



STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY 12224

VETO #54

November 14, 2023

TO THE ASSEMBLY AND SENATE:

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

Assembly Bill Number 1191-B, entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to requiring the department of environmental conservation, in coordination with the New York state energy research and development authority, to submit an annual agency climate expenditure report”

Assembly Bill Number 1510, entitled:

“AN ACT to establish a Black youth suicide prevention task force; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Assembly Bill 1926-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to reporting of home care service usage”

Assembly Bill 2798 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to a study of the number of children in foster care who have a developmental disability”

Assembly Bill 2825 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to the filling of borrow pits in Jamaica Bay; in relation to directing the department of environmental conservation to conduct a study on ecological restoration needs in Jamaica Bay; and providing for the repeal of certain provisions upon expiration thereof”

Assembly Bill 4275 entitled:

“AN ACT requiring a multi-agency study on the issues impacting the continuum of caregiving in the state of New York”

Assembly Bill 4386 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to directing the New York state energy research and development authority to prepare a report regarding the replacement of decommissioned or dormant electric generating sites with renewable energy development and energy storage opportunities”

Assembly Bill 4676-A entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to creating a temporary commission to conduct a comprehensive study on the current utilization of paid family leave, make recommendations on how to increase access and the visibility of the program; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Assembly Bill 4969 entitled:

“AN ACT creating a temporary state commission to study and investigate how to regulate artificial intelligence, robotics and automation; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Assembly Bill 5052-C entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to conducting a highway and depot charging needs evaluation”

Assembly Bill 5587 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing the office of hospice and palliative care access and quality”

Assembly Bill 5683 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the commission of the deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing; to amend the social services law, in relation to requiring the commission of the deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing to transmit complaints in matters affecting the deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing communities to the vulnerable persons' central register; and to repeal section 559 of the executive law relating to the New York state interagency coordinating council for services to persons who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing”

Assembly Bill 5960 entitled:

“AN ACT to establish a task force to identify evidence-based and evidence informed solutions to reduce children's exposure to adverse childhood experience”

Assembly Bill 5970 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to directing the department of health to conduct a study relating to the opening of a public hospital in southeast Queens; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Assembly Bill 6222-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the banking law, in relation to creating a banking development district working group; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Assembly Bill 6568-B entitled:

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

Assembly Bill 7424-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 57 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the tax law, in relation to enacting the "STAR credit bill of rights" and establishing the office of STAR ombudsman”

Senate Bill 629-A entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the agriculture and markets law, in relation to providing additional duties of the community gardens task force”

Senate Bill 1359 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the office of racial equity and social justice”

Senate Bill 1369 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend chapter 3 of the laws of 2020 relating to establishing the stretch limousine passenger safety task force, in relation to extending the provisions thereof”

Senate Bill 1449 entitled:

“AN ACT to direct the city of New York to conduct an analysis of stormwater and groundwater issues in southeast Queens”

Senate Bill 1891 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 2285 entitled:

“AN ACT to direct the empire state development corporation to conduct a study on the feasibility of a minority and women-owned business enterprise capacity mentorship program”

Senate Bill 3004 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the elder law, in relation to creating the office of older adult workforce development within the office for the aging”

Senate Bill 3011 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to ordering a study and report on a proposed extension of the Long Island Motor Parkway trail, a part of the Brooklyn Queens Greenway, east from Winchester Boulevard to Little Neck Parkway in the county of Queens to the trailhead of the planned Motor Parkway trail in the county of Nassau; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 3131 entitled:

“AN ACT directing the commissioner of health to conduct a study on the rates of reimbursement made through the New York state Medicaid durable medical equipment, orthotics, prosthetics and supplies program for rate adequacy and patient access; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 4648 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to establishing the office of Native American affairs”

Senate Bill 4854 entitled:

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

Senate Bill 5082 entitled:

“AN ACT to establish a Latina suicide prevention task force; and provides for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 5178 entitled:

“AN ACT in relation to establishing a task force to study aging in place in mental health housing; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof”

Senate Bill 7273 entitled:

“AN ACT to amend the civil service law, in relation to the creation of an annual report on the race and ethnic data of individuals who have taken a civil service examination”

NOT APPROVED

These thirty-two bills would establish various commissions and task forces touching nearly every aspect of state government. Several of the bills 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 thirty-five 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.

I expressed these concerns regarding the fiscal impact of this legislation in 2022, when I vetoed many of these same bills and others that would have created commissions and task forces at similarly high cost. In my message to the Legislature last year, I noted that these proposals would be more appropriately considered in the context of the State budget process; indeed, I was pleased to sign legislation this year that created commissions or task forces for which there was a designated appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2024 Enacted Budget.

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 that reads "Kathy Hochul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'K' and 'H'.