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RMS End Of The Week Update 11/25/26



As we head into the Thanksgiving holiday, Governor Kathy Hochul has acted on a significant number of bills passed during the 2026 Legislative Session, while providing an early indication of her policy priorities for 2027. State lawmakers are also continuing their work through a series of public hearings scheduled for the coming weeks. Finally, details surrounding the January 2027 inauguration of New York's statewide elected officials have also been announced.

Governor Hochul Signs 40 Bills and Vetoes 21

Governor Hochul completed action on a package of 61 bills delivered to her earlier this month. The package included her first vetoes of the year. The Governor also negotiated chapter amendments to at least five measures that will require additional legislative action in 2027.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE

Bills Acted Upon	Bills Signed	Bills Vetoed	Chapter Amendment Agreements
61	40	21	5+

65.6% Signed into Law | 34.4% Vetoed



Legislation Signed into Law

Among the more significant measures approved by the Governor are:

Legislation	Summary
Electronic Lobbying Filings A2330 / S5843	Requires lobbyists and their clients to electronically submit all required filings to the Commission on Ethics and Lobbying in Government (COELIG). Takes effect in 30 days.
Psychology Interstate Compact A6744 / S7136	Allows New York to participate in an interstate compact permitting psychologists to provide telehealth services across state lines and temporary in-person care, subject to applicable requirements.
Synthesized Kratom Products A9156 / S8925-A	Prohibits the sale of synthesized kratom products containing high concentrations of 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH).
Motor Vehicle Subscription Fees A10411-A / S9348	Prohibits manufacturers and dealers from charging recurring subscription fees for certain built-in vehicle features.
Real Estate Listing Transparency A10679-B / S10274	Requires public advertising of residential real estate listings unless the property owner signs a disclosure. Chapter amendments are anticipated.
Financial Disclosure Statements A463-B / S4857	Requires COELIG to publicly post financial disclosure statements filed by candidates for state office.
Business Records in Grand Jury Proceedings A7896 / S9758	Permits the introduction of business records without live testimony authenticating those records. Chapter amendments are anticipated.
Plea Bargaining A10024 / S8944	Provides greater flexibility in certain plea agreements involving statutory minimum prison sentences.

Legislation Vetoed by the Governor

Legislation	Summary
Food Safety and Chemical Disclosure Act A1556-G/ S1239-F	Became the Governor's first reported veto of 2026. This bill would have prohibited certain food additives and food color additives and provided that in an action to enforce compliance, the recognition by the federal food and drug administration of any of these substances as safe may not be alleged as a defense and established requirements for the reporting of GRAS (generally recognized as safe) substances.
Utility Ratepayer Protections A10510 / S9251	Would have prohibited utilities from recovering certain labor-related legal expenses and workers' compensation costs through rate increases.
Artificial Intelligence Disclosures A3411-B / S934	Would have required generative AI systems to notify users that information produced may be inaccurate. The Governor considered the requirements overly broad.
State Workforce Contracting A1396 / S4773	Would have restricted state agencies from contracting for services ordinarily performed by permanent employees during a hiring freeze.
State Workforce Vacancy Study A2633 / S8209	Would have required the Department of Civil Service to study vacancies and staffing shortages across state agencies.
Low Impact Landscaping Rights Act A10102 / S9133	Would have restricted homeowners associations from prohibiting pollinator-friendly landscaping.
Criminal Court Transparency A4674 / S3864-A	Would have required a study concerning the online publication of certain criminal court decisions involving constitutional questions.
Empire State Plaza Buildings A10653 / S9685	Would have established a process for renaming the four state agency buildings at the Empire State Plaza.
Law Enforcement Tattoo Policies A8492-C / S8021	Would have established statewide standards governing visible tattoos for law enforcement officers.

The NYS DOH Issued A Statewide Standing Order Allowing Pharmacists To Administer The MMR Vaccine

The New York State Department of Health has issued a statewide standing order allowing pharmacists to administer the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine to eligible New Yorkers ages 2 and older.

Under the order, eligible children and adults can receive the vaccine at participating pharmacies without obtaining a separate prescription from their health care provider. "Measles spreads easily and can make people very sick, especially young children," State Health Commissioner Dr. James McDonald said. "This standing order gives families another place to get vaccinated. If you're unsure whether you or your child is up to date on the MMR vaccine, now is a good time to check."

The standing order is part of New York State's response to the measles outbreak. Governor Kathy Hochul declared a statewide disaster emergency on October 5 under Executive Order No. 65 and extended it on November 4 under Executive Order No. 65.1. This Executive Order expands the pool of eligible individuals who can administer measles vaccines and provides swift access to additional resources if needed.

As of November 14, New York State had reported 281 confirmed measles cases in 2026, including 273 outside New York City and eight in New York City. The Department's Measles Dashboard is updated on Tuesday each week and displays cases through the prior Saturday.

