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RMS End of Week Update 5/30/2025



Session Update

This past week a number of committees had their final scheduled committee meeting as the end of session draws closer with the Senate expected to end session June 13 or 13th and the Assembly expected to wrap up after an additional 3 days on June 18th. A number of pieces of legislation are being discussed including the Expanded Producer Responsibility Act which passed the Senate earlier this week, the Medical Aid in Dying Act, and many others as legislative session races to the finish.

We will continue to keep you updated as we move towards the end of legislative session.

Senate Health Committee Chair Gustavo Rivera On Capitol Pressroom

Senator Rivera, Chair of the Senate Health Committee was on Capitol Pressroom this morning to discuss the controversial transition of a popular home care program and

identify changes he wants to see to the administration of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program.

Senator Rivera began the interview discussing how firsthand reports and the workforce of the Consumer Directed Personal Assistance Program show that the transition to a single fiscal intermediary (PPL) is not working. He noted that as of a few days ago according to PPL itself it has 60,000 workers that have not yet been paid. Senator Rivera also noted that not everyone has even made the transition leaving consumers with no one taking care of them and workers who had to find new jobs.

Senator Rivera then discussed next steps given where we are and that would be a legislative solution to the current issues we are having with his bill [S1189](#). Which would create a longer timeline, he said two years, to build out and transition the system and it would create standards for the fiscal intermediaries so that the Department of Health could weed out bad actors. He noted that the unreliability of the current status quo does not work for anyone.

When asked about the possibility of having legislative hearings on this issue over the summer Senator Rivera said stay tuned.

To listen to the full interview please click [here](#).

Senator Sam Sutton Joins NYS Senate

New York State [Senator Sam Sutton](#), who won an upset victory in the New York State Senate District 22 race, joined his colleagues in Albany this week. Senator Sutton was officially added to the majority conference membership and will serve on the Aging, Disabilities, Education, Health, NYC Education, and Social Services committees.

Governor Hochul Announces Confirmation Of Three Cabinet Members

Earlier today, Governor Hochul today announced the confirmation of three members of her cabinet. Stating “New Yorkers deserve smart, experienced professionals at every level of government, and these leaders have distinguished themselves as public servants,” Governor Hochul said. “Our Administration is laser focused on making New York safer and more affordable, and these three commissioners will play pivotal roles in our work to improve the lives of all New Yorkers. “

[Willow Baer](#) was confirmed by the New York State Senate to serve as Commissioner of the Office of People with Developmental Disabilities. Commissioner Baer has been serving as Acting Commissioner since July 2024. Previously, she served as OPWDD’s Executive Deputy Commissioner and oversaw the agency’s operational management, including planning, fiscal planning and oversight, and policy development.

Amanda Lefton was confirmed by the New York State Senate to serve as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC). Commissioner Lefton has been serving as Acting Commissioner since February 2025. Commissioner Lefton's diverse career spans the public and private sectors, including previously serving as the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) within the Department of the Interior.

Denise Miranda was confirmed by the New York State Senate to serve as Commissioner of the Division of Human Rights. Commissioner Miranda has been serving as Acting Commissioner since March 2024. Prior to this, Commissioner Miranda served as the Executive Director of the New York State Justice Center for the Protection of People with Special Needs for seven years.

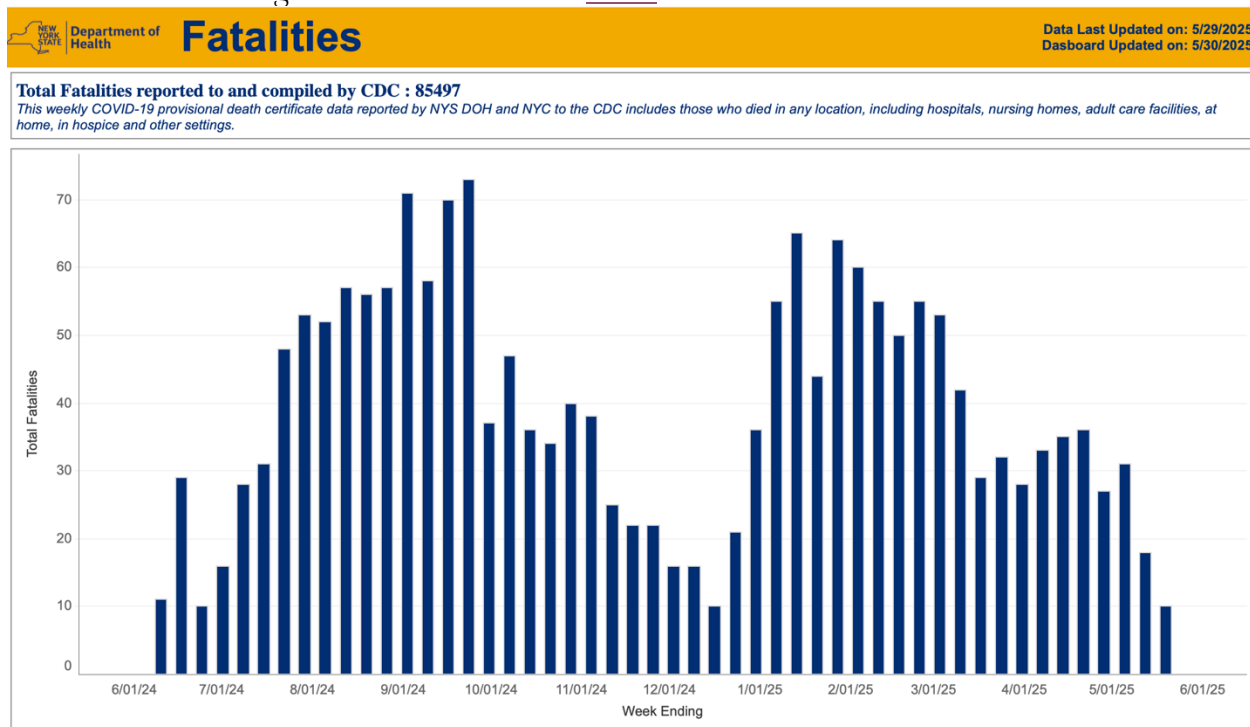
For more information please click [here](#).

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/>