

2014

Legislative Program

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JOB SECURITY AND MEMBER RIGHTS

Prohibition on Unilateral Diminution of Retirees' Health Insurance – All Public Employees

S-3627 Lanza Civil Service & Pensions Committee

A-902 Weprin Governmental Employees Committee

Prohibits a public employer from diminishing the health insurance benefits provided to retirees and their dependents or reducing the contributions, which the public employer makes toward these benefits, unless also making an equivalent change for active employees.

Right of Action for School Employees

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides any employee of a school district or board of cooperative educational services, or his/her survivors, a statutory right of action in a case of any caused injury, death, willful or culpable negligence on the part of any person or governmental entity in failing to comply with governmental requirements.

Seniority Protection for Physical and Occupational Therapists During Program Takeovers

Legislation Pending Introduction

Includes physical and occupational therapists in current provisions regarding protection of tenure and other rights when a BOCES takes over a program formerly provided by a school district or vice versa.

Teacher Transfers -Salary Protection

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides that employees transferred to another school district pursuant to Section 3014 a-d of the Education Law shall maintain their current salaries and such salaries shall not be reduced.

Domestic Partner Benefits

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-3901 Glick Labor Committee

Allows employees to utilize sick leave to care for family, household members and domestic partners.

S-2110-A Montgomery Investigations and Government Operations Committee

A-3948-A Glick On Third Reading

Allow individuals whose domestic partners are receiving, employer-provided such as health insurance benefits, to deduct the cost of that benefit from their taxable income for state tax purposes.

S-215 Squadron Crime Victims, Crime and Correction Committee

A-4024 Glick On Third Reading

Allows domestic partners of homicide victims to be eligible for compensation from the Crime Victims Board for actual out of pocket losses and counseling expenses.

Due Process for Civil Service Employees

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires that cases brought against civil service employees pursuant to Section 75 of the Civil Service Law shall be held by a hearing officer selected by the mutual agreement of the person against who charges are being brought and the employer. In addition, this bill protects civil service employees from being suspended without pay pending a determination of the charges.

Charter Schools – Anti-Union Bias

Legislation Pending Introduction

Prohibits the conversion of an existing public school to a charter school in cases where determined that the school demonstrates or has demonstrated a practice of anti-union bias. The bill would allow public schools to apply for a conversion to a charter school at another time.

Paid Family Leave

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-3901 Glick Labor Committee

Provides up to 12 weeks of family-leave at full pay for public employees employed by an employer that has 50 or more employees.

Layoff Credit for Occupational and Physical Therapists

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

Counts time as a provisional towards layoff credit for all occupational and physical therapists hired prior to December 31, 2013.

TAYLOR LAW AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

Mitigating Circumstances

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides that an impartial arbitrator may reduce the two-for-one strike penalty to an amount no greater than one and one-half days nor less than one day if the arbitrator finds that the strike was provoked.

Repeal Two-for-One

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the Taylor Law to repeal the two-for-one strike penalty against teachers and other public employees accused of striking.

Right to Strike

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the Taylor Law to reaffirm a public employee's inalienable right to withhold services.

Impasse Resolution

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the Taylor Law to provide if no agreement is reached within 180 days of the expiration of a contract, a declaration of impasse will be automatic and an expedited impasse proceeding will begin immediately. Amends the Taylor Law to give PERB the authority to levy escalating fines on either party trying to delay the process to ensure that both sides take negotiations seriously.

Employer Penalties and Mitigation

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides employee organizations filing improper employer practice charge of failure to negotiate in good faith with a right to an expedited determination by PERB.

Employer Penalties

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the Taylor Law to provide that if an employer has been found by PERB to have engaged in an improper employer practice by refusing to negotiate in good faith, then the last offer of the duly recognized or certified representative of its public employees shall become the agreement between the employer and such employee bargaining unit until changed or modified by mutual agreement of the parties.

Claims Against School Districts

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the Education Law to remove the requirement for the filing of a notice of claim against school districts in matters that arise out of, or are the product of, matters within the purview of the Taylor Law.

Workplace Violence Reduction for SD's

S-1936 Addabbo Labor Committee

A-6902 Heastie Labor Committee

Relates to developing and implementing programs to prevent workplace violence in public schools.

Temporary Restraining Orders

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the Taylor Law to clarify that public employer/employee labor disputes can only be restrained under Taylor Law provisions.

The following bills were developed pursuant to the AFL-CIO Taylor Law Task Force (Legislation to Be Introduced by the AFL-CIO):

Employer Penalties and Mitigation

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides employee organizations filing improper employer practice charge of failure to negotiate in good faith with a right to an expedited determination by PERB.

PERB Board Appointees

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides that members selected to serve on PERB shall have served in a neutral capacity for not less than three years prior to appointment to the board.

Remedies for Strike Violations

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides that the prohibition against strike activity and the imposition of penalties for violations of the prohibition are properly and exclusively labor relations matters to be addressed by the public employer of the employees involved and PERB, not by outsiders to the process.

Punitive Damages

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows the Public Employment Relations Board to assess punitive damages upon a finding that a party has committed repeated improper practices or an egregious practice.

Contract Deferral/Lack of Jurisdiction

Legislation Pending Introduction

Grants the Public Employment Relations Board jurisdiction over certain alleged violations of an agreement between an employer and an employee organization.

EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS AND SERVICES

Moratorium on High-Stakes Consequences – partially enacted in Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-

A-8929 Nolan Passed, specific sections enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Requires a two-year moratorium on the use of high-stakes testing data for student and teacher accountability purposes, among other common core changes.

S-6356-D Budget Bill Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

A-8556-D Budget Bill Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Mandates that no school district can place or include on a student's official transcript or maintain in a student's permanent record any individual student score on a state administered standardized ELA/Math assessment for grades 3-8 and cannot make any student promotion or placement decisions based solely or primarily on student performance on the state administered standardized ELA/Math assessments for grades 3-8. Requires notification of the district's grade promotion and placement policy.

Expedited Review of Material Changes – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6006 Flanagan Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

A-8354 Nolan Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Requires expedited and limited review of material changes to Annual Professional Performance Review plans when changes will reduce testing.

