure of more than thirty-five thousand  
49 dollars and all purchase contracts involving an expenditure of more than twenty  
50 thousand dollars, shall be awarded by the appropriate officer, board or agency of a  
51 political subdivision or of any district therein including but not limited to a soil  
52 conservation district to the lowest responsible bidder furnishing the required  
53 security after advertisement for ~~sealed~~ Engineer and Contracting Officer bids in the  
54 manner provided by this section, provided, however, that purchase contracts  
55 (including contracts for service work, but excluding any purchase contracts  
56 necessary for the completion of a public works contract pursuant to article eight of  
57 the labor law) may be awarded on the basis of best value

58 5. Upon the adoption of a resolution by a vote of at least three-fifths of all the  
59 members of the governing body of a political subdivision or district therein stating  
60 that, for reasons of efficiency or economy, there is need for standardization,  
61 purchase contracts for a particular type or kind of equipment, material, supplies or  
62 services in excess of the monetary threshold fixed for purchase contracts in this  
63 section may be awarded by the appropriate officer, board or agency of such political  
64 subdivision or any such district therein, to the lowest responsible bidder or  
65 responsible offerer furnishing the required security after advertisement for ~~sealed~~  
66 Engineer and Contracting Officer bids or ~~sealed~~ Engineer and Contracting Officer  
67 offers therefore in the manner provided in this section.

68 **Justification:** Communication is huge factor if Being an engineer. Someone over  
69 70% of all engineers working for The state of New York are seeking change for the  
70 current bidding system, something definitely needs to be done. With the current  
71 system in place, A bit request can only be reviewed by one contracting officer, a bid  
72 request can only be reviewed by one contracting officer. My bill, however, will allow  
73 the chief engineer and the contracting officer to look at the bid offer, which can  
74 allow a more accurate budget protection, and better chance of finding something  
75 wrong within a bill structure.

76 **Fiscal Implications** n/a

77 **Environmental Implications:** n/a

78 **Effective Date:** 1 January 2020



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #: AF-26

1 **Sponsors:** Genevieve Greene, Lealah Greene, Sofia Marra

2  
3 **An Act To** Amend §201 of New York State Workers Compensation law to include  
4 teachers and employees of school districts as eligible employees for paid parental  
5 leave.

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

8  
9 **Purpose** The purpose of this bill is to change employee eligibility for paid parental  
10 leave to include teachers and employees of schools and school districts.

11  
12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 Section 1: Definitions

14 Parental Leave: An available employee benefit in the United States. Includes  
15 paternity leave, maternity leave, and adoption leave. Also known as family leave.  
16 FMLA: Family and Medical Leave Act. A federal law that entitles eligible employee in  
17 the United States for up to 12 weeks unpaid, job protected leave for reasons such  
18 as child birth, adoption, caring for a pregnant spouse, or a sick family member.  
19 Sick Leave: Time workers can take off to address their health without losing pay.

20  
21 Section 2:

22 5. "Employee" means a person engaged in the service of an employer in any  
23 employment defined in subdivision six of this section, except a minor child of the  
24 employer, except a duly ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister, priest or  
25 rabbi, a sexton, a christian science reader, or member of a religious order, or an  
26 executive officer of a corporation who at all times during the period involved owns  
27 all of the issued and outstanding stock of the corporation and holds all of the offices  
28 pursuant to paragraph (e) of section seven hundred fifteen of the business  
29 corporation law or two executive officers of a corporation who at all times during  
30 the period involved between them own all of the issued and outstanding stock of  
31 such corporation and hold all such offices provided, however, that each officer must  
32 own at least one share of stock, except as provided in section two hundred twelve  
33 of this article, or an executive officer of an incorporated religious, charitable or  
34 educational institution, ~~or persons engaged in a professional or teaching capacity in~~  
35 ~~or for a religious, charitable or educational institution,~~ or volunteers in or for a  
36 religious, charitable or educational institution, ~~or persons participating in and~~  
37 ~~receiving rehabilitative services in a sheltered workshop operated by a religious,~~  
38 ~~charitable or educational institution under a certificate issued by the United States~~  
39 ~~department of labor,~~ or recipients of charitable aid from a religious or charitable



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #: AF-26

40 institution who perform work in or for the institution which is incidental to or in  
41 return for the aid conferred, and not under an express contract of hire. The terms  
42 "religious, charitable or educational institution" mean a corporation, unincorporated  
43 association, community chest, fund or foundation organized and operated  
44 exclusively for religious, charitable or educational purposes, no part of the net  
45 earnings of which inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual.

46

47 **Justification**

48 Every year thousands of teachers in the nation are denied paid parental  
49 leave. FMLA laws only protect job security and entitle employees to unpaid leave.  
50 Paid leave is a state's rights issue. Unlike most developed countries, the United  
51 States does not mandate paid parental leave. New York requires paid leave for  
52 most every employee whether employed privately or publicly. Several other state  
53 employees are given paid parental leave under Workers Compensation Article 9  
54 Section 204; however, teachers are still denied the ability to work and have a  
55 family. Washington, New Jersey, Washington D.C., Delaware, and New York City  
56 allows their teachers to take paid parental leave. Without paid leave, teachers are  
57 having to rush back into work while still healing and can be heavily unprepared to  
58 re-enter the classroom. An average public-school teacher gets twelve sick days a  
59 year. To save up to take the minimum six weeks off with sick days would be four  
60 years of perfect job attendance. Research has shown that children benefit greatly  
61 from their parents having paid parental leave. Improved health outcomes, lower  
62 rates of postpartum depression, and more and longer breastfeeding are just a few  
63 positive outcomes of paid parental leave. 77% of teachers are female with the  
64 average age being 42, teachers continue to have to choose between their job and  
65 their children.

66

67 **Fiscal Implications**

68 Increasing the New York Insurance Fund by \$36 million will allow for 32.6% of all  
69 New York state teachers to take paid parental leave. These expenses will be  
70 allocated from the budget's rainy day fund until the New York Insurance Fund has  
71 sufficiently grown to support the cost effects of paid parental leave.

72

73 **Environmental Implications**

74 Employees will feel freer to start families. More children will be born, leading to an  
75 increase in the population of New York.

76

77 **Effective Date**

78 August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-28

1

2 **Sponsors:** Willa Einstein, Celia Holden, Jimena Perez-Tetuan, Zaida Rio Polanco

3

4 **An Act To**

5 An act to amend §267 of New York State Consolidated Public Health Law in order to  
6 provide feminine hygiene products for public housing tenants

7

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

9

10 **Purpose** Make feminine hygiene products available at no cost for women in New  
11 York State public housing

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 **Public housing** - housing provided for people with low incomes (less than \$58,450  
15 annually), subsidized by public funds

16 **Feminine hygiene products** - pads and tampons

17 **Secondary schools** - public schools at the middle and high school level

18 **Section 2: Provisions**

19 All elementary and secondary public schools in the state serving students in any  
20 grade from grade six through grade twelve shall provide feminine hygiene products  
21 in the restrooms of such school building or buildings. Along with elementary and  
22 secondary public schools, feminine hygiene products should be provided in public  
23 housing as well. Such products shall be provided at no charge to students and  
24 tenants.

25

26 **Justification**

27 This bill is important because it makes sure that menstruating women living in  
28 public housing have access to products like pads and tampons. In many struggling  
29 families, paying for food, rent and heat might be seen as more important than  
30 paying for pads and tampons. Women would be forced to either bleed through  
31 clothing or use other alternatives which could be unsanitary and harmful.

32 Secondary schools already provide these supplies for menstruating girls in all  
33 bathrooms. It is immoral to abandon adults living in public housing with these  
34 unnecessary costs. These are women that have to stretch out paychecks on a daily  
35 basis. They should not have to spend their money on these supplies.

36

37 **Fiscal Implications**



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Freedom 4

Bill #:AF-28

38 New York State would spend approximately \$100 every year on one family in need  
39 of period products. There are 9,121 households living in New York State public  
40 housing. This means that it would cost \$912,100 per year to fund this bill. Although  
41 this may seem excessive, the New York State Health budget is \$74,210,952,000, so  
42 this bill would only require a reallocation of 0.000012% of the New York State  
43 Health budget funds.

