NEW YORK STATE POLITICS
WHO’S REALLY IN CHARGE?

Jennifer Wilson
Deputy Director
League of Women Voters of NYS
WHO HERE READS/WATCHES THE NEWS?
THE FOUL STENCH IN ALBANY
Skelos and son should get ready for jail NOW

IN a state teeming with corrupt pols, jury cuts off the serpent’s head & finds ex-speaker guilty on all counts. He faces 130 years.

VITO CASH GRAB
Scandal group got $24M to fix its ‘$10’ homes

Bharara investigating Cuomo’s pricey Buffalo-Billion project

THREE MEN IN A CELL
Skelos & son guilty on 8 corruption charges

TIP OF THE WEINER
‘That’s politics in New York. It’s all about the f--king money.’
OUTLINE

- State versus Federal: What Are the Differences
- The Legislature: How Our Government Operates
- The Executive: How The Governor Influences Policy
- The Legislative Process: How A Bill Becomes a Law
- The Advocate: How You Can Influence State Government
STATE VERSUS FEDERAL: WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES

VS.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New York State</th>
<th>Federal Government</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Executive** | **President** (4 year term, 2 term limit)  
Governor (4 year term, no term limit)  
Lieutenant Governor (nominated, on same ticket as Governor)  
Vice-President (nominated, on same ticket as President) |
| **Legislative Bodies** | **Congress** (2 year term, no term limits)  
Assembly (2 year term, no term limits)  
150 Assembly Members  
Senate (2 year term, no term limits)  
63 Senators  
535 Members of Congress  
Senate (6 year term, no term limits)  
100 Senators |
| **Judicial** | **Supreme Court** is Highest  
Court of Appeals is Highest  
Appellate Court is Middle  
Supreme Court is Lowest |
| **Authority of Dept. of Justice** | **Attorney General** (Elected by People, 4 year term)  
Currently: Letitia James  
Attorney General (Appointed by President)  
Currently: William Barr |
| **Fiscal Authority** | **Secretary of United States Department of the Treasury** (Appointed by President)  
Currently: Steven Mnuchin |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New York State Constitution</th>
<th>U.S. Constitution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Direct election of governor</td>
<td>No direct election of President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct election of both houses of legislature since 1777</td>
<td>U.S. senators not directly elected until 1913 amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elected Governor/LG, Comptroller, Attorney General</td>
<td>Only elected officers at Federal level are President/VP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elected trial court judges (some appellate judges)</td>
<td>No elected judges at any level of federal judiciary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct vote on constitutional amendments/convention calls</td>
<td>No direct participation in constitutional revision process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Referendum requirement for general obligation debt</td>
<td>No referendum requirement for debt of any kind</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT’S IN THE STATE CONSTITUTION?

- How the Legislature Operates
- Balance of Powers
- Forever Wild State Forest Preserve
- Some Education Measures
- Protections for Vulnerable Populations
- Public Housing
- Transportation
- SUNY
- Lots of other stuff. It’s really long and boring but super important
THE LEGISLATURE: HOW OUR GOVERNMENT OPERATES
NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY

- 150 Members
  - 102 Democratic Members
  - 43 Republican Members
  - 2 Independent Member
  - 3 Vacant Seats
- Leader of Assembly is Speaker
  - Assembly Speaker is Carl Heastie
    (Bronx)
- Majority Leader Crystal Peoples-Stokes
  (Buffalo)
- Minority Leader is Will Barclay (Oswego)
NEW YORK STATE SENATE

63 Senators
- 40 Democrats
- 22 Republicans
- 1 Vacant Seat

Majority Leader and Senate President
Andrea Stewart Cousins
(White Plains, Yonkers, New Rochelle)

Minority Leader
John Flanagan (Long Island)

Deputy Majority Leader
Michael Gianaris (Queens)
HOW DO THE BODIES OPERATE?