Elimination of Tests – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6356-D Budget Bill Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

A-8556-D Budget Bill Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Mandates the commissioner to reduce field tests for students and to make available more test questions for teachers and parents for 3-8 ELA/Math exams. Requires the commissioner to ensure teachers promptly receive information back on assessments in a form that encourages instructional feedback and improvement.

Common Core Resources – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6356-D Budget Bill Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

A-8556-D Budget Bill Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Mandates the commissioner provide instructional tools and outreach materials for parents and families to assist in understanding the purposes, elements and instructional changes relating to implementation of Common Core Learning Standards. Requires the commissioner to develop professional development tools, resources and materials, including age-appropriate instruction that provide best practices for the effective implementation of the Common Core Learning Standards.

Reduction of Tests – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6356-D	Budget Bill	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget
A-8556-D	Budget Bill	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

The commissioner must issues guidance to school districts in order to assist school districts to reduce and eliminate traditional standardized tests that are not required under state or federal law and prepare, for each school district, a testing transparency report listing all standardized assessments administered to students within the school district for which the department has record, by July 1, 2014.

Testing Time Audit – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6356-D	Budget Bill	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget
A-8556-D	Budget Bill	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Mandates that the amount of time devoted to state-administered required assessments or for standardized assessment not required under state or federal law, for each grade, does not exceed one percent of the minimum required annual instructional hours. Requires that the amount of time devoted to test preparation under standardized testing conditions for each grade does not exceed two percent of the minimum required annual instructional hours for such grade.

Testing for English Language Learners and Students with Disabilities – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6356-D	Budget Bill	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget
A-8556-D	Budget Bill	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Mandates regulations allowing students with disabilities who are not eligible for the New York State alternate assessment and whose cognitive and intellectual disabilities preclude their meaningful participation in chronological grade level instruction to be assessed on instructional level. Requires English language learners to be assessed with a state-administered assessments that measures the English language development of such students rather than the English language arts exam for their first two years of enrollment.

Student Data Privacy – Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2014

S-6007-A	Flanagan	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget
A-8353	Nolan	Enacted as part of 2014-15 State Budget

Prohibits the release of personally identifiable student information and establishes penalties for the unauthorized release of personally identifiable information.

S-4284	Grisanti	Education Committee
S-5932-A	Robach	Education Committee
A-6059-A	O'Donnell	Third Reading

Prohibits the release of personally identifiable student information where parental consent is not provided.

Parental Involvement Leave Act

S-1834 Parker Labor Committee

A-284 Kim Labor Committee

Enacts the Parental Involvement Leave Act requiring employers to grant employees up to 16 hours leave to attend school conferences or classroom activities.

Mandatory Suspension/Plan of Intervention

Legislation Pending Introduction

Mandates that a minimum suspension period be set for disruptive students who have been removed from the classroom by a teacher at least three times during the school year. The bill would also mandate that each school district's Code of Conduct contain a provision that requires the principal, in conjunction with parents, teachers and others, to develop and implement a Plan of Intervention that would address in a comprehensive manner the underlying causes of the student's disruptive behavior.

Training of School Board Members

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4133 Englebright Education Committee

Requires every trustee or voting member of a board of education of a school district or a board of cooperative educational services (BOCES) elected or appointed to complete training on the financial oversight, accountability, fiduciary and other responsibilities of a school board member.

Guidance Counselor Services

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-2981 Ortiz Education Committee

Requires that at least one full-time certified or licensed school guidance counselor is employed in each elementary, intermediate, middle, junior high and senior high school in the state. Such counselor is to be exclusive of any school guidance counselors funded or mandated through any special education funding, aid, regulation or statute.

Attendance Teachers, School Social Workers and School Psychologists

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires that all school districts provide the services of attendance teachers, school social workers and school psychologists as prescribed by the Commissioner of Education and further requires that only duly certified attendance teachers, school social workers and school psychologists be employed to implement these services.

Library Media Specialists

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires all school districts to maintain a school library in each elementary school building and to employ a certified school library media specialist or licensed teacher of library for each such school library.

School Bus Monitors

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires committees of special education to consider school bus attendants, among services offered in a students Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Cleaner Fuels School Bus Act

Legislation Pending Introduction

Enacts the "cleaner fuels school bus act" requiring school bus owners to replace or retrofit buses to use biodiesel fuel blends.

BOCES Teaching Assistant and Teacher Aide Vacancies

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires school district and BOCES to fill teaching assistant and teacher aide vacancies in a timely manner.

Outside Play Areas

Legislation Pending Introduction

Authorizes the Commissioner of Education to require school districts to adopt student/adult ratios governing the number of students to adults in attendance in outside play areas.

School Bus Driver Biennial Testing

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires the Commissioner of Education to allow successfully completed State mandated biennial bus driver tests to be portable between school districts.

Languages Other than English

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires review and evaluation of standards for languages other than English and establishes a pilot program to support regent's review of learning standards

Shared Decision Making-Parent Participation

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires employers to release from work employees for service on school district committees during work hours without loss of pay, benefits or status.

Age-Appropriate Sex Education Grant Program

S-957	Parker	Health Committee
S-5897	Rivera	Health Committee
A-2694	Gottfried	Health Committee

This legislation amends the public health law to establish the Age-Appropriate Sex Education Grant Program or the Healthy Teens Act. The bill establishes a competitive grant program giving public school districts, BOCES, school based health centers and community based organizations the opportunity to provide at-risk adolescents with an age-appropriate sex education.

Promoting Instruction in Foreign Language

S-5192	Parker	Finance Committee
A-1973	Rozić	Education Committee

This legislation amends the education law to direct the commissioner of education to establish an incentive program for school districts wishing to implement programs of foreign language in the elementary schools. In addition, this bill establishes an incentive program for college students wishing to become foreign language teachers.

School Nutrition

S-	Legislation Pending Introduction	
A-3151	O'Donnell	Education Committee

Provides for the development and implementation of statewide school nutrition standards, for the review of school wellness policies.