44

45 **Environmental Implications**

46 Pads and tampons do have a significant impact on the amount of plastic pollution  
47 created. In fact, close to 20 billion sanitary napkins, tampons and applicators are  
48 dumped into North American landfills every year. These products are not  
49 biodegradable since they are 90% plastic and their materials could potentially  
50 spend hundreds of years in our landfills. Alternative options of disposing feminine  
51 supplies are not much better. Burning them would release even more detrimental  
52 greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.

53 Furthermore, a year's worth of a typical feminine hygiene products leaves a carbon  
54 footprint of 5.3 kg CO2 equivalents. The materials that are used to make these  
55 pads and tampons contribute to plastic pollution. This is an already existing  
56 problem in our society that is not addressed often enough.

57

58 **Effective Date**

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





**New York State YMCA**

**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-02

**Sponsors:** Olivia Lombardo

**An Act To:** Amend § 901 Title 1 Article 19 of the Education Law to implement Condom Availability Programs (CAPs) to public high schools in New York State.

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

**Purpose:** This bill will provide public high school students with free and accessible contraceptives via the school they attend.

**Summary of Provisions**

§ 901. School health services to be provided. 1. School health services, as defined in subdivision two of this section, shall be provided by each school district for all students attending the public schools in this state, except in the city school district of the city of New York, as provided in this article. School health services shall include the services of a registered professional nurse, if one is employed, and shall also include such services as may be rendered as provided in this article in examining students for the existence of disease or disability and in testing the eyes and ears of such students, as well as providing students with condoms upon request.

2. School health services for the purposes of this article shall mean the several procedures including, but not limited to, medical examinations, dental inspection and/or screening, scoliosis screening, vision screening and audiometer tests, designed to determine the health status of the child; to inform parents or other persons in parental relation to the child, pupils and teachers of the individual child's health condition subject to federal and state confidentiality laws; to guide parents, children and teachers in procedures for preventing and correcting defects and diseases; to instruct the school personnel in procedures to take in case of accident or illness; to survey and make necessary recommendations concerning the health and safety aspects of school facilities and the provision of health information. Additionally, condoms will be made free and accessible to students at their request and will be distributed by a registered professional nurse, if one is employed.

**Justification** It is a simple fact that teens are engaging in sexual intercourse--70% of teenagers in New York State reported to have had sex by the time they were 19. However, the methods by which teens are engaging in this kind of sexual activity are often unsafe due to their stigmatization. In New York State alone, according to research produced by Planned Parenthood, over half of teenagers feel



**New York State YMCA**

**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-02

uncomfortable talking to their parents about sex; this, combined with a lack of access to condoms without parental approval or adequate monetary resources, does not actually deter teens from engaging in sexual intercourse, according to the Guttmacher Institute. Rather, it does the opposite: teens continue to have sex, but they do so without the proper protection. When implemented in schools everywhere from Massachusetts to Colorado, CAPs programs showed a significant decrease in unplanned pregnancies, an increase in the use of protection during sex, and no significant increase or decrease in sexual activity among high school students. These programs were proven to be both effective and necessary, promoting access, safety, and a more informed student body.

**Fiscal Implications** The state will incur a \$522,900 annual cost.

**Environmental Implications** Due to the nature of condoms as they are traditionally manufactured, both its packaging and the condom itself are made entirely out of plastic--an entity that is detrimental to the environment. However, the greatest burden on the environment to date is not plastic, but humans. Since the usage of condoms reduces unplanned pregnancies, it can be challenged that the increase in plastic condoms may potentially positively, rather than negatively, impact the environment.

**Effective Date** This bill shall go into effect one after passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-03

1 **Sponsors:** John Charleston, Sean Guffanti, Teresa Tran

2

3 **An Act To** Amend Article 9 § 186-a of the New York State Tax Law allow for a 10%  
4 tax deduction on electric companies that use liquid fluoride thorium reactors.

5

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

7

8 **Purpose** To add 10% tax deductions on electric companies that use liquid fluoride  
9 thorium reactors.

10

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1: Definitions**

13 Liquid Fluoride Thorium Reactors: A molten salt based reactor infused with thorium  
14 to produce large amounts of energy.

15 Utility Company: A company is an organization that maintains the infrastructure for  
16 a public service.

17 Corporation: A company or group of people authorized to act as a single entity  
18 (legally a person) and recognized as such in law.

19 **Section 2**

20 (b) The word "person" means persons, corporations, companies,  
21 Associations, joint-stock companies or associations, partnerships and  
22 Limited liability companies, estates, assignee of rents, any person  
23 Acting in a fiduciary capacity, or any other entity, and persons, their  
24 Assignees, lessees, trustees or receivers, appointed by any court  
25 Whatsoever, or by any other means, except the state; municipalities,  
26 Political and civil subdivisions of the state or municipality and public  
27 Districts (provided, however, that with respect to gas, electricity and  
28 Gas or electric service, including the sale of the transportation,  
29 Transmission or distribution of gas or electricity, such municipalities,  
30 Political and civil subdivisions and public districts shall be excluded  
31 From the definition of "person" if they own and operate facilities which  
32 Are used to generate or distribute electricity or distribute gas and  
33 They distribute and sell such gas or electricity solely at retail,  
34 Solely within their respective jurisdiction; or provided, further,

35 10. Electric Companies that start using Liquid Fluoride Thorium reactors as a  
36 primary energy source will get a 10% tax deduction during the construction period.

37 During the construction period all money gained from the tax deduction must go



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-03

38 into the construction effort. Once the plant is active, the companies will receive a  
39 3% tax deduction.

40

41 **Justification**

42 Current energy is fueled by Coal and oil, these two materials produce CO2 which  
43 causes 4.6 million deaths each year. Meanwhile nuclear power caused around 5,000  
44 deaths throughout human history. These reactors produces less waste than  
45 Uranium 235, and 83% of thorium's waste can be used in medicine in 10 years. The  
46 cost of maintaining these reactors will significantly less than solar panels, wind  
47 turbines, hydropower plants, and fossil fuels. The tax payers will be paying around  
48 \$43.46 less per month in electric bills in the future due to the lower cost of the  
49 power plants. New Yorkers today pay an average of \$173.84 a month. These  
50 cheaper electric bills will also increase the company's profit margins. This bill will  
51 also help the rust belt due to their thorium deposits.

52

53 **Fiscal Implications**

54 The bill will cause electric bills to be reduced by 25% for homeowners in the state  
55 due to the low maintenance cost of the facilities, and the excess energy produced.

56

57

58 **Environmental Implications**

59 We will have to build waste management facilities to hold the radioactive waste.  
60 Once the power plant will become active CO2 emissions will decrease greatly due to  
61 less fossil fuels being used, if not eliminated from energy production plants.

62

63 **Effective Date**

64 This bill will go into effect two years after its passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-04

1 **Sponsors:** Madison Brown, Ally Cottier, Meghan Gleason, Haleigh Poudrier

2

3 **An Act To** Amend § 130.30 to change the definition of first degree rape and second  
4 degree rape.

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 change the second degree rape classification of having  
10 sexual intercourse with another person who is incapable of consent because of  
11 mental disability or incapacitation to first degree rape classification. This bill would  
12 change this crime from a class D felony to a class B felony.

13

14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 Section 1: Definitions

16 Rape: a type of sexual assault initiated by one or more persons against another  
17 person without that person's consent. The act may be carried out by physical force,  
18 or where the person is under threat or manipulation, or with a person who is  
19 incapable of valid consent.

20 First degree rape: A person is guilty of rape in the first degree when: (a) He  
21 engages in sexual intercourse with another person by forcible compulsion; or. (b)  
22 He engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is incapable of consent.

23 Second degree rape: (a) Being eighteen (18) years old or more, he engages in  
24 sexual intercourse with another person less than fourteen (14) years old; or. (b) He  
25 engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is mentally incapacitated.

26 Section 2: Provisions

27 § 130.30 Rape in the second degree.

28 A person is guilty of rape in the second degree when:

29 1. being eighteen years old or more, he or she engages in sexual intercourse with  
30 another person less than fifteen years old; or

31 ~~—2. he or she engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is incapable of~~  
32 ~~consent by reason of being mentally disabled or mentally incapacitated.~~

33 It shall be an affirmative defense to the crime of rape in the second degree as defined  
34 in subdivision one of this section that the defendant was less than four years older than  
35 the victim at the time of the act. Rape in the second degree is a class D felony.