• Legislature meets from January to June every year.
• Typically have legislative session in Albany 2-4 days per week.
• Session includes committee meetings, votes on bills on the floor, and conferencing.
• Each house and party meets independently to conferences bills.
• The conferences decide what bills they will work on in a given week.
• The Legislature takes up all kinds of bills – simple things like changing the name of a street to huge policies like paid family leave.
• Legislators also meet with lobbyists, advocates, and constituents during session to talk about legislation.
• There are daily rallies and lobby days at the Capitol.
• It can get super crazy.
THE EXECUTIVE: HOW THE GOVERNOR INFLUENCES POLICY
HOW THE GOVERNOR ASSERTS HIS AUTHORITY

- Can propose his own budget
- Can propose legislation but needs to have actual members sponsor
- Can sign or veto legislation
- Also a Lieutenant Governor
  - Serves as ex officio President of State Senate
NY State on PAUSE

Governor Cuomo has directed all non-essential workers to work from home, everyone is required to maintain a 6-foot distance.

Cuomo orders all nonessential New York workers to stay home

By Veronica Stracquastri | CNN
Updated 12:4 PM ET, Fri March 20, 2020

Liquor Stores Deemed Essential Amid Cuomo's Executive Order

BY NATASHA ACRIE | ROCHESTER

A Passion for Wines Since 1725
THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS: HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW
HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW

- Bill is Introduced by a member
- Bill is given a number
- Bill put into committee
- Committee votes on bill
- Bills are referred to another committee
  Or
- Bill Goes to Floor
- Whole House Votes
- Bill is delivered to the other house
- Process repeats
- Bill passes
- Bill is Signed by Governor
  Or
- Governor Vetoes Bill
- Bill can become law if two-thirds of the members of each house vote to override the Governor's veto.
GET INVOLVED IN BILL PROCESS

Know when to do your lobbying

Contact Committee members
- Contact Committee Chair to urge bill be considered

Ask your member to sponsor the legislation
- Ask members from neighboring districts to support legislation
WHERE CAN I FIND ACTIVE LEGISLATION?

State:
- [http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/](http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/)
- [http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn](http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?bn)
- [https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation](https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation)

Federal:
- [https://www.congress.gov/](https://www.congress.gov/)
- [https://www.govtrack.us/](https://www.govtrack.us/)

Contact League office
Session Status

Senate Session STANDS AT EASE.

Assembly Session has CONVENED.
**Recent News**

**Message From Speaker Carl E. Heastie**

Welcome to the New York State Assembly website.

Since its creation in 1777, the state Assembly has helped shape history, often leading the way with progressive action and reform.

On February 3, 2015 the New York State Assembly continued making history... [Click here](#) for Speaker Carl E. Heastie's full welcome message

---

**Assembly Passes Pay Equity Package to Close the Pay Gap**

April 4, 2017

**Speaker Heastie Statement on Budget Extender**

April 3, 2017

**Speaker Heastie Statement on Raise the Age Legislation**

April 3, 2017

**Statement from Speaker Carl Heastie Regarding the New York State Budget**

April 2, 2017

**Grants Action News - April 2017**

April 1, 2017
Statement from Speaker Carl Heastie Regarding the New York State Budget
April 2, 2017

Grants Action News - April 2017
April 1, 2017

Assembly Passes Legislation to Ban Conversion Therapy for Minors
March 28, 2017

Statement from Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie and State Senator Jamaal Bailey Regarding Resignation of Police Officer Richard Haste
March 27, 2017

Assembly Passes Legislation to Expand Civil Rights Protections Measures Include GENDA and Protections for Religious Attire
March 22, 2017

Speaker Heastie Calls for Millionaire’s Income Tax Expansion at Rally on Capitol’s Million Dollar Staircase
March 22, 2017

Speaker Heastie Statement on Repeal and Replacement of the Affordable Care Act and the Collins Amendment
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Search</th>
<th>Advanced Search</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term: 2017-18</td>
<td>Enter bill no (e.g. A1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New York State Assembly Search