Artificial Intelligence Expected to Feature Prominently in Governor's 2027 Agenda

Governor Hochul announced this week that her January 2027 State of the State address will include a package of proposals addressing artificial intelligence. The announcement came as the Governor signed legislation prohibiting the sale of toys integrated with AI chatbots. The new law takes effect in 90 days.

The Governor has previously indicated an interest in exploring additional AI safeguards, including mechanisms to prevent the release of potentially dangerous AI models and addressing the risks associated with AI systems capable of improving themselves.

While Hochul expressed a preference for federal regulation, she indicated that New York must be prepared to act in the absence of sufficient federal action.

Artificial intelligence regulation is expected to be a significant issue during the 2027 Legislative Session, with potential implications for health care providers, financial services companies, employers, technology companies and other regulated industries.

Court of Appeals Calls for Modernization of Search Warrant Laws

All seven judges of the New York State Court of Appeals expressed support for legislative action to modernize the state's search warrant laws in light of technological advances.

Although the judges differed in their legal reasoning and the outcome of the case before them, they agreed that legislative action is needed to address the challenges associated with searches of smartphones and electronically stored information.

The relevant statutory provisions date back to 1971.

The decision could prompt legislative proposals in 2027 addressing digital privacy, electronic records and the scope of law enforcement authority.

New Legislation Would Restrict Battery Energy Storage Facilities

Senator Leroy Comrie has introduced legislation, S10744, that would restrict the construction of battery energy storage systems in areas zoned for residential use.

The legislation would:

- Prohibit new battery energy storage facilities in residential zones unless no reasonable alternative location exists.
- Require state review before qualifying residential projects receive municipal zoning approval.
- Prevent municipalities from overriding the statewide prohibition.
- Require qualifying residential projects to contribute 2% of total project costs toward infrastructure improvements.

The proposal reflects continuing concerns regarding public safety, local land use and the development of infrastructure necessary to support New York's renewable energy transition.

Upcoming Legislative Public Hearings

The New York State Assembly has scheduled several public hearings in advance of the 2027 Legislative Session.

Date and Time	Subject	Location
Monday, November 30 11:00 a.m.	Use of Artificial Intelligence by Law Enforcement	250 Broadway, NYC
Tuesday, December 1 11:00 a.m.	Aging in Place Services	Legislative Office Building, Hearing Room C, Albany
Tuesday, December 8 10:00 a.m.	Mitchell-Lama Housing Program	250 Broadway, NYC

The December 1 hearing will examine the effectiveness of programs designed to help older New Yorkers remain independent in their homes and communities. The December

8 hearing will examine the effectiveness of the $225 million allocated by the state since 2024 to preserve and improve Mitchell-Lama housing.

2027 New York State Inauguration

Details have been announced for the January inaugural events honoring New York's statewide elected officials:

Governor Kathy Hochul, **Lieutenant Governor Adrienne E. Adams, State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli**, **Attorney General Letitia James Swearing-In Ceremony**

Friday, January 8, 2027
2:00 p.m.
Carnegie Hall — Stern Auditorium / Perelman Stage
New York City

Inaugural Celebration

Saturday, January 9, 2027
8:00 p.m.
Winter Garden at Brookfield Place
New York City

The New York State Democratic Committee has released the following sponsorship opportunities:

Sponsorship Level	Contribution	Priority Tickets to Each Event
Excelsior	$250,000	8
Empire	$100,000	8
Liberty	$50,000	6
Legacy	$25,000	4
Capitol	$10,000	2

The announced deadline for sponsorship recognition is December 18, 2026. Guest names and email addresses are due January 4, 2027.

Additional information is available at www.nyinauguration.org.

Looking Ahead to the 2027 Legislative Session

As the Legislature and Executive Chamber prepare for the upcoming year, RMS will continue to monitor developments surrounding:

- Remaining 2026 legislation awaiting gubernatorial action.
- Chapter amendments to recently enacted laws.
- The Governor's 2027 State of the State address.
- Development of the FY 2028 Executive Budget.
- Legislative leadership and committee assignments.

- Emerging legislative and regulatory priorities affecting our clients.

Happy Thanksgiving!
On behalf of everyone at Reid, McNally & Savage, we extend our warmest wishes to our clients, colleagues and their families for a happy, healthy and enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday!

We appreciate your continued confidence in our firm and look forward to working with you as we prepare for the 2027 Legislative Session.

Helpful Links and Resources
FY 2028 Quick Start Budget Report
NYS Assembly FY28 QuickStart
NYS Senate FY28 QuickStart
FY 2027 Enacted Budget Financial Plan
NYS Congressional Results
NYS Senate Results
NYS Assembly Results
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/