36 § 130.35 Rape in the first degree.

37



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-04

38 A person is guilty of rape in the first degree when he or she engages  
39 in sexual intercourse with another person:  
40 1. By forcible compulsion; or  
41 2. Who is incapable of consent by reason of being physically helpless;  
42 or  
43 3. Who is less than eleven years old; or  
44 4. Who is less than thirteen years old and the actor is eighteen years old or more.  
45 5. he or she engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is incapable of  
46 consent by reason of being mentally disabled or mentally incapacitated  
47 Rape in the first degree is a class B felony.  
48

49 **Justification** Second degree rape includes an adult, ages 18 or older, engaging in  
50 sexual intercourse with someone that is younger than 15 years of age or a person  
51 of any age engaging in sexual intercourse with someone unable to give consent  
52 whether they are disabled mentally or incapacitated, meaning unable to give  
53 consent. This may include people who are intoxicated, mentally disabled, influenced  
54 by drugs voluntarily or involuntarily and more. The rape of those aged 15 and  
55 younger and those who are defenseless should not go unseen, therefore  
56 incarceration for only 2-7 is simply not enough and unjust, especially considering  
57 jail time can be cut in half for good behavior. Raising second degree rape to a Class  
58 B felony will ensure the safety of society as well as rightfully punish rapists.  
59

60 **Fiscal Implications** In New York State, it currently costs \$69,355 a year to hold  
61 someone in prison. This cost would increase due to the increased jail time assigned  
62 to those convicted of a Class B felony. The cost would increase from \$138,710-  
63 \$485,485 to hold someone in prison for 2-7 years to \$346,775-\$1,733,875 in order  
64 to imprison someone for 5-25 years. \$31,286 a year per inmate comes from  
65 taxpayers.  
66

67 **Environmental Implications** N/A  
68

69 **Effective Date** January 2021



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-05

1 **Sponsors:** Chris Soler, Neil Lazurus and Grace Gutierrez

2 **An Act To** Amend § 409 of the Educational Law to add safety protocol guides and  
3 trauma kits for each classroom in all New York State public schools.

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

5 **Purpose** This legislation will implement safety protocol guides and trauma kits into  
6 our classrooms in New York State public schools. The guides will enable anyone to  
7 look up information in the event of an emergency and if a staff person is  
8 incapacitated. The trauma kits will contain tourniquets for stopping blood flow in the  
9 case of a gunshot or knife wound.

10 **Summary of Provisions**

11 Section 1

12 Trauma Kits: A pouch with a tourniquet, gloves, directions, and gauze pads to stop  
13 bleeding.

14 Safety Protocol Guides: Custom quick reference guide that will help students, and  
15 staff, and the general public know what steps to follow in an emergency situation.

16 Section 2

17 Section 409

18 3. All school buildings described in paragraph 1 of section 409 shall display Safety  
19 Protocol Guides in all classrooms, auditoriums, gyms, and other gathering spaces  
20 used by students, staff, and the General Public. Trauma Kits shall also be  
21 prominently displayed where staff, students, and the general public can easily  
22 access in case of injuries sustained in the event of an emergency, Safety Protocol  
23 Guides shall have emergency numbers and instructions to evacuate, go into  
24 lockdown mode, shelter in place. What to do if there is a missing child or a medical  
25 emergency Trauma Kits are beneficial to the school in case an unknown occurs  
26 which hurts a child.

27 **Justification**

28 In 2019 there was an average of one school shooting per week. The U.S has 57  
29 times as many school shootings as all other industrialized nations combined. While  
30 implementing Trauma Kits and Safety Protocol Guides will not help stop school  
31 shootings, it will help save lives. About 25% of injuries to children occur while they  
32 are in school. By having trauma kits, students will be able to readily access safety  
33 resources. When parents send their children off to school, they want to send their  
34 children to a safe space for learning and growth, not a battlefield. The passage of  
35 this bill will set a precedent by showing our support of the safety of our schools and  
36 protection of our children.

37 **Fiscal Implications**

38 For 100 Safety Protocol Guides it is \$25 each and 100 trauma kits is \$30 each.

39 **Environmental Implications**

40 This bill will have no impact on New York State wildlife.

41 **Effective Date**

42 This bill will go into effect on January 1st after the bill is proposed.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #: AL-07

1 **Sponsors:** Aiden Genender

2 **An Act To:** amend education law (EDN) section 815 in relation to the Seal of  
3 Bilingualism being made mandatory in New York Schools.

4  
5 *The People of the State of New York, represented in the Senate and Assembly do enact as follows:*  
6

7 **Purpose**

8 All New York State high schools to mandatorily provide the Seal of Bilingualism to  
9 students within their Senior year that can prove that they can speak another  
10 language, other than english, fluently.

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 Section 1

13 Seal of Bilingualism -an award given by a school, district, or state in recognition of  
14 students who have studied and attained proficiency in two or more languages.

15 High School - A Public, Charter, or Nonpublic school that provides a 9th, 10th,  
16 11th, and/or 12th grade education

17 Public school- means a high school funded by tax funds and the local government.

18 Charter school - A high school independently established by teachers, parents or  
19 community groups under the terms

20 of a charter with a local or national government authority.

21 Nonpublic school - means any nonprofit high school in the State of New York, other  
22 than a public school.

23 Senior - A student within their final, or 12th, year of High School.

24 Foreign language - Any language other than English.

25 Fluency - having a proficient ability to read, write, speak, and understand a  
26 language other than English.

27 Section 2

28 Section 815 of Education Law, Title 1, Article 17. State Seal of Bilingualism.

29 a. The state seal of bilingualism is established to recognize high school graduates who  
30 have attained a high level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing  
31 in one or more languages in addition to English. The state seal of bilingualism shall be  
32 awarded by the commissioner. School district participation in this program is  
33 mandatory.

34 **Justification**

35 The fact that not all students who are able to speak fluently in more than one  
36 language, other than English, are not all offered an award that may help them get  
37 into college or obtain a good job in the future when compared to another student  
38 that had the award from a different city or town whose school permitted them to  
39 obtain the award, should be unacceptable, especially when considering that all  
40 students should, theoretically, be offered the same opportunities in school.

41 **Fiscal implications**

42 This bill would incorporate no fiscal implications

43 **Effective Date**

44 This law will take effect at the beginning of the next school year.

45





**New York State YMCA  
Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-08

1 **Sponsors:** Charissa Omans, Kyle Wright, Sierra Reniff, Jocelyn Brick

2  
3 **An Act To** Amend PBH§3309 to Require all Public servants to be issued a dose of  
4 opioid deterrent and have public servants trained in the use of opioid deterrent.

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

7  
8 **Purpose** For public servants to be supplied with doses of opioid deterrent as well  
9 as training in how to use it in emergency situations

10  
11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1**

13 **First sale:** The original exchange of goods from manufacturer to  
14 pharmacy.

15  
16 **High Overdose Death Region** Counties exceeding 19.5 deaths or more  
17 per 100,000 population.

18  
19 **Low Overdose Death Region:** Counties having under 19.5 or fewer  
20 deaths per 100,000 population.

21  
22 **Milligram Equivalent (MMEs):** A way of measuring the absolute  
23 strength of opioid sold by multiplying the number of units sold by the  
24 strength per unit multiplied by the morphine milligram equivalent  
25 conversion factor.

26  
27 **Public Servant:** An employee of a New York State government-funded  
28 institution.

29  
30 **Section 2**

31 **PBH§3309 §7** Require all Public servants to be issued a dose of opioid deterrent,  
32 and have public servants trained in the use of opioid deterrent.

