



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

VETO #18

November 22, 2024

TO THE ASSEMBLY:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bills:

Assembly Bill Number 1200 entitled:

“AN ACT to establish the people with disabilities access to programs commission”

Assembly Bill Number 1273 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the LGBTQ+ advisory board”

Assembly Bill 2740-B entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the state finance law, in relation to state agency contracts with not-for-profit corporations”

Assembly Bill Number 4201-B entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the veterans' services law, in relation to veterans health care”

Assembly Bill 4219 entitled:

“AN ACT to direct the New York state department of health to conduct a study on the incidences of cancer clusters in cities and towns having a population of more than ninety thousand”

Assembly Bill 5080-A entitled:

“AN ACT to require the commissioner of the department of civil service to prepare a report on certain civil service titles”

Assembly Bill 5815-B entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the state finance law, in relation to participation by individuals with disabilities with respect to state employment and state contracts”

Assembly Bill 5909-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing a chief sustainability officer”

Assembly Bill 6253-A entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to establishing the New York state grid modernization commission”

Assembly Bill 6924 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to the study of the utilization of state government payments as an opportunity to transition unbanked and underbanked state residents into the banking system”

Assembly Bill 8869 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring the New York state energy and research development authority to develop a comprehensive electric vehicle fast charging station implementation plan”

Assembly Bill 9036 entitled:

“AN ACT directing the department of environmental conservation to conduct a study on ecological restoration needs of Jamaica Bay”

Assembly Bill 9123 entitled:

“AN ACT to require the New York state energy research and development authority to develop recommendations regarding the establishment of microgrids”

TO THE SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bills:

Senate Bill 485-B entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring the New York state thruway authority to submit biannual reports of all fiscal transactions, receipts and expenditures”

Senate Bill 1198-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring the New York state thruway authority to submit biannual reports of all fiscal transactions, receipts and expenditures”

Senate Bill 1979-A entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to requiring the Empire State development corporation in consultation with the department of agriculture and markets and the office of new Americans to study the economic impact of optimizing and creating kitchen incubators in New York state”

Senate Bill 2103-B entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to directing the commissioner to publicly publish an annual report on the environmental radiation surveillance program”

Senate Bill 2623-A entitled:

“AN ACT to direct the department of state and the public service commission to jointly study and report upon the provision to consumer credit reporting agencies by public utility companies, cable television companies and cellular telephone service suppliers of information on late payments of or default on any fees or charges incurred by consumers; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 3105-A entitled:

“AN ACT relating to assessing the staffing and other issues causing the continued displacement of individuals with developmental disabilities from various state-operated institutions under the jurisdiction of the office for people with developmental disabilities”

Senate Bill 3587-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the mental hygiene law, in relation to establishing the rural suicide prevention council; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 4198-B entitled:

“AN ACT to enact the "New York wildlife crossing act"; to direct the department of transportation and the New York state thruway authority to identify sites along all highways, thruways, and parkways in the state where wildlife crossings are most needed to increase public safety and improve habitat connectivity; and to create a priority list of wildlife crossing opportunity areas where federal grant monies may be available to implement the top five projects identified”

Senate Bill 4970 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to directing the division of housing and community renewal to study non-rental fees charged by landlords”

Senate Bill 6310 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public service law, in relation to requiring a study on the height of overhead utility lines and communication lines as such relate to the height of agricultural equipment and other heavy duty equipment; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 7185 entitled:

“AN ACT to require the office for the prevention of domestic violence to conduct a study on domestic violence in the transgender community”

Senate Bill 7649-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the canal law, in relation to establishing a stakeholder group to coordinate water release in the Oswego river basin”

Senate Bill 7830-A entitled:

“AN ACT establishing a fiscal cliff task force to conduct a study on fiscal cliffs in the state's public assistance programs and to make recommendations related thereto; and providing for the repeal of such provision upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 8110 entitled:

“AN ACT reconvening the New York state sea level rise task force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 8136-A entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to establishing the New York state cryptocurrency and blockchain study task force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 8167 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to directing the department of financial services to conduct a study examining the increasing costs of insurance premiums, the lack of availability of insurance coverage for losses from flooding, and the possibility of supporting a private flood insurance market in the state”

NOT APPROVED

These twenty-nine bills would establish various commissions and task forces touching nearly every aspect of state government. Several of the bill would require intensive studies and reports to be undertaken by state agencies and authorities. I share a strong interest in addressing the problems and issues identified in this legislation, and I commend the Legislature for seeking to address such a broad array of problems.

However, enactment of this package of legislation would collectively cost the State approximately twenty-four million dollars. None of these costs are accounted for in the State Financial Plan. Without appropriate funding, these unbudgeted costs would create significant staffing and other programmatic burdens on State agencies. Additionally, because of the ongoing work of State agencies and authorities, a number of the proposals would result in duplication and unnecessary bureaucracy.

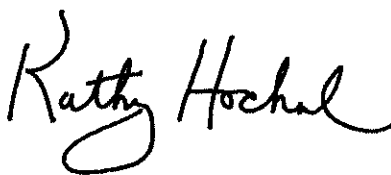
Many of the proposed studies, task forces and commissions are important to a wide-variety of stake holders and constituencies. Therefore, I am directing state agencies that have ongoing efforts or future plans to address the issues described in these bills to continue their efforts and to review and incorporate the goals in the legislation to the extent practicable. Where this is not the case, I am directing my office to work with State agencies to assess what components of the legislation can be implemented using resources already in their financial plans.

This is the third consecutive year I am vetoing dozens of bills that would have created commissions and task forces at similarly high cost. I expressed these concerns regarding the fiscal impact of this legislation in both 2022 and 2023. In my messages to the Legislature, I repeatedly noted that these proposals would be more appropriately considered in the context of the State budget process; indeed, I have signed legislation over the past few years that created commissions or task forces for which there was a designated appropriation.

Because of the fiscal impact of this legislation, the proposals would be more appropriately considered in the context of the State budget process.

Therefore, I am constrained to veto these bills.

These bills are disapproved.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kathy Hochul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping underline.