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RMS End of Week Update 6/20/2025



Legislative Session Adjourns

The NYS Assembly adjourned around 1am Wednesday morning. Following the Senate's Adjournment late last week. Senate Majority Leader Stewart Cousins put out a statement on the end of legislative session stating “This year, we have again taken action on what truly matters: housing, healthcare, education, agriculture, clean energy, and economic opportunity, all while keeping our fiscal house in order. That’s good government.”

At the end of session, a number of bills that didn’t get voted on in the Assembly which were on the shortlist of items under consideration after having passed the Senate include the Packaging Reduction and Recycling Infrastructure Act, the Consumer Savings and Reliability Act, Short-term disability benefit increase legislation, legislation that would create a moratorium on biosolids, and bills regarding artificial intelligence regulations.

At this point all signs point to a return of the Legislature in September to address potential federal cuts currently under consideration in Washington D.C. The Governor

and Legislative leaders continue to express concern regarding the impact of these cuts on the State's Medicaid program and General Fund.

For more information, please click [here](#).

CDPAP hearing scheduled by state Senate to hear testimony, review contract award

The transition of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program will get a second look from the state Senate. Senator Gustavo Rivera, chair of the Health Committee, and Senator James Skoufis, chair of the Investigations Committee, announced in Manhattan Wednesday that they would hold a hearing on that transition July 9 in New York City.

The program, which allows Medicaid recipients to hire their own home care aides, is now under the management of Public Partnerships, LLC, a private company that won that contract from the state last fall.

The fiscal management of the program was previously spread across hundreds of businesses that acted as intermediaries between the state and home care aides. The transition to Public Partnerships was supposed to be finalized April 1 but is ongoing. There have been numerous issues, including aides who haven't been paid and consumers who had a difficult time registering with the company.

"We want to lay out in clear terms how the transition worked, what didn't work, how it happened, and what are the things we need to learn to make sure the individuals served by this program continue to be served by this program," Senator Rivera said. Senator Skoufis said the committee would be inviting witnesses to testify and would swear them in under oath. He hinted that the committee could also use its subpoena power to summon witnesses who don't want to testify voluntarily.

He said he was particularly interested in how Public Partnerships was chosen by the state to handle the program. There have been unproven allegations that the contract was rigged in the company's favor.

The transition was included as part of last year's state budget. While the budget set up a bidding process for the contract, Senator Skoufis said that wasn't the case in draft versions of the spending plan.

"There are budget drafts where PPL was actually named in the draft without even an RFP, without any kind of bidding process," Senator Skoufis said. "During negotiations that was fleshed out in such a way that we required an RFP."

Litigation related to that contract is also ongoing, with the state facing multiple lawsuits over that award and the transition in general.

Governor Hochul Speaks Regarding the Arrest of Brad Lander

Earlier this week, Governor Hochul spoke at a press conference following the release of New York City Comptroller Brad Lander following his arrest. The Governor also highlighted the state's investment of \$50 million dollars to support immigrant legal services.

Governor Hochul stated "This is a sorry day for New York and our country. I was literally walking the streets of Little Haiti, to try and bring some comfort to a community that's under siege with a travel ban and losing their legal status. The streets were empty, people were scared, businesses are concerned about their future, and that's when I got word of what happened to my colleague in government, our comptroller Brad Lander.

The video is shocking — I knew I needed to come down here immediately and check on his whereabouts and do what I could to intervene. I'll let Brad speak about his experience, but to my knowledge the charges — there are no charges, the charges have been dropped. He walks out of there a free man. While that is a positive outcome in a very high profile case. We're also concerned about those — that are walking out this courthouse, taken away from their families.

They don't have the attention, they don't have the lawyers and that's why the State of New York is providing fifty-million dollars to cover legal services for people who are finding themselves in this situation. We continue to do what we can to support the communities and the immigration coalitions and thank them for their work they're doing at this time.

It's hard to see these people, to know their stories, to hug them, to know they've been separated from loved ones. I just want to say — we're a better country than this. We are a far better country than what we're experiencing.

This is New York—this is New York! The land of immigrants, we're proud of them. As I stood in the hallway upstairs from the ninth door waiting to know the whereabouts of my friend, almost everyone I spoke to who worked there, in security and otherwise — they came from other countries. They are immigrants themselves, don't forget that."

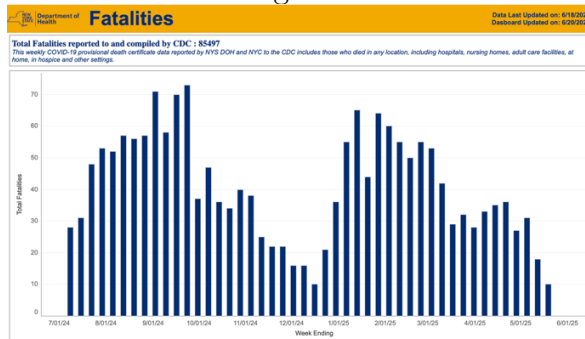
For more information please click [here](#).

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 [here](#).



Helpful Links and Resources

[RMS Final Budget Tax/Revenue Table](#)

[RMS SFY 2025-26 Final Budget H/MH Summary](#)

[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/>