Teacher Loan Forgiveness Program

S-	Legislation Pending Introduction	
A-2993	Clark	Higher Education Committee

Creates City University of New York center for excellence in urban education to enhance the quality of teaching in public schools in NYC; establishes the regents teachers loan forgiveness program to allocate awards annually to teachers who agree to teach public school in an area of New York state designated by the board of regents as having a shortage of public school teachers.

Teacher Loan Program – Shortage Areas

Legislation Pending Introduction

Establishes loan program to encourage undergraduates to enter teaching field in academic areas of critical teacher shortage in New York state; provides for selection of candidates based on academic study in critical areas as determined by the regents; sets duration of loan and amounts available.

Bilingual Teachers of Tomorrow

S-3093 Parker Education Committee

A- Legislation Pending Introduction

Establishes the bilingual teachers of tomorrow teacher recruitment and retention program to attract and retain bilingual, certified teachers in areas of greatest need, especially schools under registration review; provides for grants and procedures for applying for such grants and eligibility requirements for fund distribution.

Special Act Schools, 853 schools 4410 Programs

S – 5661-A Carlucci Education Committee

A - Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides certain special education schools (853s, Special Act Schools and 4410 programs) with increased rates from the Department of Budget and to provide an alternative to Revenue Anticipation Notes (RANs) for Special Act school districts, 853 schools and 4410 preschool special education programs. Increases rates for special act school districts, 853 schools and 4410 preschool special education programs by establishing tuition rates that are equal to the personal income growth index used to calculate the school aid growth cap; also sets a 120 day window for approval of reconciliation rates for special act school districts, 853 schools and 4410 preschool special education programs; establishes a revolving loan fund for special act school districts, 853 schools and 4410 preschool special education programs.

Revolving Loan Fund - Special Act School Districts

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-28 Nolan Education Committee

Establishes the special education short-term revolving loan fund authorizes the State Comptroller to provide special education short-term revolving loans to certain special act school districts or approved special education providers.

Variance in Class Size for Special Act School Districts

Legislation Pending Introduction

Includes special act school districts as an entity to obtain prior approval from the state education department for variance in class size.

Chartering Fairness – Charter School Reform

- S-1540 Perkins Education Committee
- A-3033 Pretlow Education Committee

Relates to charter schools; clarifies the transparency and accountability of charter schools and provides fiscal relief Education Law.

Charter School Students Suspension Process

- S-4353 Lanza Education Committee Introduction
- A-5789 Benedetto Education Committee

Provides charter school students have the same due process rights in regard to suspension as public school students.

Tuition and Reconciliation Rates for Special Education Schools and Providers

- S-5661-A Carlucci Education Committee
- A- Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides certain special education schools (853s, Special Act Schools and 4410 programs) with increased rates from the Department of Budget and to provide an alternative to Revenue Anticipation Notes (RANs) for Special Act school districts, 853 schools and 4410 preschool special education programs.

PENSION & RETIREMENT

Pension & Retirement

This legislative session, NYSUT's legislative efforts have been intensely focused on defending our members' pensions from various attacks including the recent enactment of an additional reduced benefit pension tier. We will pursue post budget changes to the most problematic provisions of the Tier 6 legislation. The recently enacted Tier 6 legislation contains a provision that requires the state to pre-fund any pension benefit enhancement going forward. This new provision of law must now be considered when any organization seeks to advance legislation that will enhance retirement benefits for public employees.

The following bills apply only to members in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System:

Credit for Unused Sick Leave

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System to receive service credit up to ninety days of unused accumulated sick leave.

Interest Payment for Delayed Retirement Allowance

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides for the payment of interest on benefits due and owing to members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System beginning with the 31st day after a member's effective date of retirement.

Repeal 75% Retirement Benefit Cap (Tiers I and II)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Repeals the retirement benefit cap of 75% of final average salary for Tier I and II members.

Registered School Nurses – NYSTRS Membership

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides the opportunity for Registered Professional Nurses that work in school districts to join the New York State Teachers Retirement System.

The following bills apply to both the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System:

Minimum Guaranteed Pension

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4924 Colton Governmental Employees Committee

Establishes a minimum guaranteed pension for teachers retired from the New York State Teachers' Retirement System or the New York City Teachers' Retirement System of \$500 times the number of years of credited service (e.g., with 20 years of service, the minimum guarantee would be \$10,000 per year).

Out-of-State Teaching Service

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System to claim retirement credit for out-of-state public school teaching service regardless of when such service was rendered.

Federal Service Credit

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System to claim retirement credit for Head Start, Peace Corps, VISTA or federal teaching service.

Job Corps Training Program

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System to claim retirement credit for service rendered with the New York State Job Corps Training Program.

Prior Out-of-State Service - (Tiers II, III and IV)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits Tier II, III and IV members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System to claim credit for prior out-of-state teaching service under the same conditions that currently apply to members of Tier I.

Retirees Returning to the Classroom

Legislation Pending Introduction

Authorizes retirees to return to full-time employment as teachers while keeping full pension benefits, provided, however, such retired members are returning to such employment at hard-to-staff schools and in teacher shortage areas.

Credit for Special Education Teachers

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System to claim retirement credit for service rendered with the Association of Retarded Citizens.

Tier IV Disability Requirement

Legislation Pending Introduction

For the purpose of disability retirement for Tier IV members of a Teachers' Retirement System, "disability" shall be defined as being disabled from further teaching service.

Beneficiary Retirement Payments

Legislation Pending Introduction

Eliminates the requirement that a beneficiary of a deceased member repay any retirement benefits received in the month of the member's death.

Teacher Retention

Legislation Pending Introduction

Eliminates the reduction of pension benefits calculated after 30 years of service by providing a pension factor of 2% per year for each year of service credited after 30 years.

Layoff Service Credit Buyback

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System to purchase retirement service credit for the period during which they were laid off.

Retirement Allowance – Month of Death

Legislation Pending Introduction

Deems it unnecessary for the beneficiaries of a deceased retired member to repay any portion of the members' monthly retirement payment in the month of the retired members' death.

STAR Exemption – Retirement Income

Legislation Pending Introduction

Includes pension and retirement plans as plans eligible for income reduction when determining eligibility for enhanced STAR exemption.

