GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM BILL

2026

M E M O R A N D U M

AN ACT making appropriations for the support of government; and providing for the repeal of such provisions upon expiration thereof

Purpose:

This bill provides appropriations to various State departments and agencies to permit certain payments due from April 1 to April 16, 2026, to be made absent enactment of the Budget appropriation bills submitted by the Governor for the State fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026.

Summary of Provisions:

Section 1 authorizes the Comptroller to utilize the appropriations contained in this bill, which relate to the 2026-27 State fiscal year, absent enactment of the 2026-27 Budget.

Section 2 provides $290.4 million in additional appropriation authority for personal service payments scheduled to be made to State officers and employees on the payrolls scheduled to be paid between April 1, 2026 to April 16, 2026. This appropriation also includes payment for services performed by mentally ill or developmentally disabled persons who are employed in State operated special employment, work for pay or sheltered workshop programs.

Section 3 provides $10 million in additional appropriation authority for nonpersonal service payments by various State agencies. It is the intent of this section to provide sufficient authorization for agencies to enter into contracts, the terms of which may continue beyond the life of this appropriation and for which payments for liabilities incurred beyond April 16, 2026 would be made subject to additional future appropriations.

Section 4 provides $10 million in appropriation authority for existing capital projects contract costs approved prior to April 1, 2026 for all agencies.

Section 5 provides $20 million in appropriation authority for new capital projects contract costs approved after April 1, 2026 for all agencies.

Section 6 provides $562.4 million in additional appropriation authority for payment of State employee and retiree fringe benefits and other fixed costs mandated by statute or collective bargaining agreements during the period April 1 to April 16, 2026. The appropriation amount includes the State's contribution to the New York State Health Insurance Program, Social Security payroll tax, the Employee Benefit Funds, Dental Insurance, the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation Mobility Tax, the Voluntary Defined Contribution Plan, and the Vision Care Plan.

Section 7 continues $171.3 million in appropriation authority to the Judiciary through April 16, 2026. This authority supports $85 million for personal service payments scheduled to be made to officers and employees of the Judiciary, $13 million for nonpersonal service, $11 million for Aid to Localities payments, and $62.3 million for various employee fringe benefit programs.

Section 8 provides $20.3 million in appropriation authority to make adoption subsidy payments to parents and local districts.

Section 9 provides $79.2 million in appropriation authority for Safety Net Assistance, $125 million in Family Assistance, and $58.3 million in appropriation authority for the state Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program, which makes monthly cash payments to aged, blind, and disabled low-income New Yorkers.

Section 10 provides $1.963 billion in additional appropriation authority for various payments made by the Department of Health to include: $2 million for the Federal Food and Nutritional Services; $1 million for the elderly pharmaceutical insurance program expenditures, and $1.960 billion for the Medical Assistance Administration Program, jointly financed by State and Federal funds.

Section 11 provides $180 million in additional appropriation authority for the continuation of unemployment insurance benefits. New appropriation authority is necessary due to daily new liabilities created by those filing unemployment insurance benefit claims.

Section 12 provides $143.4 million in additional appropriation authority to the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities to support not-for-profit providers of essential programs and services.

Section 13 provides $385,000 in appropriation authority for payments to blind veterans and $12,000 in additional appropriation authority to veterans experiencing homelessness.

Section 14 prohibits expenditures from all appropriations until certificates of approval have been issued by the Director of the Budget and filed with certain State officers.

Section 15 requires the Comptroller to transfer any expenditures made against these appropriations to the 2026-27 Budget appropriations after they have become law.

Section 16, the severability clause, provides that if any part of this Act be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment would not invalidate the remainder of the Act.

Section 17 provides that the bill takes effect immediately and is deemed to be in full force and effect on April 1, 2026, and, further, that the appropriations made in the bill will be deemed repealed upon the transfer of expenditures by the Comptroller pursuant to section 15 of the bill.

Statement in Support:

This bill will allow the State to make certain payments and incur certain liabilities during the period April 1 through April 16, 2026 on a timely basis, in the absence of an enacted budget for State fiscal year 2026-27.

Budget Implications:

Expenditures and disbursements made against these appropriations shall, upon final action by the Legislature on the appropriation bills submitted by the Governor for the support of government for the State fiscal year beginning April 1, 2026, be transferred by the Comptroller as expenditures and disbursements to such appropriations for State departments and agencies. Accordingly, this bill will have no additional impact on the State's 2026-27 Financial Plan.