

Workforce Development

Staff Contact: Crystal Griffith

- Ensure the New York Coalition for Child Care has equal voices of business, tax, labor and advocates.
- While supporting the launch of child care substitute tool, it is imperative that the child care system in NYS does not mirror the inequities of the public school system.
- Launching a college in the high school opportunity fund wonderfully highlights the current early college programs but fails to include language and funding include of Advance Placement Coursework which has shown growth from 611,000 in 2022 to 695,000 in 2023, an increase of 14%, for low-income students.
- Streamlining TAP application shows the most success when paired with improving the FAFSA application. In 2024, over 1M FAFSA applications had errors due to a faulty roll-out negatively impacting the ability to receive aid.
- Increased funding support for in-demand occupations is necessary across all universities. BCNYS will continue to advocate for funding for APC, CUNY and SUNY colleges.



2025 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA



**The voice of business and employers in
New York State.**

Significant issues on our legislative advocacy for 2025 include:

Alcohol & Beverage Control Law

Staff Contact: Paul Zuber

- Allow wine to be sold in grocery stores
- ABC Law Reform - Taskforce Recommendations
- Privacy - bill should be similar to Connecticut

Energy/Environment/Taxes

Staff Contact: Ken Pokalsky

- UI “reform”- Unions want to reinstate benefit indexing, but the state would need to pay off federal borrowing (still as of today at \$6 billion); key business concerns include further increasing NYS UI taxes or taxable wage base.
- EPR for packaging – Business is urging the Governor to introduce legislation and provide leadership on the issue; the legislative proposal (S.1646/A.1749) is seen as unworkable by business and is strongly opposed. It passed the in 2024. The Senate sponsor is open to amendments but wants Assembly concurrence. Business is also pushing for an alternative legislative proposal.
- CLCPA implementation – this includes return of HEAT act, pending cap and invest rule (and legislation imposing numerous restrictions on the NYCI market), plus others.
- Superfund/Brownfield programs. The state’s \$1 billion in bonding authority for superfund cleanups needs reauthorization/replacement, business is asking for a number of programmatic reforms to both superfund (e.g., explicit provisions for “mixed” public/private spending at superfund sites) and brownfield programs (e.g., address provisions adding significant additional costs to volunteers doing brownfield cleanups.)

Financial Services

Staff Contact: Chelsea Lemon

- Oppose excessively broad compliance and enforcement standards regarding “unfair and abusive” business practices.

Health & Health Insurance

Staff Contact: Chelsea Lemon

- Advocate for reasonable health data privacy laws that do not inhibit a business’s ability to improve consumer access to services and products.
- Oppose new mandates, taxes, and additional unnecessary penalties that contribute to increasing health care premiums for businesses and individuals.

Labor

Staff Contact: Frank Kerbein

- Expansion of short-term disability benefits including dramatic increases in benefit amounts, job reinstatement rights, and health insurance continuation. Related – any expansion of Paid Family Leave benefits (bereavement, etc.).
- Expanded workplace protections in reaction to perceived Trump administration changes at OSHA – specifically warehouse worker injury protections, heat/cold employee protections, retail worker protections, etc.
- Restrictions on noncompete and mandatory arbitration provisions in employment agreements.
- Incremental changes to Workers’ Compensation benefits that add to the cost of the system.
- Resist expansion of use of Wage Boards to modify terms and conditions of employment by industry

Legal Reform

Staff Contact: Chelsea Lemon

- Oppose legislation to adopt an “abuse of dominant position” standard for the state’s antitrust statute.
- Oppose broad, costly “wrongful death” expansion

Transportation / Housing

Staff Contact: Joseph Alston

- S.1012B (Cooney) / A.539B (Burgos)- Support of establishing a comprehensive framework for the regulation and integration of autonomous vehicles (AVs) into our state. -Waymo is pushing.
- S9913 (Cooney)- Establishes the New York state first home grant program; directs the commissioner of homes and community renewal, in consultation with the state comptroller, to implement such program; provides assistance on behalf of a first time home buyer qualified for such program; and for costs in connection with the acquisition, involving an eligible mortgage loan, of an eligible home, including downpayment costs, closing costs, and costs to reduce the rates of interest on eligible mortgage loans
- S7791(Gounardes)/A8386 (Cunningham)- The Faith-Based Affordable Housing Act (FBAHA), which allows faith-based organizations to partner with developers to build affordable housing on their properties.

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