Pop-Up Option/Divorce

S-5162-B Savino Civil Service & Pension Committee

A-6759-B Abbate Governmental Employees Committee

Allows a change in retirement options for certain retired members with the consent of the nominated survivor beneficiary.

The following bills apply only to the New York City Teachers' Retirement System:

Paraprofessional Entry into the Retirement System

Legislation Pending Introduction

This legislation mandates that paraprofessionals join the New York City Teachers' Retirement System as soon as they are eligible to do so. This bill would insure that upon retirement, paraprofessionals receive the maximum retirement benefit possible.

Retirement System Membership for BOE Employees in UFT Bargaining Unit

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits persons holding regular substitutes and per diem certificates and certain other titles to join NYCTRS.

World Trade Center Presumption

Legislation Pending Introduction

Extends World Trade Center disability presumption and death benefit provisions to Tier I and II members of the New York City teachers' retirement system.

Paraprofessionals Tier Reinstatement

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides tier improvement benefits to certain NYC paraprofessionals who were incorrectly informed by their employer that they were ineligible to join a public retirement plan upon initiating public employment.

Continued Health Coverage for Survivors

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows spouses and partners of deceased members to continue to purchase City health insurance at their own expense.

Pension Credit for Workers' Compensation

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides pension credit for the time a member spends on Workers' Compensation leave.

The following bill applies to both the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System:

Temporary Age 55/25 Retirement Option

Legislation Pending Introduction

Enacts a temporary retirement incentive program for certain public employees above age 55 and with 25 years of service.

Retroactive Membership - Socialize Cost

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends Section 803 of the Retirement and Social Security Law to change the method of allocating the costs of obtaining a retroactive membership under such section by including the cost in the employer contribution rate rather than assigning a specific cost to each employer involved.

Reopen 803 with 2 Year Break in Service

Legislation Pending Introduction

Extends the provisions of Section 803 of the Retirement and Social Security Law to December 31, 2007. The provisions of Section 803 of the Retirement and Social Security Law gave public retirement systems the authority to grant retroactive membership to eligible retirement system members who could have joined a public retirement system, prior to when they actually did join, if properly notified.

Section 803 Buy Back – Interest

Legislation Pending Introduction

Waives the accrued interest charged to employees who buy back retirement service credit pursuant to the provisions of section 803 of the Retirement and Social Security Law.

The following bills apply only to the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, the New York City Teachers' Retirement System and the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System

Notification of Eligibility to Join Retirement System

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides retroactive membership in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, the New York City Teachers' Retirement System, or in the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System for educational personnel who were not informed of their right to join the retirement system when first employed. This bill also provides that new employees must sign a form furnished by the appropriate retirement system indicating that they have been informed of their retirement rights.

Private School Credit

Legislation Pending Introduction

Permits members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, the New York City Teachers' Retirement System and the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System to claim up to five years of retirement credit for non-public school teaching service rendered within New York State.

Five Year Disability

Legislation Pending Introduction

Reduces from ten years to five years the number of years of service required by a member of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System and New York State Employees Retirement System to be eligible for a disability retirement allowance. In addition, the bill amends the disability retirement formula to conform to the federal Older Workers Benefit Protection Act.

35 Year Retirement

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4879 Abbate Governmental Employees Committee

Provides that members of the New York State may retire with full benefits after 35 years of service regardless of age.

Vesting for Part-Time Teachers

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides that, for vesting purposes only, a year of service shall be defined as a minimum of one month (20 days) credit for members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and the New York City Teachers' Retirement System.

The following bills apply to all public retirement systems in New York State:

Retirement - Martin Act (Pension Right of Action – Securities Fraud)

S-979 Libous Consumer Protection Committee

A-7282 Ortiz Codes Committee

Authorize public pension funds and Taft-Hartley pension funds to bring actions for damages resulting from violations of the state's Martin Act. Over the last several years, trustees of large institutional investors such as mutual funds or the state's pension funds have found themselves without remedy for damages and with massive losses due to corporate violations of state securities laws. Investors may make damage claims in federal court, but no such avenue exists in state securities laws. By bringing action in state court, large institutional investors can have an appropriate avenue to bring damage claims against corporations that established themselves by state law.

Credit for Peacetime Military Service

S-3689 Adams Civil Service & Pensions Committee

A- Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows all members to claim credit for up to three years of military service regardless of when that service was rendered.

Credit for Military Service

S-4714-A Larkin Finance Committee

A-6974-A Paulin Governmental Employees Committee

Allows all members who served in the military to claim credit for all the time they served their country during a time of conflict.

Maternity Leave (All Systems)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows all public employees, including teachers, who were forced to terminate their employment or take a leave of absence because of pregnancy to receive retirement credit for such period of forced termination or leave.

Final Average Salary (20% Cap)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Reduces the limitations on the final average salary calculation for Tiers III and IV members of all public retirement systems by allowing the wages earned in any one year to exceed the average of the other two years by 20% rather than the current 10%.

Retirement Formula Improvement

Legislation Pending Introduction

For members with 20 or more years of credited service increases the retirement allowance to 2.5% for each year of service rendered after July 1, 1993.

2% Pension Calculation after 30 Years

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4890 Abbate Governmental Employees Committee

Eliminates the reduction of pension benefits calculated after 30 years of service by providing a pension factor of 2% per year for each year of service credited after 30 years.

Improvement in the COLA Legislation – Increase Annual Percentage of Inflation Allowable

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the amount of inflation utilized in calculating benefits from 3% to 5% (maintains current minimum of 1% annual adjustment).

Improvement in the COLA Legislation - Improving the “Hammock”

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases and expands the current benefit afforded to those older retirees who have been more negatively impacted by inflation from their year of retirement through 1996.

Improvement in the COLA Legislation - Increase Benefit for Beneficiaries from 50% to 100%

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the annual COLA available for beneficiaries from 50% to 100%.

Improvement in the COLA Legislation - Increase Maximum from \$18k to \$25k

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the maximum retirement benefit used in calculating annual benefit from \$18k to \$25k.

Improvement in the COLA Legislation - Reduce Age of Payability to 55 (and Retired 5 Years)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Reduces the age requirement for payability of COLA benefits from Age 62 and retired 5 years to age 55 and retired 5 years.

