

RMS End of Week Update 4/11/2025 Happy Passover From All Of Us At Reid, McNally & Savage



Budget Update

Yesterday, a fourth Emergency Budget Appropriation Extender was passed to provide for an emergency appropriation of funding through April 15th. Currently there is no budget deal in sight with Governor Hochul stating "I'm not going to compromise my principles over a date. We were late once 32 days, we were late 20 days,". Governor Hochul has been described as acting unsportsmanlike by including policy proposals into the budget after the deadline and having a general unwillingness to meet in the middle, especially on the issue of pre-trial discovery.

Deputy Senate Majority Leader Mike Gianaris noted that "This governor is using delay as a strategy, and I think that's not helpful... Sometimes waiting around just to see if we get agitated enough to concede. That's not going to happen."

Meanwhile NYS legislators will not receive their paychecks until the budget is finalized. Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie has introduced a bill which would make it so that lawmakers don't have their paychecks withheld for a late budget if the governor inserts policy proposals into her pitch.

In an interview with Capital Tonight's Susan Arbetter, Speaker Heastie explained the move. "Because quite a few governors use their powers under *Silver v. Pataki* which gives them a lot of leverage in budget negotiations, governors like to use that leverage and can become cavalier thinking that the promise of (legislators) not getting paid kind of induces members to agree to a budget sooner."

Speaker Heastie went on to say "I don't want anyone to think this is a Kathy Hochul v. Carl Heastie thing, it's the furthest thing from that. My relationship with the governor is as great as it's always been," he said. "We're not trying to go to war with Gov. Hochul".

We will continue to keep you updated as Budget Season continues.

Budget Links: <u>RMS Tax/Revenue Table</u> <u>SFY 2025-26 H/MH Budget Summary Comparison</u>

<u>Proposal Regarding MTA Funding Includes Changes To The Payroll Mobility</u> <u>Tax</u>

This week news of the anticipated revenue proposal to help fund the MTA's \$68 billion capital plan has been circulating in Albany.

"The principle is that broad-based actions, not just confined to the city of New York ... and some level of shared sacrifice," Blake Washington Governor Hochul's Budget Director said.

Which means it would be a regional approach to revenue rather than finding a way to raise it solely in the city. By region, we're talking about the MTA region, which includes Long Island and the Hudson Valley, from Dutchess County to the city.

The revenue would come, at least in part, from changes to the payroll mobility tax. It would increase for the highest-earning businesses, remain stable for the middle and decrease for the smaller enterprises.

The plan would also call on the MTA to do more to combat fare evasion. All of that together is the "general framework," according to Washington.

Court orders CDPAP home care transition deadline pushed back

A federal judge ruled Thursday to give thousands of New Yorkers who depend on the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program for home care or for work more time to register with its new management company to ensure people do not lose their care.

The preliminary injunction the state Health Department agreed to late Wednesday (for more information click <u>here</u>) gives disabled or elderly people who use the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program until May 15 to register with company Public Partnerships LLC. Workers must be registered with the new management company by June 6 and must continue to be paid by their previous management company until then.

"The parties in this litigation have come to a thoughtful agreement that supports the state's ongoing CDPAP transition and ensures these reforms will proceed in full," Gov. Kathy Hochul's spokesperson Sam Spokony said in a statement. "The agreement has no impact on hundreds of thousands of consumers and workers who have already completed registration with PPL. It provides a limited window for additional consumers and workers to complete their registration with PPL."

The U.S. Department of Justice filed a statement of interest against the Health Department after the agreement late Wednesday — warning the federal government is keeping a close eye on the state throughout the transition to make sure New York holds up its end of the deal.

"The United States has a significant interest in ensuring fair treatment and continued, uninterrupted and critical care for the thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers in the CDPAP program affected by this transition," according to the filing by the DOJ. "The United States will monitor this litigation to ensure that this interest is served by the CDPAP program."

Earlier this week, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. posted on X the federal government will review the state's home care transition over the next 90 days.

Spokony said the removal of more than 600 smaller companies that have handled the program's payroll will reduce taxpayer waste regardless of federal oversight.

"New York state's much-needed CDPAP reforms will protect services for people who need them and put an end to runaway bureaucratic spending in this taxpayer-funded program," he said. "...The Department of Health will continue working with all stakeholders to ensure that CDPAP consumers and workers receive the care and support they need, and the Department of Justice's statement does not take away from that."

While the process is ongoing, the state officially transitioned its CDPAP payroll to PPL on April 1. The company issued its first payments to workers Thursday. About 189,000 CDPAP consumers have finished registration with PPL as of Thursday — leaving over 30,000 incomplete registrations, according to the NYS Health Department.

About 206,000 CDPAP workers have access to PPL's Time4Care app to log their hours of about 243,000 personal care assistants enrolled in the program to date, according to the NYS Health Department.

For more information please click <u>here</u>.

<u>Special Election Announced For 22nd Senate District Seat Resigned By</u> <u>Senator Simcha Felder</u>

Earlier this week Senator Simcha Felder resigned his Senate seat to return the New York City Councils 44th District after winning the March 25, 2025, special election, he previously held this seat from 2002-2010. Yesterday, Governor Hochul announced that a special election to fill the vacancy in the 22nd Senate District created by the resignation will be held on Tuesday, May 20. Governor Hochul issued the <u>proclamation</u> on April 10 pursuant to the Public Officers Law.

"To ensure residents of the 22nd District have representation in the State Senate, there will be a special election in May to fill the seat being vacated by Senator Simcha Felder," Governor Hochul said. "Senator Felder has served in Albany for many years, and we wish him well in his next chapter. I look forward to working with his successor on the issues that matter to the people of the 22nd District."

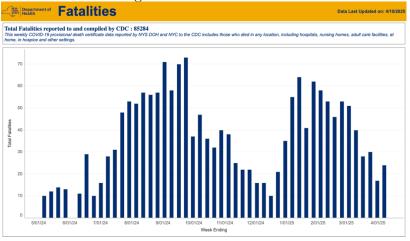
To view the full statement please click <u>here</u>.

NYS COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard

Use this link to view the State's updated COVID-19 Hub.

NYS COVID-19 Fatalities Tracker

Below we have included the Fatalities Tracker with the webpage where updated numbers can be found throughout the week linked <u>here.</u>



Helpful Links and Resources

SFY 2025-26 H/MH Budget Summary Comparison RMS Tax/ Revenue Table Center for Disease Control and Prevention Department of Financial Services information and resources New York COVID-19 Vaccine Information Page **Department of Health** https://coronavirus.health.ny.gov/home COVID-19 Guidance for Medicaid Providers **Office of Mental Health** https://omh.ny.gov/omhweb/covid-19-resources.html **OPWDD** https://opwdd.ny.gov/coronavirus-guidance **State Education Department** http://www.op.nysed.gov/COVID-19.html NYS Department of Labor https://dol.ny.gov/