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill Search</th>
<th>Advanced Search</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Term: 2017-18</td>
<td>Type of Legislation: Bills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House:</td>
<td>Contains Text: early voting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor Vote:</td>
<td>Committee Vote:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calendar:</td>
<td>Committee Agendas:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member:</td>
<td>□ Prime Sponsor □ Cosponsored □ Multi Sponsored</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee:</td>
<td>□ Currently In □ Introduced In □ Was in at any time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Status:</td>
<td>Action Date Range: 5 to 5 or Number of Days:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Search Clear
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bill</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A00118</td>
<td>Creates commissions to interview and recommend trustee candidates to the state university, CUNY and the community colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A00522</td>
<td>Relates to the procedure for filling a vacancy in the office of state senator or in the office of member of assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A00872</td>
<td>Relates to enacting the “community financial services access and modernization act of 2017”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A00704</td>
<td>Provides that party designation of a candidate for nomination for any office to be filled by the voters of the entire county shall be made by the county committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A01524</td>
<td>Enacts the local government fiscal indicator system act</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A01709</td>
<td>Relates to the New York incubator network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A01706</td>
<td>Provides early voting for a candidate in a general election no sooner than twenty days and no later than five days prior to election day at county board of elections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A01904</td>
<td>Creates the office of the correctional ombudsman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A01968</td>
<td>Enacts the omnibus telecommunications reform act of 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02067</td>
<td>Provides that the director of the office of professional medical conduct shall meet with complainants to review materials to be considered in charges of misconduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02064</td>
<td>Relates to early voting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02169</td>
<td>Creates the lupus research enhancement program and the lupus research enhancement fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02734</td>
<td>Creates a permanent environmental justice advisory group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0278</td>
<td>Enacts the voter empowerment act of New York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0298</td>
<td>Makes various provisions to reform local development corporations and industrial development agencies: conflicts of interest, standard tax exemption policies, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02671</td>
<td>Creates the Peconic Bay regional transportation council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A02940</td>
<td>Relates to the information which must be included on applications for absentee ballots for school district elections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A0300</td>
<td>STATE OPERATIONS BUDGET BILL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03003</td>
<td>AID TO LOCALITIES BUDGET BILL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03004</td>
<td>CAPITAL PROJECTS BUDGET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03007</td>
<td>Enacts into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state health and mental hygiene budget for the 2017-2018 state fiscal year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03009</td>
<td>Enacts into law major components of legislation necessary to implement the state fiscal plan for the 2017-2018 state fiscal year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03010</td>
<td>Enacts into law major components of legislation necessary to implement good government and ethics reform budget for 2017-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03062</td>
<td>Relates to primary elections and the timely transmission of ballots to military voters stationed overseas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03168</td>
<td>Relates to decisions by the state board on electric generation; repealer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03513</td>
<td>Relates to service award programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A03534</td>
<td>Relates to primary election vacancies in elective offices and judicial proceedings for designating or nominating petitions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A02064 Summary:

BILL NO. A02064
SAME AS SAME AS S02258
SPONSOR Kavanagh

COSPNSR Cusick, Blake, Simon, Benedetto, Sepulveda, Dinowitz, Rosenthal, Gottfried, Quart, McDonald, Fahy, Otis, Lupardo, Perry, Abinanti, Rozic, Galef, Jaffee, Lifton, Braunstein, Paulin, Colton, Cahill, Hevesi, Solages, Cook, Ramos, Skoufis, Cymbrowitz, Carroll, Englebright, Glick, Hunter

MLTSPNSR Barnwell, Buchwald, Lentol, Magee, Thiele

Amd §§3-400, 4-117, 8-100, 8-102, 8-104 & 8-508, add Art 8 Title 6 §§8-600 - 8-602, EL L

Relates to early voting; provides that beginning the eighth day prior to any election and ending on and including the second day prior to the election a person duly registered and eligible to vote shall be permitted to vote.

