



# Advocacy 101

Brittany Vogel

# Why Advocate?

## Why Advocate?

“Unless someone like you cares  
a whole awful lot, Nothing is  
going to get better. It's not.”  
- Dr. Seuss, The Lorax



- Give youth a voice
- Impact state laws, policies and systems
- Maintain/increase funding

# Fundamentals

- Know the process
- Know the political environment
- Know the players
- Craft and implement your advocacy plan



## New York State Legislative Session Calendar January — June 2022



The New York State legislative session calendar establishes a schedule for the 2022 legislative session and provides dates important to the legislative process. The session calendar is intended to afford Members flexibility in conducting legislative business in Albany and planning activities within their home districts. The session calendar will foster orderly and timely consideration of legislation. Unforeseen events may require modification of the session calendar.

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH						
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27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL						
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MAY						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

**January 5** 2022 Legislative Session convenes  
**January 17** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
**January 18** Final Day for Submission of Executive Budget

**February 21** Presidents' Day  
**April 1** Beginning of new Fiscal Year  
**May 30** Memorial Day

 Indicates session day

# Legislative Calendar

# Budget Process

- Governor develops & releases the “Executive Budget”
- Legislature Analyzes the Executive budget, seeks public comment
- Senate and Assembly introduce their own “one-house budgets”
- A final negotiated budget must be adopted by April 1st
- Governor has line-item veto power on any appropriation added to the executive budget
- Legislators may override vetoes with enough votes (2/3rd majority)

# State of Albany

- Tremendous change over the past several years
  - People
  - Programmatic
    - COVID disrupted the status quo
    - FY 2023 fiscal outlook is good, but number of unknowns remain
    - Number of important policy discussions are happening everyday



# Governor Kathy Hochul

- Registered Democrat
- Former Lt. Governor and Congresswoman and local elected official
- Took office in August after the sitting Governor resigned
- Facing a primary in June for a full term
- Governor's Powers: COVID-19 Emergency Super-Powers



# NYS Senate

- 63 Total Members
- 43 Democrats
- 20 Republicans
- Democrat Majority





# New York State Assembly



- 150 Total Members
- 107 Democrats
- 43 Republicans
- Democrat Majority

# Components of Advocacy

- Setting goals & priorities
- Strategy, timing, focus
- Education/awareness/campaign building
- Building relationships/champions
- Representation
- Finding allies/Third party validators/coalitions
- Demonstrate impact and quantify outcomes



# Questions?

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