Improvement in the COLA Legislation - Increase Inflation Index from 50% to 100% of CPI

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the annual inflation index used to calculate the annual COLA from 50% of CPI to 100% of CPI.

Child Care – All Systems

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4915 Abbate Governmental Employees Committee

Provides a benefit for members of public retirement systems for the amount of time taken for childcare.

Credit for Family Medical Leave

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides retirement system credit for time on unpaid family medical leave pursuant to FMLA federal legislation.

Retirement System Membership for Employees of 853 Schools

Legislation Pending Introduction

Deems an employee of a Section 853 school, approved by the State Education Department, an employee of the local public school district for the purpose of membership eligibility in a New York State retirement system.

Compensation for Employee Contributions Made in Excess of 10 years

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-5324 Abbate Government Operations Committee

Provides compensation to members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, the New York City Teachers' Retirement System, the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System and the New York City Board of Education Retirement System who have contributed to the retirement system for more than ten years.

Early Retirement Penalty Reduction

Legislation Pending Introduction

Reduces the cumulative maximum retirement benefit penalty from 27% to 21% for each year retirement age is below age 62.

Higher Education Election of a Retirement Plan

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows new faculty and staff employed by SUNY, CUNY and community colleges up to one year from entry into service to elect to join a retirement system. The date of membership will be defined as their first date of employment.

The following are Legislative Program bills of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System and are supported by NYSUT:

Disability Retirement Benefit Formula (RB#1)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the disability retirement benefit at age 62 for Tiers I, II and IV disability retirees of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System whose service benefit would have been greater than their disability benefit.

Tier I Death Benefit Reform (RB#2)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Authorizes the payment of post retirement death benefit of three times the last 12 month of salary to certain Tier I members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System in their first year of retirement. Also, provides a new post retirement death benefit for Tiers II, III & IV members based on the year of death.

First Year = 100% of retirement benefit
Second Year = 50% of retirement benefit
Third Year = 25% of retirement benefit
Fourth Year = 10% of retirement benefit

Credit in Another Public Employee Retirement System (RB#3)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows vested Tier 3, 4 and 5 members of NYSTRS who have permanently ceased teaching to withdraw from membership in NYSTRS to enable them to obtain credit in another public employee retirement system.

Increases the Minimum Retirement Allowance (RB#4)

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the minimum retirement allowance for members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System who retired prior to July 1, 1980.

Tier I In-Service Death Benefit Reform

Legislation Pending Introduction

Authorizes the payment of an enhanced death benefit to certain Tier I members of the New York State Teachers' Retirement System who either have at least 25 years of credited service without regard to age or have at least 10 years of credited service and are age 55 or older.

Service Credit for Ceased Membership

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows members to obtain credit for public rendered after the member's date of service credited in the New York State Teachers' Retirement System, but credited during a membership in another retirement system which was not timely transferred.

Unused Sick Leave Credit for SED Employees

Legislation Pending Introduction

Allows SED employees to claim up to 200 days of credit for unused sick leave.

Occupational and Physical Therapists/Transfer to NYCTRS

Legislation Pending Introduction

Would authorize the transfer of occupational and physical therapists that are members of the board of education retirement system (BERS) into New York City's teacher retirement system (NYC-TRS).

TAX CAP REFORM

Amending the Supermajority Provision

S-

A-6831 Jaffee Education Committee

This bill would amend the property tax cap statute by requiring a 50-percent or a simple majority vote instead of a 60-percent supermajority vote to approve a school budget that exceeds the property tax cap.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption - School Safety

S-3456 Maziarz Education Committee

A-4843 Gunther Education Committee

Exempts from the property tax cap levy limit expenditures for safety measures such as security personnel, safety training, security devices, safety equipment and certain infrastructure improvements.

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-5061 Lavine Education Committee

Exempts the increase in expenditures from the previous year's enacted budget for purposes of providing security for pupils, faculty, staff, administrators and guests on and off school property. Such increased costs may include but are not limited to additional guards, cameras, access control or enhanced communications.

S- 3927 Marcellino Local Government Committee

A-7211 Lupinacci Education Committee

Exempts the costs associated with school safety plans from the property tax cap levy limit.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption - Natural Disasters

Legislation Pending Introduction

Exempts certain expenditures relating to natural disasters from tax levy limits.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption - Judgments Against School District

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-1176 Jaffee Local Governments Committee

Exempts expenditures resulting from court orders or judgments against a school district or local government from tax levy limits.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption - BOCES Capital Expenditures

S-2800 Ball Education Committee
A-3137 Galef Education Committee

Exempts BOCES capital expenditures from limitations upon local school district tax levies.

A-4165 Barclay Education Committee

Excludes BOCES capital expenses from the school district tax levy limit.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption - Tuition Payments

S- 4002-A LaValle Education Committee
A- 5584-A Thiele Education Committee

Exempts certain tuition payments by school districts for general education and special students residing in such school districts from tax levy limits

Tax Levy Limit - Transfer of Function

S- Legislation Pending Introduction
A-1907 Hooper Passed

Provides that a transfer of functions between local governments and school districts shall be taken into account in the tax levy limits.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption- Maintenance and Repair of School Buildings

S- Legislation Pending Introduction
A-5053 Englebright Education Committee

Directs the commissioner of education to establish minimum standards for the maintenance and repair of school buildings to provide an appropriate and safe learning environment within each such building. The bill would also exempt expenditures by the school districts in order to meet the standards established by the commissioner from the tax levy limit.

Tax Levy Limit Exemption – Enrollment Shift

Legislation Pending Introduction

Exempts certain expenditures relating to student enrollment from tax levy limits.

Tax Levy Limit - Technical Changes

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-5269 Nolan Education Committee

Makes technical changes to the Education law to address flaws or anomalies with implementing the tax cap. Excludes capital transfers in the year when taxes must be levied, address the impact of payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT) on local taxes and eliminate negative tax levies.

S-3591 O'Mara Passed 2013, Local Government Committee

A-8038 Morelle Local Governments Committee

Amends the general municipal law and education law to provide that the tax base growth factor (or quantity change factor) includes the value of new assessments exempted under a PILOT agreement.

