

Article VII Final Budget FY 24-25

Public Protection and General Government

Part I Temporary Wholesale Permit

Any person may apply to SLA for a temporary permit to operate any alcoholic beverage wholesale facility. SLA may issue the temporary permit when the applicant has a wholesale license application at the same premises pending. The permit will be effective for 6 months or until the wholesale license being applied for is approved or may be extended in 3 month increments. The permit will be \$125.

Part K Temporary Permit Extended

Extends existing law that allows SLA to issue temporary permits to certain retail applicants while they wait for full review of their license.

Part M Paid Prenatal Leave

Beginning January 2025, every employer will be required to provide twenty hours of paid prenatal personal leave during any fifty-two-week calendar period.

Revenue

Part L Repeal and Replace Cannabis Potency Tax

Replaces potency tax with a 9% of the amount charged for the sale of adult-use cannabis products. Microbusinesses and registered organizations shall be liable for the tax at retail sale which will be 75% of the amount charged for the sale or transfer of products to a retail customer. If books and records are not provided or are determined to be insufficient, the amount of tax due shall be determined by the commissioner. In the absence of evidence of the wholesale price, the tax may be determined based on the retail price of adult-use cannabis products.

Education Labor and Family Assistance

Part M Sunset Covid Sick Leave Law

This will sunset the State's COVID-19 Sick Leave Law as of July 31, 2025. The 2020 COVID-19 Sick Leave law required employers to provide sick leave benefits, paid family leave, and benefits due to disability for employees subject to mandatory or precautionary order of quarantine or isolation due to COVID-19.

Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation

Part M Clean Energy Resources Development and Incentives Program

Extends build ready program to 2030 and to locate and assess sites within the state that appear suitable for development of build ready sites, priority given to dormant electric generating sites and previously developed sites. Land used in agricultural production, land in agricultural district or land that contains mineral soil groups 1-4, shall be deemed not suitable for the development of build ready sites except when necessary for generator lead lines and other equipment needed for interconnection projects to the electric system. Public authority may establish a renewable energy generation project for the furtherance of an agrivoltaics project.

Part O RAPID Act

The RAPID Act (Renewable Action Through Project Interconnection and Deployment) transfers Office of Renewable Energy Siting from Department of State to Department of Public Service and streamline the approval process for transmission lines to connect renewable energy sources to the grid. The language repeals the current Article VIII of the Public Service Law, which formerly governed the environmental review and permitting of major steam electric generation siting, and to creates a new Article VIII that provides for a one-stop shop for the environmental review and permitting of both major renewable energy generating facilities and major electric transmission facilities by ORES within DPS.

The RAPID Act also creates a new Farmland Protection Working Group consists of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture and Markets, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Executive Director of ORES, the Chief Executive Officer of the DPS, the President of the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, local government officials or representatives from municipal organizations, and representatives from at least two county agricultural and farmland protection boards.

The Working Group will recommend strategies to encourage and facilitate input from municipalities in the siting process as well as develop recommendations to recognize the value of viable agricultural land and methods to minimize adverse impacts to agricultural land. The Working Group would release its recommendations no later than one year after the RAPID Act's passage.