33  
34 **Justification**

35 The opioid crisis has caused great suffering in New York State. In 2017, there  
36 were 3,224 overdose deaths in NY. That's higher than the national average. Nearly  
37 everyone knows someone impacted by opioids, and many know someone who has  
38 died due to an overdose. Opioid deterrents have the potential to save those



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 1

Bill #:AL-08

39 addicted from an untimely death. Public servants come into contact with many at-  
40 risk people and New York State would benefit from training its employees in the use  
41 and administration of this life-saving drug. Many employees have taken it upon  
42 themselves to do exactly this under the existing open prescription for opioid  
43 deterrents program which this bill seeks to extend. With 37.8 prescriptions for  
44 opioids per 100 persons, even law-abiding citizens can benefit. Spending only  
45 0.007% of the NYS budget could have the potential to save up to 1,487 lives. There  
46 were 16.1 overdose-related deaths per 100,000 NYS citizens in 2017. This could  
47 mean a better future for New York, and if other states follow this example, the  
48 nationwide crisis could be on the path to resolution.

49

50 **Fiscal Implications**

51 Opioid deterrent costs \$20 per dose. New York State employs roughly  
52 325,000 civil servants. For one dose per employee, that would be \$6,500,000, and  
53 for two doses per employee, the cost would be \$13,000,000. With two doses per  
54 employee, that would cost approximately 0.007% of the budget. The current tax  
55 rates under the existing Opioid Excise tax are \$.0025 on each morphine milligram  
56 equivalent with less than \$.50 per unit and \$.015 on each morphine milligram  
57 equivalent with a cost of \$.50 or more per unit. We could raise each by 50% so:  
58 \$.00375 per each morphine milligram equivalent worth <\$.50 per unit and \$.03 per  
59 each morphine milligram equivalent worth >\$.50 per unit.

60

61 **Environmental Implications**

62 Minimal environmental implications are expected.

63

64 **Effective Date**

65 1 year after the passing of this bill becomes law



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-09

1 **Sponsors:** Justin Cooke, Kenny Schneider, Adam Schultzer, Ian Hua

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend section 94 of the New York State Social Service Law by adding subsection 5  
5 to have free or reduced meals for all eligible students attending a public college in  
6 New York

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

8 **Purpose**

9 The purpose of the bill is to make it easier for students that attend public college by  
10 making it cheaper for them to get meals.

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1: Definitions**

13 **Eligible:** Having the right to do or obtain something.

14 **Participate:** to take part in an activity.

15 **Section 2:**

16 § 94. Federal donated commodities. 1. (a) Until his social services  
17 district has been included in the food stamp distribution program or  
18 programs under section ninety-five, each commissioner of social services  
19 is authorized and required, in accordance with regulations of the  
20 department, to assist needy families and individuals of his social  
21 services district to obtain federal donated commodities for their use,  
22 by certifying, when such is the case, that they are eligible to receive  
23 such commodities, and by distributing such commodities to eligible  
24 families and individuals. However, only those who are receiving or are  
25 eligible for public assistance or care and such others as may qualify in  
26 accordance with federal requirements and standards promulgated by the  
27 department shall be certified as eligible to receive such commodities.

28 (b) Each commissioner of social services shall develop and submit to  
29 the department for its approval a plan describing his district's  
30 operations under this section, which plan shall accord with federal and  
31 state requirements.

32 2. Federal donated commodities shall not be deemed or construed to be  
33 public assistance and care or a substitute, in whole or in part,  
34 therefor; and the receipt of such commodities by eligible families and  
35 individuals shall not subject them, their legally responsible relatives,  
36 their property or their estates to any demand, claim or liability on  
37 account thereof.

38 3. A person's need or eligibility for public assistance or care shall  
39 not be affected by his receipt of federal donated commodities.

40 4. Any inconsistent provisions of law notwithstanding, expenditures  
41 made by social services districts for the purpose of certifying



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-09

42 eligibility of needy families and individuals for federal donated  
43 commodities and for distributing such commodities to them shall be  
44 deemed to be expenditures for the administration of public assistance  
45 and care and shall be subject to reimbursement by the state in  
46 accordance with the provisions of section one hundred fifty-three to the  
47 extent of one hundred percentum thereof.

48 5. An act to add section 5 of the New York State Social Service Law by adding to  
49 have free or reduced meals for all eligible students attending a public college in  
50 New York. (a). The student will be eligible for free or reduced meals by how much  
51 income the family makes.

52 (i)The students will be determined eligible through the same chart the public  
53 schools already use.

54 (ii)The students must go through the eligibility chart again whether they were  
55 eligible in high school. Students from families with a household income of \$70,000  
56 a year are eligible for reduced lunch.

57 (iii)The reduced percent for meals will be estimated around 84% of the annual price  
58 of the meal plan for a year

59

60 **Justification**

61 According to market watch 45% of college students struggled to feed themselves  
62 last year. Within America, New York is the 6<sup>th</sup> most expensive state to go to college.  
63 To decrease this percent, this bill will, make it so the students can have free or  
64 reduced meals.

65 **Fiscal Implications**

66 The cost of this program will be paid for by the taxpayers of New York at a rate of only \$1.10 a  
67 month.

68 **Effective Date**

69 The upcoming school year after passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-10

1 **Sponsors:** Alexis Ahn, Phoenix McBride, Heidi Becken

2 **An Act To**

3 Amend Article 22, section 623.2 of Correction Law to require the state to provide  
4 free domestic telephone service to individuals within the custody of the department  
5 of corrections.

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 ensure that the earnings of prisoners and their potentially financially burdened  
11 families are not further diminished by unscrupulous and exorbitant phone call fees.  
12 This amendment additionally seeks to reduce recidivism rates, decrease the  
13 financial burden on the families of those incarcerated, and incentivize the reduction  
14 of costs associated with incarceration by policymakers.

15  
16 **Summary of Provisions**

17 **Section 1: Definitions**

18 Commissioner: The Commissioner of Correction; the head of the Commission of  
19 Correction, the body tasked with providing for a safe, stable, and humane  
20 correctional system.

21 Prison: a secure facility operated by a state or the federal government that houses  
22 people who have been convicted of a felony criminal offence and are serving a  
23 sentence of (typically) 1 year or more.

24 **Section 2:**

25 § 623.2 Telephone Fees.

26 ~~2. The department shall make available either a "prepaid" or "collect call" system,~~  
27 ~~or a combination thereof, for telephone service. Under the "prepaid" system, funds~~  
28 ~~may be deposited into an account in order to pay for station to station calls,~~  
29 ~~provided that nothing in this subdivision shall require the department to provide or~~  
30 ~~administer a prepaid system. Under a "collect call" system, call recipients are~~  
31 ~~billed for the cost of an accepted telephone call initiated by an inmate. Under~~  
32 ~~such "collect call" system, the provider of inmate telephone service, as an~~  
33 ~~additional means of payment, must permit the recipient of inmate calls to~~  
34 ~~establish an account with such provider in order to deposit funds to pay for such~~  
35 ~~collect calls in advance.~~



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
**FOR HEALTHY LIVING**  
**FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-10

36 To the extent that the department provides telephone services to inmates, the  
37 department shall provide all such telephone services to inmates without charge to  
38 the inmates or the receiving parties.

39

40 **Justification**

41 Free phone calls for inmates is not a new idea, as there has already been a  
42 precedent set within New York State; the New York City Council has recently passed  
43 a law, stating that New York City jail inmates would not be charged for their phone  
44 calls. In addition, legislation has been put forth by multiple states to achieve the  
45 same goal. These changes come in light of numerous studies, which have shown  
46 that more frequent contact with people outside of prison drastically reduces the  
47 rate of recidivism for inmates, and frequent contact with family members and loved  
48 ones is critical to reentry into society. In contrast, leaving jail/prison with little to no  
49 money undoubtedly increases the rate of recidivism, as inmates may find it difficult  
50 to sustain themselves upon reentry.

51

52 **Fiscal Implications**

53 Using the most costly situation in which every state prisoner makes a 30-minute  
54 phone call every day of the year, this bill would constitute about \$26 million  
55 annually, which would be added to the Department of Corrections and Community  
56 Supervision budget.

57

58 **Environmental Implications**

59 This bill has no environmental implications.

60

61 **Effective Date**

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

63

64



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-15

1 **Sponsors:** Jordan Amaya, Melisa Kilic, Jordan Schullerman

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend § 4405-a of the New York State Public Health Law to allow for individuals 16  
5 years of age to get vaccinated without parental consent.

6

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

8

9 **Purpose**

10 Allow for individuals 16 years of age to get vaccinated without parental consent.

11

12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1: Definitions**

14 Vaccine: A product that stimulates a person's immune system to produce immunity  
15 to a specific disease, protecting the person from that disease.