Go to top
A02064 Summary:

BILL NO A02064
SAME AS SAME AS 502950
SPONSOR Kavanagh
COSPNSR Cusick, Blake, Simon, Benedetto, Sepulveda, Dinowitz, Rosenthal, Gottfried, Quart, McDonald, Fahy, Otis, Lupardo, Perry, Abinanti, Rozic, Galef, Jaffee, Lifton, Braunstein, Paulin, Colton, Cahill, Hevesi, Solages, Cook, Ramos, Skoufis, Cymbrowitz, Carroll, Englebright, Glick, Hunter
MLTSPNSR Barnwell, Buchwald, Lentol, Magee, Thiele

Amd §§3-400, 4-117, 8-100, 8-102, 8-104 & 8-508, add Art 8 Title 6 §§8-600 - 8-602, El L

Relates to early voting; provides that beginning the eighth day prior to any election and ending on and including the second day prior to the election a person duly registered and eligible to vote shall be permitted to vote.

Go to top

A02064 Actions:

BILL NO A02064
01/17/2017 referred to election law

Go to top

A02064 Memo:

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)
A02064 Memo:

NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY
MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION
submitted in accordance with Assembly Rule III, Sec 1(f)

BILL NUMBER: A2064

SPONSOR: Kavanagh (MS)

TITLE OF BILL:
An act to amend the election law, in relation to early voting

PURPOSE:
This bill establishes a system to permit eligible voters throughout the State to vote in person during a designated period prior to any primary, special, or general election day.

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS:
Section one of the bill amends Section 3-400 of the election law by adding a new subdivision 9 to clarify the manner in which election inspectors and poll clerks are to be appointed for polling places for early voting, and setting a standard for wait times for early voting not to exceed thirty minutes.

Section two of the bill amends section 4-117 of the election law by adding a new subdivision 1-a to require the board of elections to notify voters annually of the days, hours, and locations of polling places for early voting. The board of elections may satisfy this requirement by providing instructions in the notice regarding how to get the information via the internet or by phone.

Section three of the bill amends subdivision 2 of section 8-100 of the election law to require that polls open at seven o’clock in the morning,
in-person early voting in one form or another. For all the foregoing reason, New York should do the same, and support the right of all New Yorkers to meet their civic obligations and participate in our democracy in a reasonable, accessible manner.

**FISCAL IMPACT ON THE STATE:**
Minimal.

**FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCALITIES:**
There will be some costs associated with early voting related to staffing polling places, providing outreach materials to educate the public about the new procedures, and other aspects of administering the system.

**IMPACT ON REGULATION OF BUSINESSES AND INDIVIDUALS:**
None.

**IMPACT ON FINES, IMPRISONMENT, FORFEITURE OF RIGHTS, OR OTHER PENAL SANCTIONS:**
None.

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**
2016: A08582B (Kavanagh) - Passed Assembly
2015: A08582 (Kavanagh) - Elections

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**
This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law and shall apply to any election held one hundred twenty days or more after it shall have taken effect.
STATE OF NEW YORK

2064
2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

January 17, 2017

Introduced by M. of A. KAVANAGH, CUSICK, BLAKE, SIMON, BENEDETTO, SEPULVEDA, DINOWITZ, ROSENTHAL, GOTTFRIED, QUART, MCDONALD, FAHY, OTIS, LUPARDO, PERRY, ABINANTI, ROZIC, GALEF, JAFFEE, LIFTON, BRAUNSTEIN, PAULIN, COLTON, CAHILL, HEVESI, SOLAGES, COOK, RAMOS, SKOUFIS, CYMBROWITZ -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BUCHWALD, LENTOL, MAGEE, THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to early voting

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

Section 1. Section 3-400 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 9 to read as follows:

9. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of this article, election inspectors or poll clerks, if any, at polling places for early voting, shall consist of either board of elections employees who shall be appointed by the commissioners of such board or duly qualified individuals, appointed in the manner set forth in this section. Appointments to the offices of election inspector or poll clerk in each polling place for early voting shall be equally divided between the major political parties. The board of elections shall assign staff and provide the resources they require to ensure wait times at early voting sites do not exceed thirty minutes.

