GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM BILL

2026

M E M O R A N D U M

AN ACT making appropriations for the support of government; to amend chapter 98 of the laws of 2026 making appropriations for the support of government, in relation thereto; to amend chapter 100 of the laws of 2026 making appropriations for the support of government, in relation thereto; to amend chapter 102 of the laws of 2026 making appropriations for the support of government, in relation thereto; to amend chapter 104 of the laws of 2026, relating to making appropriations for the support of government, in relation thereto; 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 May 4, 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 $25,000 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 May 4, 2026. The total 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 continues $44 million in 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 May 4, 2026 would be made subject to additional future appropriations.

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

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

Section 6 provides $22.2 million in additional appropriation authority for the Social Security payroll tax and the Metropolitan Commuter Transportation Mobility Tax. The section continues appropriation authority for the 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 May 4, 2026. The appropriation amount includes the State's contribution to the New York State Health Insurance Program, Employee Benefit Funds, Dental insurance, Voluntary Defined Contribution Plan, the Vision Care Plan, a Payment in Lieu of Taxes to the City of Albany, and Auto Accident Claims.

Section 7 provides $12 million in additional nonpersonal service appropriation authority to the Judiciary through May 4, 2026. The Judiciary's cumulative appropriation authority supports $186 million for personal service payments for officers and employees of the Judiciary, $25 million for nonpersonal service, $11 million for Aid to Localities payments, and $62.3 million for various employee fringe benefit programs.

Section 8 provides $7 million in appropriation authority to support an advance of 2026-27 school year aid payments for the South Country Central School District.

Section 9 provides $1.371 billion in additional appropriation authority for various payments made by the Department of Health to include additional: $4.3 million for the Federal Food and Nutritional Services; $3.1 million for services and expenses related to the Indian health program; $213 million for payments to health insurance plans for expenses related to the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and; $1.151 billion for services and expenses related to the Essential Plan Program.

Section 10 provides $30 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 11 provides $6.7 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 12 provides $24,000 in additional appropriation authority to veterans experiencing homelessness.

Section 13 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 14 requires the Comptroller to transfer any expenditures made against these appropriations to the 2026-27 Budget appropriations after they have become law.

Section 15, 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 16 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 14 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 May 4, 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.