16 **Section 2**

17 § 4405-a. Immunizations against poliomyelitis, mumps, measles,  
18 Diphtheria and rubella.

19 1. It shall be the duty of the administrative

20 Officer or other person in charge of each health maintenance

21 Organization, as defined in this article, to inquire of each person in

22 Its care under the age of eighteen, or of a person in parental relation

23 To such person, whether all necessary immunizations have been received

24 For poliomyelitis, mumps, measles, diphtheria and rubella and, if not,

25 To make available such immunizations and a certificate or certificates

26 Of such immunizations.

27 ~~2. This section shall not apply to children whose parent, parents, or Guardian are~~  
28 ~~bona fide members of a recognized religious organization~~

29 ~~Whose teachings are contrary to the practices herein required~~ Minors that are 16  
30 years of age or older are eligible to receive vaccines without parental consent.

31 3. If any physician licensed to practice medicine in this state certifies that any  
32 such immunization may be detrimental to a child's

33 Health, the requirements of this section shall be inapplicable until such

34 immunization is found no longer to be detrimental to the child's health.

35

36 **Justification**

37 Every year we see in the media that more and more people aren't getting

38 vaccinated. We need to act now if we want to stop this "movement" in its tracks.

39 People may use beliefs to justify the detrimental effects of vaccinations as a means

40 to argue that they should be exempt from vaccines, however, vaccines have been

41 proven to not have many negative effects. Most vaccines are needed to attend



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-15

42 public school in New York so not only will this bill be advocating for the physical  
43 health and safety of the children of New York, it will allow many to attend a public  
44 school which has many mental benefits. A staggeringly high number of teens and  
45 young adults are not vaccinated for STDS and it is a huge issue the effects not only  
46 them, but their peers.

47

48 **Fiscal Implications**

49 There are no fiscal implications because the price of mandatory vaccinations are  
50 negligible in New York State and are very much reduced under Medicaid.

51

52 **Enviornmental Implications**

53

54

55 **Effective Date**

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





**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-16

1 **Sponsors:** Owen Perala, Tyler Michaels

2  
3 **An Act To** Amend the New York State Education Law Section 3204 Subsection 3  
4 under Article 65 to mandate a second language in all schools.

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

7  
8 **Purpose** To amend the New York State Education Law Section 3204, Subsection 3  
9 to mandate a second language in the first eight years of full-time public day  
10 schools.

11  
12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1**

14 **Foreign language:** any language other than English.

15  
16 **Section 2**

17 Section 3204

18 3. Courses of study. a. (1) The course of study for the first eight years of full time  
19 public day schools shall provide for instruction in at least the ~~twelve~~ thirteen  
20 common school branches of arithmetic, reading, spelling, writing, the English  
21 language, geography, United States history, civics, hygiene, physical training, the  
22 history of New York state, science, and a foreign language of either Mandarin  
23 Chinese, Spanish, or French.

24  
25 **Justification**

26 43% of the world is bilingual, and 13% is trilingual, United States citizens know an  
27 average of 0.7 languages. 20% of the United States students speak a foreign  
28 language in grades K-12, but in Europe, 92% of students do. In addition to this,  
29 only 58% of middle schools and 25% of elementary schools offered a foreign  
30 language in 2008, according to a 2017 report by the Commission on Language  
31 Learning. These statistics are lower than the 75% and 31%, respectively, that they  
32 were in 1997. Learning foreign languages has already been proven to be important,  
33 as dual language learning gives students a wider worldview, allowing for more  
34 collaborative learning. In addition to this, bilingual students can focus more intently  
35 on the topics at hand and ignore distractions. They also demonstrate a higher  
36 ability to change based on their environment and circumstances.

37  
38 **Fiscal Implications**

39 Fiscal implications will vary from school district to school district, as schools will  
40 have different needs based on the number of students in their district, the  
41 existence or absence of an existing program, and availability of any existing foreign  
42 language teachers. A first-year teacher's salary is \$60,477, while the average



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 2

Bill #:AL-16

43 teacher salary is \$79,588. It is presumed that most school districts will not need to  
44 pay another full-time teacher, however, they may need to pay an existing teacher  
45 for more working time. The average hourly salary for a teacher in New York State is  
46 \$21.32.

47

48 **Environmental Implications**

49 There are no known environmental implications for this bill.

50

51 **Effective Date**

52 The law will go into effect three calendar years after this bill passes.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-17

1 **Sponsors:** Lillian Kronau, Alexander Michaels and Carley Salerno

2

3 **An Act To** Amend the New York State Public Building Law to add Section 145 under  
4 Article 5 to mandate single-occupancy gender-neutral restrooms in all new state-  
5 owned and operated buildings.

6

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

8

9 **Purpose** To amend the New York State Public Building Law to add Section 145  
10 under Article 5 to mandate the inclusion of single-occupancy gender-neutral  
11 restrooms in all state-owned and operated buildings beginning construction after  
12 the bill goes into effect.

13

14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 **Section 1**

16 **Single Occupancy:** intended for use by no more than one occupant at a time or for  
17 family or assisted use

18 **Gender Neutral:** intended for use by all, regardless of sex

19 **Restroom:** a bathroom in a public building containing one toilet and one sink

20 **State-owned and operated:** any state-owned property that is used to conduct  
21 official business, as well as any property not owned by the state but is used  
22 primarily to conduct state business

23 **Set:** two bathrooms, one designated for males and one for females

24

25 **Section 2**

26 Amends the New York State Public Buildings Law by adding section 145-a as  
27 follows:

28 **§ 145-a. All state-owned and operated buildings constructed in the future shall**  
29 **include as part of their infrastructure at least one single-occupancy bathroom per**  
30 **every two sets of gender-specific bathrooms. If an agency does not comply with**  
31 **this code, it shall be charged a fine of \$500 on January 1st of each year until the**  
32 **requirements of the code are met.**

33

34 **Justification**

35 New York State has always been a progressive model for the rest of the nation.  
36 Especially in the past several years, New York State has taken tangible steps  
37 toward a modern and tolerant society. With our bill, New York will take another  
38 important stride towards equality and comfort for all citizens. Nearly 80,000 New  
39 York residents identify as transgender, and 19,500 identify as non-binary (non-  
40 adherent to any gender label). The Herman Study, the largest study of transgender  
41 individuals ever conducted in the U.S., found that 60% of transgender men and



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-17

42 women have avoided using public restrooms due to fear or past experiences of  
43 harassment and assault. 90% of these individuals also reported adverse effects of  
44 avoiding public restrooms, such as dehydration, urinary tract infections, and kidney  
45 infections. Something as simple as restroom use, something that we take for  
46 granted every day, can be the source of a huge amount of stress and fear for  
47 others. Transgender and non-binary individuals are not the only group that would  
48 benefit from the passage of this bill. Parents with young children of a different  
49 gender and individuals who require assistance using the restroom also report  
50 having problems with the current system. Lawmakers in Vermont, California, and  
51 our very own New York City recently reviewed these facts and passed very similar  
52 bills. It is time for New York to follow in these footsteps and to ensure the safety  
53 and comfort of its citizens. We, as a state, must work to ensure that the needs of  
54 *all* our citizens are met, regardless of their identity and background.

55

56 **Fiscal Implications**

57 The average cost of one 40 square foot single-occupancy restroom is \$12,500. The  
58 money for each restroom shall be taken from the budget of the building to be  
59 constructed.

60

61 **Environmental Implications**

62 There are no expected environmental implications of the bill.

63

64 **Effective Date**

65 The law will go into effect one calendar year after this bill passes.

66



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-18

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

2

3 **An Act To:**

4 Amend Section 1229-C in order to require all passengers in the backseat to wear  
5 seatbelts.

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 enforce seatbelt laws on all passengers in the backseat of a vehicle, regardless  
11 of their age.