§ 2. Section 4-117 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 1 as follows:
Committees, Commissions and Task Forces

Standing Committees

**Aging**
*Chair:* Donna A. Lupardo
*Meeting Info:*
LOB 104A
Albany, NY 12248

**Agriculture**
*Chair:* William Magee
*Meeting Info:*
LOB 829
Albany, NY 12248

**Alcoholism and Drug Abuse**
*Chair:* Linda B. Rosenthal
*Meeting Info:*
LOB 630
Albany, NY 12248
Recent News

2016 Annual Report of the NYS Assembly Committee on Election Law
December 15, 2016

Notice of Public Hearing - Ensuring the integrity of elections
November 22, 2016

2015 Annual Report of the NYS Assembly Committee on Election Law
December 15, 2015

Notice of Public Hearing - Enhancing the voter experience, preventing voter disenfranchisement and improving emergency voting protocols.
November 30, 2015

Notice of Public Hearing - Enhancing Voter Accessibility
October 29, 2015

2014 Annual Report of the NYS Assembly Committee on Election Law
December 15, 2014

Read More
November 22, 2016
2015 Annual Report of the NYS Assembly Committee on Election Law
December 15, 2015
Notice of Public Hearing - Enhancing the voter experience, preventing voter disenfranchisement and improving emergency voting protocols.
November 30, 2015
Notice of Public Hearing - Enhancing Voter Accessibility
October 29, 2015
2014 Annual Report of the NYS Assembly Committee on Election Law
December 15, 2014

Read More
New York State Assembly Search

Term: 2017-18
House
Floor Vote
Calendar
Member
Committee
Law
Status
Type of Legislation: Bills
Contains Text: early voting
Prime Sponsor
Cosponsored
Multi Sponsored
Currently In
Introduced In
Was In at Any Time
Action Date Range
Search
Clear
Committee Agenda

The schedule of committee meetings can be found [here](#). Please note, depending on the overall weekly legislative schedule, these times may vary. For the most current information regarding when committees are meeting, see the following:

- **ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE** 04/04/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **CODES** 04/04/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **HIGHER EDUCATION** 04/04/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **RULES** 04/03/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **RULES** Addendum: A 04/04/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **RULES** Addendum: B 04/05/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **WAYS AND MEANS** 04/03/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **WAYS AND MEANS** Addendum: A 04/04/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
- **WAYS AND MEANS** Addendum: B 04/05/2017 OFF THE FLOOR
WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday April 4, 2017
00:00 AM--Ways and Means (FARRELL)

A00628
ROSENTHAL, JAFFEE, PAULIN, GOTTFRIED, GALEF, WEPRIN, HEVESI, ENGLEBRIGHT, SKOUFIS, CRESPO, STECK, SKARTADOS, STEFANEK, SOUPLES, OTIS, WALKER, COLTON, M. G. MILLER, JENNE, SEAWRIGHT, GJONAJ--
An act to amend the civil service law, in relation to implementing a state policy of setting salaries on the basis of equivalent value of work.

A01693
HAWLEY, KOLB, PALMESANO, CURRAN, BARCLAY, MONTESANO, MURRAY, GIGLIO, DIPIERRO, NORRIS, CASTORINA, LUPINACCI, BRABENEC--
An act to amend the tax law, in relation to creating a wage tax credit for employers who employ New York national guard men and women, reservists, volunteer firefighters and EMS personnel.