REVENUE & FUNDING

Omnibus Circuit Breaker

S-3266-A	Krueger	Investigations and Government Operations Committee
A-5834-A	Englebright	Ways and Means Committee

Creates the middle class circuit breaker tax credit, based on the income of the household and the percentage that the household pays for real property taxes. In addition, creates a tax reform study commission to review the State's existing property tax reform programs as well as programs enacted in other states.

School-Based Health and Mental Health Clinics - Reimbursement

S-1373	Montgomery	Education Committee
A-146	Nolan	Education Committee

Permit school-based health and mental health clinics to be eligible for facility reimbursement in high poverty school districts of the state's largest urban centers. These facility reimbursements would be comparable to Building Aid reimbursement for renovating a classroom.

Solar Jobs/ Solar Schools Initiatives

Legislation Pending Introduction

Creates the New York solar industry development and jobs act of 2012; relates to procurement of solar renewable energy credits; establishes schedule with annual percentages to be met for compliance years. The New York State AFL-CIO, NYSUT and several other unions have joined forces to advocate for establishing a solar energy infrastructure throughout the state. The New York Solar Jobs Coalition is a collaboration of organized labor, the solar industry and the environmental organizations working to promote and develop good jobs and a clean energy economy that adhere to strong labor protections and fair wage laws.

Funding Alternative and Renewable Energy Sources for School Facilities

Legislation Pending Introduction

Authorizes school districts to issue bonds for the purposes of funding alternative and renewable energy sources for school facilities.

Industrial Development Agency (IDA) Reform -Accountability, Efficiency and Transparency

Legislation Pending Introduction

Increases the accountability and improves the efficiency and Transparency of the operations of industrial Development Agencies (IDAs).

Sales Tax Exemption - School Fund-Raising

S-3698	Ritchie	Investigations and Government Operations
A-1625	Gunther	Ways and Means Committee

Exempts from sales tax items sold to raise additional funds for educational programs.
by certain organizations recognized by the school.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA)

S-195-B Squadron Investigations and Government Operations Committee

A-4226-B Gottfried Government Operations Committee

This legislation prohibits discrimination based on one's gender identity or expression, and includes offenses regarding gender identity or expression under the hate crimes statute.

Local Minimum Wage Bill

S-6516 Stewart-Cousins Labor Committee

A-9036 Camara Labor Committee

Would allow municipalities to impose minimum wage standards that are more favorable to employees than those adopted by the State.

HEALTH CARE

Safe Staffing for Quality Care Act

S-1634	Parker	Health Committee
S-3691-A	Hannon	Health Committee
A-6571	Gottfried	Health Committee

Establishes safe nurse to patient ratios in licensed health care facilities in New York State. These bills were created to ensure patient safety by guaranteeing safe and realistic direct nurse staffing formulas within those healthcare facilities.

Minimum School Nurse Staffing Standards

S-1755	Robach	Education Committee
A-1497	Gunther	Education Committee

This new subdivision requires each school district in the cities of Yonkers, Syracuse, Buffalo and Rochester and the department of education of New York city to provide for at least one school nurse in each school building. The section also provides for additional staffing to be determined in regulation by the Commissioner of Education in consultation with at least one professional nursing association.

Hours Worked by Home Care Nurses

S-1673	Grisanti	Labor Committee
A-1632	Gunther	Labor Committee

To restrict consecutive hours of required work by nurses in the home care setting except in emergencies; does not prohibit a nurse from voluntarily working overtime.

Nurse Recruitment & Retention

S-1143	Breslin	Higher Education Committee
A-4039	Pretlow	Higher Education Committee
A-407	Magnarelli	Higher Education Committee

Establishes the Empire State Professional Nursing Scholarship Program to provide financial support to applicants who agree to deliver nursing care in a specialty, setting or designated region of New York state having a shortage of nurses or to nursing students who enter or continue in a registered nurse educational program. The bill also establishes grants for nursing education to establish or expand training programs for nurses and to increase the opportunities for nursing education at community based sites.

Provides for loan forgiveness for registered full-time nurses similar to the terms of the physicians loan forgiveness program.

Nurses in Attendance

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-1374 Cahill Education Committee

A-1489 Gunther Education Committee

Requires a nurse to be on staff in each school building during the hours that medically fragile students are in attendance or when students are in major risk of injury.

Discriminatory Insurance Practices – Genetic Information

Legislation Pending Introduction

Prohibits an insurer, group health plan, health maintenance organization or other entity or individual offering life, death or medical benefits from discriminating against a prospective or current insured person(s) on the basis of genetic test results and related information. Also, prohibits the release of medical records concerning a patient's unique genetic defect or genetic predisposition unless the patient provides an express written authorization to release such medical records.

National Board for Certification of School Nurse – Grant Program

S-5340 Savino Education Committee

A-1173 Gunther Higher Education Committee

Establishes the National Board for Certification of School Nurse Grant Program. This initiative provides \$1,000 per candidate to defray costs associated with an application for National Board Certification.

New York State Nursing Shortage Correction Act

S-2270 Maziarz Labor Committee

A-1628 Gunther Higher Education Committee

Enacts the New York state nursing shortage correction act.

Health Insurance Coverage for Standard Diagnostic Testing

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4238 Pretlow Insurance Committee

Provides that every health insurance policy that provides coverage for hospital, surgical or medical care shall provide coverage for the standard diagnostic testing for ovarian cancer upon the recommendation of a physician. The bill also provides that such standard diagnostic testing shall include a pelvic examination, a sonogram and a CA 125 blood test and related laboratory and diagnostic services.

Universal Single Payer Health Care

S-2078 Perkins Health Committee

A-5389 Gottfried Health Committee

Establishes a comprehensive system of universal access to health insurance by all residents of New York State. Also the bill provides for access to and choice of health care providers controls on health care costs, development of health care services, and a mechanism for financing of the program.

Expansion of EPIC Income Eligibility

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4305 Brennan Aging Committee

Allow seniors to retain their eligibility in the EPIC program if they have previously qualified but are no longer eligible because of an increase in a public or private pension or social security benefit.

