

# RM&S

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One Commerce Plaza  
Suite 402  
Albany, NY 12210  
Phone: 518.465.7330  
Fax: 518.465.0273  
Website: lobbywr.com

ROBERT REID | MARCY SAVAGE | KELLY FORSTER | KAYLA BOGDANOWICZ | ELIZABETH REID | MAGGIE SHUGRUE

## RMS End of Week Update 5/1/2026



### **Some Progress On Budget Negotiations Continue As Session Clock Counts Down**

The New York State legislature passed its eighth budget extender on Wednesday. The extender keeps the Government funded through Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. This extender means that when the agreement on the FY2027 New York State Budget is reached it will be the latest in Governor Kathy Hochul's tenure.

According to press reports there was an indication of some progress in the budget discussions on a variety of issues this week.

Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie indicating that language to limit municipalities from entering in "informal" agreements with immigration enforcement was potentially off the

table. "I think the center of gravity might be in that direction now, but I don't think it's been final, final," he told reporters.

The Governor is proposing the "Local Cops, Local Crimes Act", which would limit formal agreements with ICE. Immigration advocates have pushed for bans on both formal, and informal agreements.

Speaker Heastie said there still is discussion on limiting ICE in certain locations, like near polling places. He also said another provision was off the table: law enforcement using "probable cause" when making an arrest and determining coordination with immigration enforcement.

In terms of Climate, it appears lawmakers are closer to an agreement with the Governor after her proposal to change the CLCPA. While dates haven't necessarily been determined, it appears the budget will include a change as to how emissions are measured. Instead of a 20-year global warming potential, emissions would be measured against a 100-year global warming potential.

Speaker Heastie also indicated the pied-à-terre proposal for New York City could be the only added tax for the State, and that he was open to adding that proposal as an opt-in beyond NYC. The Assembly and Senate both proposed increases on corporate tax rates, along with increases in taxes on individuals making \$5 million or more in their initial One-House proposals in March. Governor Hochul has maintained resistance to those proposals.

We will continue to keep you updated as the budget process moves forward and as we continue on to the end of legislative session with only 20 scheduled session days left before session concludes on June 4<sup>th</sup> and members head back to their districts to finish preparations for the June 23<sup>rd</sup> primary elections.

**To view the full article please click [here](#).**

### **The Office of Health Insurance Programs Releases The March 2026 Medicaid Update**

The Office of Health Insurance Programs of the New York State Department of Health has approved the release of the March 2026 [Medicaid Update](#). Please find the print-ready version of the issue available for download at: [https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/program/update/2026/docs/mu\\_no04\\_mar26\\_pr.pdf](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/program/update/2026/docs/mu_no04_mar26_pr.pdf).

You may also go straight to an article or topic that pertains to you by selecting from the current issue's table of contents below.

## **Policy and Billing**

- [Update to the New York State Patient Centered Medical Home Billing Guidance \(Cover\)](#)
- [New York State Medicaid Updated Coverage Criteria for Wireless Capsule Endoscopy](#)
- [Prohibited Prior Authorization Requests](#)
- [Expansion of Remote Patient Monitoring Delivered by Clinical Staff and for Prenatal/Postpartum Services](#)
- [New Policy Allowing for Treatment in Place Payments for New York State Medicaid](#)

## **All Providers**

- [2026 Spousal Impoverishment Income and Resource Levels Increase](#)
  - [Information Notice to Couples with an Institutionalized Spouse](#)
  - [Request for Assessment - Spousal Impoverishment Form](#)
- [Medicaid Breast Cancer Surgery Centers](#)

## **Pharmacy**

- [NYRx Pharmacy Drug Coverage: Claims Processing Enhancements and Reminders](#)
- [Clarification and Reminder: Pharmacy Providers Servicing Requirements for NYRx Members](#)
- [Pharmacy Reminder: Coordination of Benefits Processing Instructions for New York State Medicaid](#)

## **Governor Hochul Names Christian Jackstadt Acting Commissioner of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles**

Earlier this week Governor Hochul announced Christian Jackstadt has been named as Acting Commissioner of the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles following the April 29 retirement of Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder.

Named Executive Deputy Commissioner of DMV in March 2022, Mr. Jackstadt has overseen the agency's day-to-day operations and has been instrumental in advancing its strategic goals. Under his guidance, the agency renewed its focus on customer service, improved its organizational culture and successfully completed the first half of the largest technology modernization project in DMV history.

“Christian Jackstadt has a terrific record of serving New Yorkers, both at the DMV and in prior roles in the Executive Chamber and at the Office of General Services,” Governor Hochul said. “I know he will continue to strengthen the DMV and bring further improvement to its recent record of better customer services to the millions of New Yorkers who rely on it.”

New York State Department of Motor Vehicles Acting Commissioner Christian Jackstadt said, “I am honored to step into this role as we thank Commissioner Schroeder for his excellent service to our state. I remain deeply committed to continuing to focus on Governor Hochul’s priorities surrounding public safety, customer experience, and affordability, and I look forward to leading our employees and working with our partners across the state.”

Prior to joining DMV, Mr. Jackstadt served as the Deputy Director of State Operations in the Executive Chamber, overseeing the daily operations of state agencies, authorities and public benefit corporations. In that role he was integral in the COVID-19 response effort as he led all state-run vaccination and testing operations, and he assisted with key recovery efforts to stabilize New York after the pandemic.

Prior to his time in the Executive Chamber Mr. Jackstadt served as an associate commissioner for the NYS Office of General Services, managing projects, overseeing state real estate, risk assessment, and cybersecurity.

**To read the full press release please click [here](#).**

### **Helpful Links and Resources**

**[RMS Budget One House Revenue and Tax Table](#)**

**[RMS Health/Mental Hygiene One House Budget Table](#)**

**[Assembly Yellow Book](#)**

**[Senate Blue Blook](#)**

**[FY 27 Senate Finance Economic and Revenue Report](#)**

**[FY27 Assembly Ways & Means Economic and Revenue Report](#)**

**[Empire State Development Tariff Resource Guide](#)**

**[NYS COVID-19 Monitoring Dashboard](#)**

**[NYS COVID-19 Fatalities Tracker](#)**

**[Eliminating Distractions In Schools Resource](#)**

[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/>