

## Affordability Agenda Related Legislation

***Inflation Relief & Consumer Assistance Plan:*** Eliminate sales tax on dozens of everyday items for two years, including (but not limited to) gasoline, personal care products, housekeeping supplies, and prepared foods ([A.1690, Barclay](#)).

***Reduce Energy Assessment:*** Reduce the amount a utility can be assessed for costs and expenses of the Department of Public Service and the Public Service Commission, from one percent to one-third of one percent ([A.2015, Hawley](#)).

***Ratepayer Disclosure and Transparency Act:*** Require annual reporting on State mandated energy programs (**To be introduced, Palmesano**).

***Energy Choice Protection:*** Prohibit the governing board of a municipal corporation from adopting any law, ordinance, regulation, or policy that prohibits, or has the effect of prohibiting, the connection or reconnection of a utility service to a customer based upon the type or source of energy to be delivered to the customer ([A.3836, Barclay](#)).

***Earned Income Tax Credit Expansion:*** Expand the New York State value of the Earned Income Tax Credit from 30 percent to 45 percent of the federal amount ([A.5442, Barclay](#)).

***Offer the Earned Income Tax Credit in Monthly Installments:*** Provide an option to individuals receiving the State EITC to receive installment payments instead of a lump sum when filing their income taxes ([A.6013, Maher](#)).

***Legislative Requirement for Tax Increases:*** Constitutional Amendment to require a 2/3 majority vote of both the Assembly and the Senate to increase, impose, or extend any State tax ([A.5187, Palmesano](#)).

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**Legislative Approval for Fees, Surcharges, or Taxes:** Prohibit State departments, offices, agencies, and authorities from imposing any fees, surcharges, or taxes that have not been approved by the State Legislature ([A.5637, Friend](#)).

**Freedom of Choice in Health Care Act:** Ensure it is the policy of New York that its citizens can enter into private contracts with healthcare providers and purchase private healthcare coverage. In addition, the State cannot impose a penalty or fine against any New Yorker who chooses not to participate in any healthcare system or plan ([A.6061, Jensen](#)).

**Unfunded Mandate Moratorium:** Place a permanent moratorium on unfunded mandates and require fiscal notes on bills detailing estimated annual costs to localities ([A.5447, Barclay](#)).

**State Funding for Mandates on Local Governments:** Enact a Constitutional Amendment to require the State to fund the costs that result from any special or general law mandating a new program or increasing the level of service of an existing program by a local government. Also require the Legislature to establish procedures for the allocation of funds among the local governments ([A.5652, Friend](#)).

**Optional Medicaid Services Opt-Out:** Allow counties to opt out of providing optional Medicaid services to new enrollees. Also, require the Commissioner of Health to apply for a federal waiver to implement these provisions ([A.5462, Barclay](#)).

**Reinstate the Mandate Relief Council and Temporary Moratorium on Unfunded Mandates:** Place a three-year moratorium on unfunded mandates, require detailed fiscal notes on legislation that imposes an unfunded mandate, and reinstate the mandate relief council ([A.2915, Ra](#)).

**Private Pension Taxes:** Make the first \$100,000 of a private pension non-taxable ([A.5235, Barclay](#)).

**Mobile Tax Freedom Act:** Eliminate the State sales, compensating use, and excise taxes on mobile telecommunications services. Also, authorize local governments to eliminate their sales and compensating use taxes on mobile telecommunications ([A.5103, Barclay](#)).

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***Tax Simplification and Fairness Study:*** Establish a study to examine the current tax system to see if there is a benefit to eliminating existing tax credits and simplifying the tax code by taxing individuals at the same, lower rate ([A.4791](#), [Smullen](#)).

***Structural Change for New York:*** Reduce Medicaid costs for local governments, redesign our public benefit system, expand the Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit, and provide real relief to reduce the property tax burden on homeowners and businesses ([A.3390](#), [Ra](#)).

***Enhanced STAR Expansion:*** Raise the income cap for senior citizens applying for the Enhanced STAR property tax exemption ([A.2769](#), [Gandolfo](#)).

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