Nurse of Tomorrow Act of 2013

S-2640-A Parker Education Committee

A-4806 Perry Higher Education Committee

The "Nurse of Tomorrow Act of 2013" provides for grants to certain hospitals, schools and other entities for nurse recruitment, education and retention.

Long Term Health Care Insurance Coverage

Legislation Pending Introduction

Directs the insurance department to study and make recommendations on the provision of long-term health care insurance coverage.

Reimbursement for Hepatitis Vaccinations

Legislation Pending Introduction

This bill authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Education to establish a statewide program that would provide cost free vaccinations for Hepatitis A, B and C to school district employees.

Fair Pricing for Prescription Drugs Act

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4392 Gottfried Health Committee

Creates the prescription drug discount program.

End Pharmaceutical D-T-C Advertising

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires pharmaceutical drug manufacturers and wholesalers to disclose, annually, all gifts to certain health care practitioners.

Tax Credits for Nurses

Legislation Pending Introduction

Establishes a tax credit of \$500 for full-time nurses, registered or practical, and for teaching nurses that have worked within this state for not less than six months during the taxable year.

Health Care Wage Equalization Rate

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides for an immediate Medicaid reimbursement increase when counties or other localities impose “living wage” mandates.

Health Insurance Disclosure

S-

A-6352 Cook Insurance Committee

Requires a complete copy of the original health insurance contract to be provided to all parties affected by the contract.

Health Insurance Coverage for Ovarian Peritoneal Cancer Screening

S-1847 LaValle Insurance Committee

A- Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires health insurance contracts and policies to include coverage for ovarian/primary peritoneal cancer screening.

Sales Tax on Laboratory Tests

Legislation Pending Introduction

Excludes from New York state sales tax, the services of collecting, compiling or analyzing medical prescribed laboratory test information of any kind or nature and any reports furnished related to such tests.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Unemployment Insurance for Part-Time Faculty

S-75	Peralta	Labor Committee
A-3523	Rozic	Labor Committee
S-4470	Savino	Labor Committee
A-6635	Heastie	Ways and Means Committee

Provides that for purposes of eligibility for unemployment insurance between semesters for part-time faculty employed at SUNY/CUNY reasonable assurance of continued employment shall not be contingent on malleable factors such as enrollment or budgetary considerations.

Freedom of Information-SUNY/CUNY Campus Foundation Transparency

S-2224-B	LaValle	Investigations and Governments Operations Committee
A-7554-B	Glick	Governmental Operations Committee

Amends article six (Freedom of Information Law) of the public officers law, in relation to expanding the definition of the term “agency” to include SUNY/CUNY campus foundations which are subject to FOIL.

SUNY – CUNY Board of Trustees Appointments

S-4466	Savino	Higher Education Committee
A-1669	Cahill	Higher Education Committee

Establishes the creation of nonpartisan advisory independent nominating commissions to recruit and screen trustee appointments to the boards of our state's public higher education institutions. It directs such nominating commissions to consider certain criteria and characteristics of individuals for selection as potential trustee candidates.

Family Leave

Legislation Pending Introduction

Amends the “Families in the Workplace Act” to include benefits for employees of the State University of New York, the City University of New York and other institutions of higher education.

Sweatshops

S-3351	Hassell-Thompson	Higher Education Committee
A-	Legislation Pending Introduction	

Directs state university trustees to promulgate and enforce a sweat-free code of conduct for the licensing and purchase of apparel at colleges of state university.

Sovereign Immunity

S-3249	Krueger	Codes Committee
A-828	Lifton	Third Reading Calendar

This legislation waives the State's sovereign immunity with regard to application of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938; and the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 as they apply to the protection of state employees. It also waives the immunity of all instrumentalities and political subdivisions of the state.

By waiving the State's sovereign immunity, this legislation restores the rights of state employees to sue the State of New York for damages due to violations of these federal laws. This would allow the State of New York to be sued in state or federal court for any violation of the rights of state employees under these federal statutes, including the ADA's access and accommodation standards. In addition, it will insure the right of people with disabilities to bring a civil action against the state for failure to provide access for the disabled public to government services, programs and activities.

The Dream Act

S-2378-A	Peralta	Lost on Senate Floor
A-2597-A	Moya	Passed

This legislation expands tuition assistance awards and other financial aid programs and scholarships to undocumented immigrant students. It also creates a Dream Fund that will enable children of immigrants to be eligible for private scholarships and expanded access to the NYS College Tuition Savings (529) Program through family tuition accounts.

TAP Equity

S-	Legislation Pending Introduction	
A-3950	Glick	Higher Education Committee

Provides greater tuition assistance program (TAP) awards to students who are considered independent due to relinquished parental control.

Community College Criminal Justice Faculty

S-5346	Golden	Civil Service & Pensions Committee
A-7516	Abbate	Ways and Means Committee

Amends the retirement and social security law to provide a wavier of earnings limitations for certain criminal justice faculty employed by community colleges.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Global Warming Pollution Control

S-735	Avella	Environmental Conservation Committee
A-6327	Sweeney	Third Reading

Requires the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to promulgate rules and regulations establishing limits on greenhouse gas emissions.

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act

Legislation Pending Introduction

Enacts the "New York state greenhouse gas reduction act." Encourages carbon offset projects, the development of a certification protocol for additional carbon credits, establishes best management practices to aid other agency in ways to reduce their greenhouse gas production, and a means for business and individuals to calculate their greenhouse gas emissions and offer recommendations on steps to reduce such emissions.

Greenhouse Gases Management Research and Development Program

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-399 Magnarelli Corporations, Authorities and Commissions Committee

Provide grants to research entities in New York State for research that promotes new technologies to avoid, abate, mitigate, capture and/or sequester carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases.

Healthy and High Performance Schools-Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS)

S-4766 Gipson Education Committee

A-1765 Englebright Education Committee

Requires siting, erection, purchase, repair, enlargement and remodeling of healthy and high performance school buildings.

Green Schools New York Act

S-5113 Latimer Education Committee

A-3676 Lupardo Education Committee

Establishes the green schools New York act

Indoor Air Quality

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires the State Health Department to develop and promulgate standards for acceptable indoor air quality in all public buildings.