12

13 **Summary of Provisions:**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Safety Belt: a vehicle safety device designed to keep the driver and passengers in a  
16 vehicle strapped into their seats

17 **Section 2:**

18 1. No person shall operate a motor vehicle in this state unless: (a) all back seat  
19 passengers of such vehicle under the age of four are restrained in a specially  
20 designed seat which meets the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards set forth in  
21 49 C.F.R. 571.213 and which is either permanently affixed or is affixed to such  
22 vehicle by a safety belt and which shall be rear-facing whenever the passenger  
23 being restrained in such seat is under the age of two except that in the event that  
24 the weight or height of such passenger under the age of two exceeds the occupant  
25 size and weight recommendations of the manufacturer of such rear-facing seat,  
26 such seat may be forward-facing; provided, however, that in the event that the  
27 weight of such passenger under the age of four exceeds forty pounds, such  
28 passenger may be restrained (i) in an appropriate child restraint system as defined  
29 in subdivision four of this section used with combination lap safety and shoulder  
30 harness belts or (ii) by a lap safety belt in the event such vehicle is not equipped  
31 with combination lap safety and shoulder harness belts or all the combination lap  
32 safety and shoulder harness belts are being used to properly restrain other  
33 passengers who are under the age of sixteen; (b) all back seat passengers of such  
34 vehicle who are age four or older but under age eight (i) are restrained in an  
35 appropriate child restraint system as defined in subdivision four of this section used  
36 with combination lap and shoulder harness belts or (ii) are restrained in a lap safety  
37 belt in the event such vehicle is not equipped with combination lap safety and



**New York State YMCA  
Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-18

38 shoulder harness belts or all the combination lap safety and shoulder harness belts  
39 are being used to properly restrain other passengers who are under the age of  
40 sixteen; or (c) in the case of any other back seat passenger ~~under the age of~~  
41 ~~sixteen~~, he or she is restrained by a safety belt approved by the commissioner.  
42

43 **Justification:**

44 More than half of the deaths caused by car accidents are made up of people who  
45 did not wear seatbelts. Seatbelts are placed in every vehicle in order to ensure the  
46 safety of all its occupants and New York is very strict on enforcing its laws. Why  
47 does the law suddenly cut off once you are over 16 and you simply sit in the back?  
48 As the Empire State, we have a duty to secure the lives of our citizens, whether or  
49 not they care. By expanding this backseat safety belt law to all citizens, we can now  
50 guarantee that a simple lapse in judgment will not be the cause of someone's death  
51 and all New Yorkers will buckle up.  
52

53 **Fiscal Implications:**

54 There are no fiscal implications.  
55

56 **Effective Date:**

57 This bill will be effective in one year.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-19

1 **Sponsors:** Zachary Phelps, Jordan Colon, Logan Bush, Evan Anello

2

3 **An Act To** Amend § 52 of the General Construction Law to abolish daylight saving  
4 time (DST).

5

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

8

9 **Purpose** To abolish daylight savings time to improve public health, increase  
10 productivity, save energy, and save money.

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 Section 1: Definitions

13 Standard time: a uniform time for places in approximately the same longitude,  
14 established in a country or region by law or custom.

15 Daylight savings time: The advancement of standard time by one hour at two  
16 o'clock on the second Sunday in March, which becomes the standard time  
17 throughout the year until the first Sunday in November at two o'clock of the same  
18 year, when the standard time falls back by one hour.

19 Section 2:

20 § 52. Time, standard.

21 1. The standard time throughout this state is that of the seventy-fifth  
22 meridian of longitude west from Greenwich, except as hereinafter provided, and all  
23 courts and public officers, and legal and official proceedings shall be regulated  
24 thereby.

25 2. ~~At two o'clock antemeridian on the last Sunday in April of each year, the~~  
26 ~~standard time throughout this state shall be advanced one hour from that of the~~  
27 ~~seventy-fifth meridian of longitude west from Greenwich, and the time so advanced~~  
28 ~~shall continue to be standard time throughout this state until the last Sunday in~~  
29 ~~October of the same year, when such standard time, as so advanced, shall be~~  
30 ~~retarded to that of the seventy-fifth meridian west from Greenwich; and during~~  
31 ~~such period in each year all courts and public officers, and legal and official~~  
32 ~~proceedings shall be regulated in accordance therewith.~~

33 **Justification**

34 DST does not save energy. Although the additional daylight time reduces demand  
35 for household lighting, it increased demand for cooling on summer evenings and  
36 heating in early spring and late fall mornings. DST has an extreme effect on human  
37 health. Changing sleep patterns, even by one hour, goes against a person's natural  
38 circadian rhythms and has negative consequences for health. Studies show an



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-19

39 increase in workplace injuries, suicide, headaches, depression and miscarriages.  
40 Daylight savings time increases the risk that a car accident will be fatal and results  
41 in over thirty more deaths from car accidents annually. Eliminating DST would save  
42 a lot of money through opportunity cost, program writing and maintenance, and  
43 energy.

44 **Fiscal Implications**

45 An estimated one point seven billion dollars are lost each year in opportunity cost  
46 spent moving clocks, watches, and devices forward and backward. For devices that  
47 automatically follow daylight savings time, there is cost in building DST support into  
48 computer systems and keeping them maintained. The amount of money needed to  
49 change these DST supported computers would be negligible compared to the  
50 amount saved.

51 **Effective Date** This bill will go into effect on January 1, 2021





**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-21

1 **Sponsors:** Joshua Penna, Joshua Seura-Muriel, Jack Krzemien, Damien Htun

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend section § 4402 of the Education Law by implementing mental health days  
5 into New York State public schools.

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 allow students diagnosed with severe anxiety, depression or other mental health  
11 issues to take off five excused days of school within each three month period of the  
12 school year to recover and better cope with their illnesses.

13

14 **Summary of Provisions**

15 **Section 1: Definitions**

16 **Mental Illness:** A wide range of conditions that affect mood, thinking, and behavior.

17 **Anxiety Disorder:** A mental health disorder characterized by feelings of worry,  
18 anxiety, or fear that are strong enough to interfere with one's daily activities

19 **Depression:** A mental health disorder characterized by persistently depressed mood  
20 or loss of interest in activities, causing significant impairment in daily life.

21 **Section 2: Provisions**

22 Education Law § 4402 Upon their child's enrollment or attendance in a public  
23 school, such school shall notify every parent or person in parental relation of their  
24 rights regarding referral and evaluation of their child for the purposes of special  
25 education services or programs pursuant to applicable federal and state laws,  
26 including in severe cases where the child requires services due to their mental  
27 health state, such as days off. Such notification be provided by directing parents or  
28 persons in parental relation to obtain information located on the department's  
29 website relating to a parent's guide to special education in New York State for  
30 children ages three through twenty-one provided the notification shall also  
31 contain the name and contact information for the chairperson of the school  
32 district's committee on special education or other individual who is charged with  
33 processing referrals to the committee in the district.

34

35 **Justification**

36 The modern day school system asks a lot for our youth, children are expected to do  
37 work from when they enter building to when they leave, and even after they leave  
38 with homework, and all of this can cause stress. Now, think about the students who  
39 are already in major stress over a disorder they cannot control, if we keep pushing  
40 these students in particular more and more with work while already undergoing  
41 problems, it can lead to their illness only getting worse and could possibly lead to



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-21

42 them doing something dangerous. In 2017, 17.2 percent of high schoolers reported  
43 seriously considering suicide, which is up by 25 percent since 2009, when just 13.8  
44 percent of students reported seriously considering suicide. The rate of suicide  
45 increased by 33 percent, from 7.5 to 10.0 suicides per 100,000 15- to 19-year-olds  
46 from 2009 to 2016. Students with severe anxiety and/or depression need a day of  
47 recovery for their own good, so they can focus more on calming their issues and  
48 not feel like they're expected to run themselves into the ground.

49

50 **Fiscal Implications**

51 There are no fiscal implications.

52

53 **Effective Date**

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



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
**FOR HEALTHY LIVING**  
**FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-22

1 **Sponsors:** Jack Byrne, Ashleigh Rosen, Matthew Roberson

2

3 **An Act To:** Amend Vehicle and Traffic article 24 adding §1118 to add a timer on  
4 stop lights in high accident prone intersections.

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 to decrease the amount of traffic violations in  
9 New York State by providing the funds necessary to implement traffic signal  
10 countdown timers in accident prone intersections.