A02373
MONTESANO, GRAF, GIGLIO, LAWRENCE, PALUMBO, KOLB, DIPIERRO, NORRIS, BRABENEC, LUPINACCI, CASTORINA--
An act to amend the tax law, in relation to grants and reimbursements to public and nonpublic schools for the costs related to the hiring of school resource officers or for costs related to the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program.

A03871
PALMESANO, BARCLAY, BLANKENBUSH, GRAF, MONTESANO, GIGLIO, WALTER, NORRIS, GOODELL, BRABENEC, LUPINACCI--
An act to amend the tax law and the state finance law, in relation to providing for the deposit into the dedicated highway and bridge trust fund of a portion of the sales tax revenue from the sale of motor fuel.

A04626
TITUS, BRONSON, JAFFEE, SEPULVEDA, GJONAJ, FARRELL, SEAWRIGHT, JENNE, NIU--
An act to amend the labor law, in relation to enacting the "New York state fair pay act"
Find your Senator and share your views on important issues.

New York State Senate Session
Will Begin Shortly
Wednesday, April 5, 2017
Bills & Laws

Browse the current laws of New York organized by subject matter. You can also search for changes to the laws (known as "bills") which have been proposed by members of the Senate, members of the Assembly, and the Governor.
Find your Senator and share your views on important issues.

Fill out one or more of the following filter criteria to perform a search.

FILTER BY CONTENT TYPE
- BILLS

PRINT NO
SESSION YEAR
- Any

TITLE / SPONSOR MEMO / FULL TEXT

SENATE SPONSOR
BILL STATUS
Week of April 2, 2017

Extraordinary Session 4-2-17
- New York State Capitol Building
- Albany, New York
- 2:00 pm to 12:45 am | ARCHIVED VIDEO

Session 4-3-17
- New York State Capitol Building
- Albany, New York
- 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm | ARCHIVED VIDEO

Rules Meeting
- 332 CAP
- 12:45 pm | ARCHIVED VIDEO
THE ADVOCATE: HOW YOU CAN INFLUENCE STATE GOVERNMENT
Phone calls to your legislator really make an impact.

Be polite – remember they are just staff.

Prepare a script to make sure you highlight important points:
- Include relevant bill numbers.

Ask if others have called about this issue:
- Tell your neighbors to get involved too!
METHODS OF LOBBYING: LETTERS, PETITIONS, AND EMAILS

Often not as effective as phone calls or meetings

Many politicians are inundated with letters and emails

Can be useful if you have a direct staff contact

Also useful as a follow up to a phone call or meeting
METHODS OF LOBBYING: IN PERSON MEETING

Decide what office you want to meet them in
Indicate if others will be in attendance
Know their position before hand
Have materials organized ahead of time
Know your stuff!
HOW TO HAVE A GREATER IMPACT

Work with an organization
- Access to more resources
- Assistance in crafting letters and arranging meetings
- Greater visibility

Write a letter to the editor

Work on a campaign

Get involved online
HOW TO HAVE A GREATER IMPACT: SOCIAL MEDIA

- Download an advocacy app
  - 5 Calls https://5calls.org/
  - Capitol Call https://www.capitolcall.org/
  - OurVoice https://ourvoiceusa.org/our-voice-app/

- Get involved in an organization’s social media pages
  - Follow them on all their social pages
  - Sign up for email alters
  - Comment, like, and share their posts
  - Sign their petitions
  - Encourage your friends to do the same
WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO?

VOTE!

As of 2019, 16 and 17 year old's can pre-register to vote in New York State.
RECAP:

- State Government is Similar to Federal
- Differences in what offices are elected versus appointed
- Assembly is 150 members
- Senate is 63 members
- Both are controlled by Democrats
- Governor has a lot of power
- Bill becomes law through long annoying process
- You can get involved in the political process through advocacy and voting
- If you are reading this the presentation is almost over...
THIS CONCLUDES THE PRESENTATION

ANY QUESTIONS?