



# Legislative Update



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## ON YOUR BEHALF

**Meeting with the Lieutenant Governor:** Members of the NYSSCPA Government Relations Team met with Lt. Gov. Antonio Delgado at our Manhattan headquarters. During this conversation, our team introduced the lieutenant governor to our Legislative Agenda while also speaking with Delgado about where the Society can lend a helping hand.



Photo Credit: Ashley Meza  
Photo Caption: The NYSSCPA Government Relations Team meets with the New York State Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado

**2023 Leadership Conference Debrief:** The Government Relations Team was very active during this year's Leadership Conference in Long Island City.

- **The Advocacy Roundtable:** The Legislative Task Force (LTF) and the Political Action Committee (PAC) met for their annual joint meeting, where leaders discussed possible additions and modifications to the Legislative Agenda, received a political and legislative update from the recently closed legislative session, and covered regular business.
- **Apps & Sips:** The PAC successfully hosted a fund-raiser to strengthen its influence in Albany. Historically, the PAC has played a vital role in opening the necessary doors in Albany to ensure that our legislative needs are being heard and met. Guests at the fund-raiser were treated to the wide variety of food options that Queens has to offer, while drinking mini-margaritas and hand-crafted cocktails. If you are interested in making a donation to the PAC, [please visit our website](#).
- **Legislative Dinner:** Attendees at the Leadership Conference were joined by the well-respected Assemblymember Christopher W. Burdick. Burdick talked to members about his legislative priorities, which included making advancements in environmental and disability issues, assisting local governments and improving state government. He addressed the Society's leadership, offering an inside look into Albany, while offering to help advocate for the Society's top legislative priorities.



Photo Credit: Jovan C. Richards  
Photo Caption: Assemblymember Christopher W. Burdick addresses the 2023 Leadership Conference

## HOW IT WORKS

**How Congressional Hearings Work:** Congressional hearings are the principal formal method by which committees collect and analyze information during the legislative policymaking process. Whether confirmation hearings—a procedure unique to Congress—legislative, oversight, investigative, or a combination of these, all hearings share common elements of preparation and conduct.

Congressional Rule XXVI sets forth many of the hearing regulations to which committees must conform, including the quorum requirement, advance submission of witness statements, the opportunity for minority party leadership to call witnesses of their choosing, and procedures for closing a hearing to the public. Committees, guided mainly by their chairperson, have broad discretion in how they conduct a hearing, in part because the committees adopt their own rules of procedure. These rules may supplement congressional rules, but they cannot contravene them. Committee customs and leadership style not embodied in rules also vary considerably among committees, and influence hearing procedures as well.

Committee members and staff usually plan extensively for hearings. Early planning activities commonly include collecting background information, preparing a preliminary hearing memorandum for the chair and members, discussing the scope of the hearing and the expected outcome, scheduling and providing public notice of a hearing, selecting witnesses, determining the order and format of witness testimony, and preparing questions or talking points for committee members to use in questioning witnesses.

On the day of the hearing, a committee needs a quorum in order to proceed with testimony. While the vast majority of hearings are open to the public, a committee can vote to close a hearing for specific reasons stated in the rules. Legislators typically make opening statements at the beginning of a hearing, after which witnesses are introduced and may be sworn in by the chair. Witnesses present oral testimony in accordance with an arranged format; this testimony generally is a summary of a written statement submitted in advance. The question-and-answer period that follows is an opportunity for a committee to expand upon a witness's statement and gather information to support future actions.

Following a day of hearings, committee staff may prepare a summary of testimony, draft additional questions for the day's witnesses, and begin initial preparation of the transcript for printing. While not *required*, hearing transcripts are most commonly printed, along with additional materials approved by the committee.

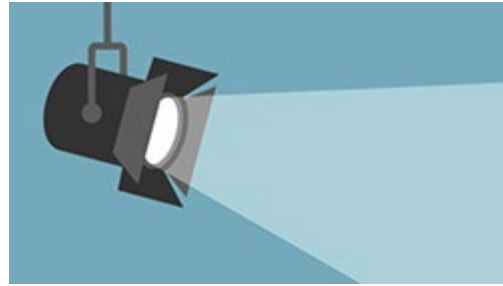
## LEGISLATIVE AGENDA SPOTLIGHT

The NYSSCPA has officially launched its 2023 Legislative and Regulatory Agenda. Please visit our newly adopted agenda on our website.

