

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

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ALBANY UPDATE: THE 2022 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CONCLUDES



New York lawmakers concluded the 2022 Legislative Session on June 4th with a flurry of highly-debated bills passing in the final hours. Several significant issues were negotiated at the end of session to include gun safety measures, voting rights, and criminal justice proposals.

MACNY, along with the support of our members, Alliance Partners, and Ostroff Associates, achieved some crucial legislative victories to include the passage of bills that will help manufacturers succeed, as well as preventing the passage of certain bills that would have potentially hurt manufacturers and other businesses in New York. Lawmakers have since returned to their home districts. Governor Hochul has said she could call them back for a special session to tackle some pending measures, and we will keep you posted on any future developments. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach out to me by e-mailing tiffanylatinog@macny.org.

The following is a summary of business-related bills that passed either one or both Houses of the State Legislature this session.

Green CHIPS - A.10507 (Stirpe) / S.9467 (Cooney) would attract new semiconductor manufacturing and related material supplier projects to New York and allow projects to access potential federal CHIPS funding by making certain projects with significant investments eligible for the Excelsior tax credit program. MACNY is supportive of this bill. It passed both Houses and will be delivered to Governor Hochul for her final approval.

Workforce Development Database - S.8363 (Kaplan) / A.9278 (Bronson) would provide for the creation of an online, searchable database to catalogue workforce development programs in the state. The bill passed both Houses. MACNY supported this bill, which will be delivered to Governor Hochul.

Tax Parity - S.27 (Kaplan) / A.3734 (Stirpe) would extend the zero percent franchise tax rate to all manufactures in NY. The bill advanced in the Senate to the Finance Committee. The tax parity measure had been included in the Assembly's One-House Budget proposal. MACNY strongly advocated for this bill and will continue to do so.

Employer Amnesty Program - A.10202 (Stirpe) would provide employers with amnesty for interest owed to the unemployment insurance trust fund if their owed balance is paid in full between August 1, 2022 and December 1, 2022. MACNY advocated for this bill. It passed the Assembly. We will continue to support this bill and encourage a sponsor in the Senate.

New York Build Public Renewables Act - S.6453-C (Parker) / A.1466-D (Carroll) would give the New York Power Authority (NYPA) sweeping control over the production and distribution of renewable energy, altering the energy market in New York State. MACNY was able to help stop this bill from passing in the Assembly with the help of coordinated efforts from our members and other business groups. The Assembly Committees on Energy, Corporations, and Environmental Conservation are looking to convene a hearing on July 28, 2022, to garner additional public input.

"21st Century Anti-trust Act" - S.933-C (Gianaris) / A.1812-A (Dinowitz) would apply to any company within New York that has a strong position in its local market, and any company in the State that uses standard conditions or terms to include many small and medium-sized businesses. MACNY opposes this bill. The Senate passed the bill.

Paid Family Leave - S.9167-A (Addabbo) / A.10224-A (Nolan) would direct the Commissioner of Labor to study how different groups are using Paid Family Leave in the state. The legislation passed both Houses and awaits the Governor's final review and approval. MACNY didn't take an official position on this measure.

Cryptomining Moratorium - S.6486-D (Parker) / A. A7389-C (Kelles) if it becomes law, the legislation would establish a two-year moratorium on new and renewed air permits for fossil fuel power plants used for energy-intensive cryptocurrency mining. The bill passed both Houses and will be delivered to the Governor for her final review.

The following are some priority bills that did not pass either House. These bills are of concern to MACNY and our Alliance Partners. We advocated against these measures during the 2022 Legislative Session, along with significant support from our members.

All Electric Buildings Act - S.6843-C (Kavanagh) / A.8431-B (Gallagher) would enact the "all-electric building act" to prohibit infrastructure, building systems, or equipment used for the combustion of fossil fuels in new construction statewide no later than December 31, 2023, if the building is less than seven stories and July 1, 2027, if the building is seven stories high. MACNY was and continues to be opposed to the bill. We advocated against it.

New York Health Act - S.5474 (Rivera) / A.6058 (Gottfried) would amend the public health law and the state finance law, in relation to establishing the New York Health Act to create a government-run, single-payer healthcare system in the state. MACNY opposed this bill and sent a member sign-on letter to legislative leaders through the use of our online advocacy tool.