Workplace Violence Prevention in Schools

S-1936	Addabbo	Labor Committee
A-6902	Heastie	Labor Committee

Includes a public schools within the provisions of current law designed to require public employers to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence.

Temperature Regulations

S-

A-5509	Gabryszak	Education Committee
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Establishes a maximum temperature in school buildings and indoor facilities.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors

S-1848-B	LaValle	Education Committee
A-3752-B	Crespo	Education Committee

Enacts the "school buildings carbon monoxide detectors act"; requires the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in elementary and secondary school buildings; authorizes the commissioner of education to prescribe annually a special cost allowance for such carbon monoxide detectors.

Parental Notification for Environmental Health and Safety Hazards in Schools

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-4641	Englebright	Education Committee
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Requires schools, boards of cooperative educational services and pre-kindergarten programs to provide notification to students, parents and employees of environmental health and safety hazards within school facilities; requires the appointment of information contact persons to ensure the dissemination of such information.

OSHA Notification Act

Legislation Pending Introduction

Enacts the "OSHA notification act"; requires the city commissioner of buildings to report to the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration any violations of this code, which in the department of building's judgment, would potentially endanger workplace safety; further requires such report to include, but not be limited to, the number and types of violations reported to OSHA.

OSHA Training

Legislation Pending Introduction

Requires that all persons working on contracts valued at \$250,000 or more receive at least ten hours of OSHA training prior to their performance of work.

School Based Health Clinic Permanent Medicaid Carve-Out bill

S-4253-A Montgomery Health Committee

A-5148-A Gottfried Ways and Means Committee

Adds certain school based health services to list of services which need not be provided by a managed care program; and would make the current Medicaid Carve-out permanent.

UFT PROGRAM BILLS

College Preparation Through CTE

Legislation Pending Introduction

Links some funding for city and state higher education institutions to coordination with high school CTE to ensure a continuum of skills training.

School Safety - SAVE

Legislation Pending Introduction

Fully funds the SAVE Act in every school to ensure that school districts are in full compliance.

Line of Duty Death Benefit

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides free health coverage for surviving spouses and partners when member dies because of a line of duty occurrence.

Pedagogue Status for Nurses and Therapists

Legislation Pending Introduction

Includes school nurses, staff nurses, head nurses, staff therapists, occupational therapists, physical therapists, supervisors of nurses and supervisor of therapists within the definition of "teacher" for all purposes, and including them in NYC TRS.

Nurse and Therapist – CSE

Legislation Pending Introduction

Provides that there is a nurse and/or therapist present at Committee on Special Education meetings, which concern health and safety issues.

Layoff Credit for Occupational and Physical Therapists

Legislation Pending Introduction

Counts time as a provisional towards layoff credit for all occupational and physical therapists hired prior to December 31, 2013.

Charter School Suspension Bill

S-4353	Lanza	Education Committee
A-5789	Benedetto	Education Committee

Would require charter schools to adhere to the same student suspension process as traditional local district schools, and provide charter school students facing suspension due process.

Specialized High Schools Admissions Bill

Legislation Pending Introduction

Would require the New York City board of education establish standards – in addition to standardized tests - for admissions to specialized high schools.

NYC Public Education Panel (PEP) 3 Day Aging Bill

S-3986 Stavisky Education Committee

A-

Requires a three day aging period before all city board votes

OTHER

Early Voting

S-1461 Stewart-Cousins Elections Committee

A-689-A Silver On Third Reading

Establishes early voting in primary, general and special elections in the State of New York.

Identity Theft – Medical Health Insurance Information

A-2249 Quart Codes Committee

S-652 Sampson Codes Committee

Adds medical and health information to the legal definition of identity theft. Defines medical information as "any information regarding an individual medical history, mental or physical condition, or medical treatment of diagnosis by a health care professional." Defines health insurance information as "an individual's health insurance policy number or subscriber identification number, any unique identifier used by a health insurer to identify the individual or any information in an individual's application and claims history, including, but not limited to, appeals history.

Identity Theft

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-2939 Wright Codes Committee

Clarifies personal identifying information and what act constitutes the offense of identity theft.

Established the Caregiver's Assistance Act

S-2179-B Golden Investigations and Government Operations Committee

A-2432-A Englebright Ways and Means Committee

Provides tax credits and exemptions to aid those who provide informal, unpaid care of their elderly relatives.

Personal Needs Allowance For SSI Recipients

S- Legislation Pending Introduction

A-1980 Titus Social Services Committee

Increases personal expense allowance, from fifty-five to one hundred dollars, for residents of residential health care facilities receiving or eligible to receive supplemental security income payments and/or additional state payments.

2014 Fair Elections Act

S- 4705-B Stewart-Cousins Elections Committee

A-4980-D Silver Third Reading Calendar

Enacts the "2014 Fair Elections Act"; relates to providing for optional partial public financing of certain election campaigns in this state; relates to identification of the source of certain political contributions.

The Age of Infants Bill

S-

A-8927 Simotas Children and Families Committee

Would reduce financial shortfalls for providers by aligning reimbursement rates with current licensing standards for children up to 2 years of age.

Child Care Paid Absence Day

S-6819 Stavisky Children and Families Committee

A-8926 Rosa Children and Families Committee

Would reimburse child care providers for absences of children receiving child care subsidies.

60 Day Notice Bill

S-6806 Grisanti Social Services Committee

A-8918 Peoples-Stokes Social Services Committee

Would require local districts to provide 60 day notification to families prior to lowering child care eligibility or raising the co-payment in order to better allow parents to meet child care obligations.

Wait List Bill

S-1424 Montgomery Social Services Committee

A-2581 Scarborough Social Services Committee

Would require each district to maintain a waiting list for child care slots, as well as the incomes of people receiving the subsidies.

Family Notification- Social Service Funding Cuts

S- 2275 Montgomery Social Services Committee

A-3498 Peoples-Stokes Social Services Committee

Require that counties notify the Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) when the social services district plans to lower eligibility levels or lower its co-payment structure. OCFS would in turn need to notify all of the providers that it regulates, the state childcare resource and referral organization and the child care resource and referral organizations that serve the social services district that is making the change.

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