11

12 **Summary of Provisions:**

13 Section 1: Definitions

14 Accident Prone Intersections: An intersection with 25 or more reported accidents.

15 Intersection: A point at which two or more roads or streets meet or cross.

16

17 Section 2:

18 Traffic-control signals; malfunction. Except when directed to proceed by a police  
19 officer, every operator of a motor vehicle approaching an intersection  
20 governed by a traffic-control signal which is out of service or otherwise  
21 malfunctioning shall stop in the manner required for stop signs set forth in  
22 section eleven hundred seventy-two of this title, and proceed according to the rules  
23 of right of way for vehicles set forth in article twenty-six of this title. §1118 Timer  
24 of accident prone intersections. This bill will place traffic timers on Tillary Street and  
25 Flatbush Avenue, 2nd Avenue and East 59th Street, and 42nd Street and 8th  
26 Avenue. Timers will be attached to every light and will count down from green to  
27 yellow and red to green.

28

29 **Justification:**

30 This bill will decrease the amount of fatalities and injuries within the areas this bill  
31 takes effect in. Not only will this bill benefit the health of the state, but it will  
32 benefit the individual cost per person as well. This would include health insurance  
33 and car insurance. Traffic timers will only be set on the three intersections, Tillary  
34 Street and Flatbush Avenue, 2nd Avenue and East 59th Street, and 42nd Street  
35 and 8th Avenue now, in hopes that they will succeed in making these areas more  
36 safe and for the idea to branch out to other streets eventually.

37

38



**New York State YMCA  
Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-22

39

40 **Fiscal Implications:**

41 Since this technology is relatively new, there is not an exact set price per timer.

42 However, due to the fact that the implementation of these timers would lead to  
43 significantly less accidents, the overall cost per person would go down immensely.

44 The responsibility of payment would be delegated to the New York State

45 Department of Transportation.

46

47 **Environmental Implications:**

48 This bill will benefit the environment by lowering pollution rates. Since accidents will

49 be less of a problem, traffic will flow more easily, so the amount of car exhaust and  
50 other gasses that escape from crashes into the environment will be reduced.

51

52 **Effective Date:**

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



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 3

Bill #:AL-24

1 **Sponsors:** Matthew Fagerheim and Aaron Lener

2

3 **An Act To** Amend §19 of Tax Code Article 1 to make the qualifications more  
4 rigorous to receive green building credit.

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 to make the requirements to receive a green  
9 base building tax cut more rigorous.

10

11 **Summary of Provisions**

12 **Section 1**

13 (A) Energy and energy efficiency. (i) Energy use is no more than  
14 ~~sixty-five~~ fifty-five percent (in the case of new construction of a base building)  
15 or ~~seventy-five~~ sixty-five percent (in the case of rehabilitation of a base  
16 building) of the use permitted under the energy code or, in the event  
17 such standard is revised or superseded, energy use shall meet such other  
18 energy efficiency standards that DEC, in consultation with NYSERDA,  
19 shall establish in regulations promulgated pursuant to paragraph one of  
20 subdivision (e) of this section, in effect at the time the base building  
21 or rehabilitation thereof is placed in service.

22

23 **Justification** This bill will help green base buildings to become more energy  
24 efficient. Since this law was passed in 2000, green technologies have become far  
25 more advanced. The technologies have also become cheaper since the original  
26 passage of this bill, making it easier for businesses to achieve green building credit.  
27 Growing environmental concerns necessitate the passage of this bill.

28

29 **Fiscal Implications** This bill will result in more income for New York State, as this  
30 will make the qualifications more rigorous, meaning that less buildings will qualify  
31 for these tax cuts.

32

33 **Environmental Implications** This bill would also result in less carbon being  
34 emitted into the environment, as most green base buildings would become more  
35 sustainable in order to still receive the tax credit.

36

37 **Effective Date** This will go into effect after one year of the passage of this bill for  
38 new construction buildings. It will go into effect two years after its passage for  
39 buildings currently receiving the Green tax credit.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**®  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-25

1 **Sponsors:** Nathan Slawson, Savannah Werner, Emera Aquila, Moriah Clendenin,  
2 Haley Brown

3  
4 **An Act To** Amend the education law, § 504 in relation to clarifying health  
5 education access for all.

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

8  
9 **Purpose** Require all public-school districts to include an online assistance referral  
10 system on their district website and provide instruction on the use of the platform.

11  
12  
13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15  
16 Online Referral System: a web-based program that works across all electronic  
17 platforms and contains contact information of service providers relevant to student's  
18 mental health needs.

19  
20 Mental Health: a person's condition with regard to their psychological and emotional  
21 well being.

22  
23 **Section 2: Provisions**

24  
25 Section 1 adds a new paragraph to Education Law § 504 to declare that mental health  
26 as well as physical health is part of health education in the schools. Section 2 makes  
27 the bill effective on July 1, 2018. Section 3 will require districts to provide a online  
28 mental health referral system on their district websites as well as provide education  
29 to students and the community it serves on how to access the platform.

30  
31 **Justification** Having an mental health online referral system in school districts will  
32 help eliminate mental illness and suicide. Researchers estimated that 50% of  
33 mental illness begins at age 14. Unfortunately, researchers have also shown that  
34 many children and adolescence do not receive treatment. Mandating an online  
35 referral system will help children and adolescents receive treatment they need.  
36 Research shows that over 80% of students with emotional and behavioral disorders  
37 have scored below the general population in reading, writing, and math. Half of all  
38 cases of anxiety disorders begin as early as age 8 and about 22% of youth aged  
39 13-18 experience serious mental disorders. While it is mandatory for teachers to  
40 include Mental Health in their curriculum, so students are aware, it is not required



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-25

41 they have methods in place that allow students to report. It is embarrassing to go  
42 to the guidance office and ask for help and is also a part of the social anxiety  
43 disorders that they need help with. This system also provides an anonymous way  
44 for students to seek help without the stigma of going to the guidance office at the  
45 same time providing data that the schools and the members of their community  
46 may be facing allowing them to be proactive in offering services, classes, or other  
47 resources as needed. Teens say that 96% of kids in their community struggle with  
48 anxiety and depression, and 90% struggle with bullying. Having this online referral  
49 system in schools and communities will help save lives of loved ones.

50  
51 **Fiscal Implications** A popular platform much like the one we are suggesting costs  
52 \$6,000 per year. \$1 million in grant money was set aside in the initial passage of  
53 this bill for districts across NYS to implement the teaching of mental health in  
54 schools. This equates to less than .01% of the grant money set aside for teaching  
55 about mental health in schools. Therefore, there would be no immediate tax burden  
56 on the taxpayers of the state.

57  
58 **Enviornmental Implications** There are no foreseeable environmental implications  
59 that will be caused by this proposal.

60  
61 **Effective Date** This law will go into effect on August 1 of the year following its  
62 passage.

63  
64



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-26

1 **Sponsors:** Madison Catania, Sarah Duenzl, Kenny Gillio, Edward Gubelman

2

3 **An Act To**

4 Amend section § 130.30 of Penal Law to increase the penalty for second degree  
5 rape from a Class D Felony to a Class C Felony.

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 increase the punishment for those who commit second degree rape so that the  
11 punishment fits the crime, and by doing so, ensuring that New York State is taking  
12 the correct actions necessary to help prevent second degree rape.

13 **Summary of Provisions**

14 **Section 1: Definitions**

15 Class D Felony- Fraud, theft, robbery, burglary, and manslaughter in special cases  
16 are Class D Felonies in New York State.

17 Class C Felony- Assault, fraud, types of theft, robbery, larceny and drug distribution are  
18 each charged as a Class C Felonies in New York State

19 **Section 2**

20 § 130.30 Rape in the second degree.

21 A person is guilty of rape in the second degree when:

- 22 1. being eighteen years old or more, he or she engages in sexual  
23 intercourse with another person less than fifteen years old; or  
24 2. he or she engages in sexual intercourse with another person who is  
25 incapable of consent by reason of being mentally disabled or mentally  
26 incapacitated.

27 It shall be an affirmative defense to the crime of rape in the second  
28 degree as defined in subdivision one of this section that the defendant  
29 was less than four years older than the victim at the time of the act.

