



END SESSION BILLS PASSED BY LEGISLATURE IN 2018

A10639 (Morelle) / (S8380 (Funke): The 2016 paid family leave system would be expanded to add bereavement for a relative to the circumstances that can guarantee a worker time off from the job.

A5285 (Perry) / S2412 (DeFrancisco): A new "State Commission on Prosecutorial Conduct" would be established that would have the authority to discipline prosecutors for practices such as withholding evidence.

A6823 (Paulin) / S5988 (Lanza): Currently, individuals can be convicted of sex trafficking only if it can be proven that they used force or coercion on their victims. That stipulation would change if the individuals they trafficked are minors.

A8245 (O'Donnell) / S8501 (Murphy): Rather than renewing the state's ticket scalping law for a year as has become the norm over the past decade, lawmakers moved to keep it on the books until 2021. This renewal was accompanied by a couple of new consumer protection provisions designed to reduce the likelihood that ticket-buyers will be fleeced.

A10574 (Hyndma) / S6343 (Alcantara): A loophole in the state law that prohibits theft of services means that it is completely legal for somebody to receive a haircut or be treated at a beauty salon and leave without paying. This bill would fix that.

A10795 (Paulin) / S8298 (Gallivan): State legislators would be allowed to solemnize marriages. This potential proposal emerged after Cuomo's successful push for giving this power to governors in 2015, which he used two weeks later to officiate at Billy Joel's fourth wedding.

A11011 (Gottfried) / S8987 (Amedore): Individuals who currently are prescribed opioids for pain would be able to receive medical marijuana instead, as would those suffering from substance use disorder.

A588 (Rosenthal) / S8821 (Persaud): Prisons would need to provide inmates with feminine hygiene products free of charge.

A297 (Gunther) / S2496 (Hannon): Insurance companies would not be allowed to raise rates for people who choose to donate an organ.

A4956 (Rosenthal L) / S7112 (Lanza): Evacuees would be allowed to take their pets on public transportation in the event of an emergency. Since this impacts the operations of Port Authority vehicles, the bill would only take effect if an identical version is approved by New Jersey lawmakers.

A8684 (Rosenthal L) / S7388 (Tedisco): When people are evicted from their home, marshals will need to take steps to make sure that any animals residing inside are taken care of and not abandoned inside an apartment that their owners can't access.

A10827 (Magee) / S8830 (Seward): After legalizing wine ice cream a decade ago, New York lawmakers are moving to permit the manufacturing of beer and cider ice cream.

A11113 (Schimminger) / S8560 (Murphy): State law that limits the production of mead and braggot would be eased. Like the ice cream bill, there's little doubt that the measure will be signed by Cuomo, who has consistently taken the position that archaic provisions of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Law that hinder business should be stricken from the books.



A8783 (Vanel) / S9013 (Phillips): A new state task force would study cryptocurrencies and their potential impact on tax collection and energy usage in New York.

A11111 (Barrett) / S9053 (Serino): The state would study "carbon farming," in which the gas is used from the atmosphere in an attempt to improve crops, through a pilot program in the Upper Hudson Valley.

A11233 (Barrett) / S8717 (Serino): The number of localities authorized to use land banks to combat blight would increase from 25 to 35.

A716 (Gunther) / S219 (Marchione): Lottery winners would be able to remain anonymous at their request, in an attempt to reduce the likelihood they'll be targeted for fraud or overwhelmed with phone calls from individuals or groups seeking financial assistance.

A11125 (Otis) / S9070 (Lanza): "Lulu and Leo's Law," written in response to a 2012 murder of two children by their nanny, would make it illegal to lie when serving as a reference for somebody applying to be a home-based caregiver for minors.

A397 (Gunther) / S7522 (Hannon): Proprietors of home-based child care centers would be prohibited from smoking in these facilities during off-hours in an attempt to reduce minors' exposure to third-hand smoke.

A208 (Lupardo) / S2587 (Marcellino): School bus drivers would be subject to random drug and alcohol tests.

A11158 (Aubry) / No Senate version: This bill, introduced at Cuomo's request, would give the state the authority to seize land to construct rail access to LaGuardia Airport.

A9805 (Abinanti) / S8946 (Lanza): In response to problems with the state's transition to a cashless tolling system, this bill would establish procedures to let drivers appeal fines and would limit the size of late fees.

A2620 (Perry) / S9012 (Persaud); A7715 (Thiele) / S6072 (LaValle); A219 (Santabarbara) / S8869 (Amedore); A2923 (Perry) / S8869 (Amedore); A5305 (Miller MG) / S4013 (Addabbo): The big winners in this year's session include people who like variety in their license plates. Five such bills passed, including ones to honor the Jamaican bobsled team, the New York State Elks, and the West Indian-American Day Carnival. The others would raise money for a Down syndrome research fund and a Sept. 11 scholarship program.

Excerpted from Politico, "Here's what the Legislature accomplished, despite other failures," by Bill Mahoney, June 22, 2018