## Financial Literacy in Schools

**BACKGROUND:** In hopes of preparing students to make wise financial decisions, the NYSSCPA is looking to put financial literacy back in the New York state public education system.

S.4860 (Comrie)/A.2298 (Jacobson) would amend the education law, in relation to requiring senior high schools to provide a course in financial literacy as a condition of graduation.



[Read the 2023 NYSSCPA Legislative & Regulatory Agenda in full.](#)

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## STATE AND FEDERAL UPDATES

Get the latest information from the following statewide officials and the federal government:

### Governor Kathy Hochul:

- [Gov. Hochul Announces Federal Approval of Major Disaster Declaration to Unlock Federal Assistance for Communities Impacted by Devastating Flooding](#)
- [Gov. Hochul Announces \\$31.5 Million Awarded for New York State Pathways in Technology Early College High School Program](#)
- [Gov. Hochul Announces Opening of First Licensed Adult-Use Cannabis Dispensaries in the Bronx and on Long Island](#)
- [Gov. Hochul Announces \\$20 Million Available to Enhance Local Public Safety and Emergency Communications Systems](#)

### Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli:

- [DiNapoli: State Pension Fund Releases Annual Investment Return](#)
- [State Comptroller DiNapoli Releases Audits](#)
- [State Comptroller DiNapoli Releases Municipal & School Audits](#)

### Attorney General Letitia James:

- [AG James Ends Harmful Labor Practices at Major Independent Title Insurance Agency](#)
- [AG James Leads Coalition to Expand Language Access for Severe Weather Emergency Alerts](#)

### The White House:

- [FACT SHEET: White House Launches Office of Pandemic Preparedness and Response Policy](#)
- [FACT SHEET: Biden-Harris Administration Secures Voluntary Commitments from Leading Artificial Intelligence Companies to Manage the Risks Posed by AI](#)
- [FACT SHEET: Bidenomics is Boosting Clean Energy Manufacturing for Offshore Wind and Creating Good-Paying American Union Jobs](#)

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To keep you informed of the latest news:

- [Blue-State Republicans Demand Higher SALT Deduction Cap](#), *The Trusted Professional*
- [House Republicans Seek to Stop Global Corporate Minimum Tax Agreement](#), *The Trusted Professional*
- [Congress Members Seek Bipartisan Agreement on Child Tax Credit](#), *The Trusted Professional*
- [IRS Urges Tax Pros to Develop Security Plan](#), *The Trusted Professional*
- [Senators Solicit Input for Digital Assets Tax Policy](#), *The Trusted Professional*
- [Tax Issues When Selling a House After a Divorce](#), *CPA Practice Advisor*
- [Bipartisan efforts on child tax credit afoot in House](#), *Roll Call*
- [Supreme Court to decide case on congressional taxing power](#), *Roll Call*



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## Have a Leg/Reg Issue?

Your issues matter to us! The NYSSCPA Government Relations Team wants to help you be heard in the halls of power. If you have a suggestion for our legislative agenda, if you are having trouble getting through red tape, or would like assistance reaching your local or state officials, please email Media & Government Relations Manager Jovan C. Richards at [jrichards@nysscpa.org](mailto:jrichards@nysscpa.org).



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## THE CPA PAC AND THE LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE

The [CPA Political Action Committee](#) (PAC) is bipartisan and raises funds to amplify the NYSSCPA's collective voice in Albany. The NYSSCPA distributes PAC donations to New York political candidates who understand the profession's needs and concerns. When you [donate to the PAC](#), you help send a clear message to legislators that issues important to the profession affect the wider business community and the public interest—and that we will be heard.



The [Legislative Task Force](#) (LTF) is responsible for the monitoring and evaluation of New York

state laws, legislation, rules and regulations related to the accounting profession, in particular, and business, in general. In conjunction with the Society's legislative staff, the LTF proactively recommends to the NYSSCPA Board various amendments and changes to existing legislation and regulations, on a continual basis.

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