30 Rape in the second degree is a ~~class-D felony~~: class c felony.

31 **Justification**

32 Second Degree Rape needs a more severe punishment than a Class D Felony, as it  
33 can emotionally damage and scar someone for his or her entire life. The current  
34 punishment in place is not the correct punishment to fit the crime. These rapists  
35 need a more realistic punishment than what is currently enforced. With this bill in  
36 place, the punishment will be raised from a class d felony (2-7 years) to a class c  
37 felony (3 ½ to 15 years). It is horrific that those who commit second degree rape  
38 aren't dealt with in a more proper manner. Rape has been a growing issue that  
39 hasn't been dealt with in a proper manner in New York State. On average, there are





**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-26

40 433,648 victims (age 12 or older) of rape and sexual assault each year in the  
41 United States. Justice needs to be served for these rape victims, and this bill will  
42 help serve that justice. It is also statistically proven that 94% of women who are  
43 raped experience symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) during the  
44 two weeks following the rape. Not only are these victims physically damaged, but  
45 they are emotionally damaged as well. With that being said, the increase in  
46 punishment is more than justifiable.

47 **Fiscal Implications**

48 The increase in a Class D Felony to a Class C Felony will mean that violators of this  
49 bill will be incarcerated longer. This increase in incarceration will likely increase New  
50 York State taxes.

51 **Environmental Implications**

52 This bill will change the culture surrounding second degree rape. Rapists will not  
53 win this battle, as they have taken enough from the victim and will finally be  
54 punished correctly for their actions. Hopefully, this will also make the victims and  
55 those who feel threatened feel safer and have a better sense of closure,  
56 understanding that the one who raped them is held accountable and dealt with the  
57 right way.

58 **Effective Date**

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



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-27

1 **Sponsors:** Samantha Ivey and Chase Thalheimer

2  
3 **An Act To** Add paragraph 3-b to subdivision (a) of New York Tax Law § 1115 to  
4 exempt emergency contraceptives from tax on retail sales.

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

7  
8 **Purpose** To allow the best access to emergency contraceptives, reduce unwanted  
9 pregnancies, dangerous self-induced abortions, and further advance economic  
10 equality between genders.

11  
12 **Summary of Provisions**

13 **Section 1**

14 **Emergency Contraceptives:** a method of contraception that prevents pregnancy  
15 after unprotected sex or birth control failure. Examples include Plan B and Copper-T  
16 IUDs. Nonexamples include condoms, birth control pills, spermicide, and  
17 diaphragms.

18 **Copper-T IUDs:** An intrauterine contraceptive device (IUD) inserted into the uterus  
19 to prevent pregnancy.

20 **Plan B:** Brand name for a commonly-used progestin-only emergency contraceptive  
21 designed to prevent pregnancy within 72 hours after a contraceptive accident or  
22 unprotected sex.

23 **Section 2**

24 § 1115 (3) Drugs and medicines intended for use, internally or externally, in the  
25 cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of illnesses or diseases in human beings,  
26 medical equipment (including component parts thereof) and supplies required for  
27 such use or to correct or alleviate physical incapacity, and products consumed by  
28 humans for the preservation of health but not including cosmetics or toilet articles  
29 notwithstanding the presence of medicinal ingredients therein or medical equipment  
30 (including component parts thereof) and supplies, other than such drugs and  
31 medicines, purchased at retail for use in performing medical and similar services for  
32 compensation.

33 (3-a) Feminine hygiene products, including, but not limited to, sanitary  
34 napkins, tampons, and panty liners.

35 **(3-b) Emergency contraceptives, including, but not limited to, Copper-T IUDs**  
36 **and emergency contraceptive pills such as Plan B.**

37  
38  
39



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-27

40 **Justification**

41 The cost of popular emergency contraceptive, Plan B, costs \$51.60 with tax. In  
42 about 5 hours of minimum wage work, one could make \$51.60. That same sum of  
43 money could be saved as money towards rent, used to pay for groceries of an  
44 entire week, or used to pay for forms of transportation. According to the  
45 reproductive rights organization, the Guttmacher Institute, as of 2014, there were  
46 an estimated 20 million women who were in need of publicly funded contraceptive  
47 services and supplies because they either had an income below 250% of the federal  
48 poverty level or were younger than 20. Those of low income are less likely to  
49 purchase emergency contraceptives themselves as they cannot afford it nor the  
50 abortion, they would need without it, leaving them with the dangerous option of  
51 unsafe, self-induced abortion. Due to the criminalization of this act of extreme  
52 desperation through NYS Penal Law, Article 125.50, it is unclear just how many  
53 women choose this option as these tragic instances are often underreported. In  
54 addition to a financial need that is expressed by many women, as of 2017, access  
55 to resources that allow for family planning has decreased as 39% of New York  
56 counties have no clinics that provide abortions and the number of New York  
57 abortion clinics have decreased by about 100 in the past 3 years. The lack of safe  
58 clinics leads to an increase in dangerous, self-induced abortions. If they had better  
59 access to emergency contraceptives, they could stop the pregnancy altogether.  
60 Moreover, allowing emergency contraceptives to join the list of untaxed items  
61 among male reproductive health products such as condoms and Viagra, and will  
62 strengthen New York's actions to become a leader in the encouragement of  
63 economic equality. New York's journey of economic equality began in 2016 with the  
64 elimination of the regressive tampon tax. This journey will continue through the  
65 elimination of the tax on emergency contraceptives thus increasing accessibility and  
66 economic equality between genders.

67 **Fiscal Implications**

68 The tax on emergency contraceptives is a burden placed primarily on women and is  
69 only easily available to those who can afford it. It is, therefore, a discriminatory tax  
70 against women and those of low economic status. In the instance of a tax-free male  
71 condom failing, the woman must pay a tax to purchase an emergency  
72 contraceptive. This is simply unfair. Eliminating such a tax would encourage  
73 economic equality between men and women while easing the burden on those of  
74 low economic status who are unable to pay the tax.

75 **Environmental Implications**

76 This bill will have a nonexistent impact on New York State wildlife.

77 **Effective Date**

78 This bill will go into effect January 1 of the year following its passage.



**New York State YMCA**  
**Youth And Government**

WWW.YMCANYS.ORG

**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT®**  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Committee Assignment: Assembly Liberty 4

Bill #:AL-31

1 **Sponsors:** Justin Brucato, Shantique Smith, Bryanna Walker

2 **An Act To**

3 Amend § 240.50 of the New York State penal law to raise the penalty for false child  
4 abuse accusations from a class A misdemeanor to a class E felony.

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

6 **Purpose**

7 Our bill is to increase the penalty on false accusations of child abuse from a class a  
8 misdemeanor to a class E felony.

9 **Summary of Provisions**

10 Section 1: Definitions

11 Child abuse: An act, or failure to act. On the part of parent or caretaker that results  
12 in death, serious pain or serious emotion harm, sexual abuse, or exploitation of a  
13 child, or which places the child in imminent risk or serious harm.

14 Class A Misdemeanor: Upon conviction of a class A misdemeanor, a court may  
15 sentence an individual to a maximum of one year in jail or three years of probation.  
16 In addition, a fine of up to \$1000 or twice the amount of the individual's gain from  
17 the crime may be imposed.

18 Class E felony: Are the least serious and carry penalties of up to three years in  
19 prison.

20 Section 2:

21 § 240.50 falsely reporting an incident in the third degree. A person is guilty of  
22 falsely reporting an incident in the third degree when, knowing the information  
23 reported, conveyed or circulated to be false or baseless, he:

24 4. Reports, by word or action, to the statewide central register of child abuse and  
25 maltreatment, as defined in title six of article six of the social services law, an  
26 alleged occurrence or condition of child abuse or maltreatment which did not in fact  
27 occur or exist. The penalty for this crime will be a class E felony, which carries a  
28 punishment of up to three years in prison.

29 **Justification**

30 False accusations of child abuse are serious crimes. In 2018, out of 166,000 cases  
31 of child abuse, 118,846 were proven false. When a person is  
32 convicted of child abuse their name will be added to a database of people  
33 who mistreated children, and by law their name will have to stay for many  
34 years. Even when allegations are unfounded, names will stay on the registry  
35 until the youngest child in the case turns twenty-eight or five to seven years after  
36 the case is dismissed.

37 **Fiscal Implications** The cause of housing one inmate in NYS is \$60,000.

38 **Environmental Implications** There are no known environmental implications.

39 **Effective Date** This bill will go into effect one year after passage.