

## Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2020 11:25 AM  
**To:** 'Senate Foil'; 'Robin Marilla'  
**Subject:** FOIL/Records Access -- Appointments of members & chairs of the Senate and Assembly "Legislative Commissions" & the "Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment"

**TO: Senate Records Access Officer/Secretary of the Senate Alejandra Paulino  
Assembly Records Access Officer Robin Marilla**

Today, January 28, 2020, I examined the Assembly's webpage of "Committees, Commissions & Task Forces": <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/>. This is what I discovered with respect to its 13 enumerated "Legislative Commissions", in the order in which they are listed:

1. Legislative Commission on Administrative Regulations Review, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=44>, reflects no members other than its Assembly chair Dan Quart – and no activity since a Dec. 2015 hearing;
2. Legislative Commission on Council on Health Care Financing, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=45>, reflects no members, including no chair – and no activity whatever;
3. Legislative Commission on Critical Transportation Choices, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=46>, reflects no members other than its Assembly chair David Gantt – and no activity whatever;
4. Legislative Commission on Governmental Administration, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=49>, reflects no members other than its Assembly chair David Buchwald – and whose sole hearing in 2019, on October 29, 2019, on "New York's Response to Federal Government Shutdown", with Senator James Skoufis, Chair of the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations, and Michele Titus, Chair of the Assembly Committee on Government Operations, was without participation by any other legislators: [https://nystateassembly.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view\\_id=8&clip\\_id=5233](https://nystateassembly.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=8&clip_id=5233);
5. Legislative Commission on Legislative Ethics, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=48>, reflects no members other than its (new) Assembly chair Jo Anne Simon – and no activity whatever;
6. Legislative Commission on Rural Resources, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=47>, reflects that it has three Assembly members: Angelo Santabarbara, who is its Assembly chair, Barbara Lifton and Carrie Woerner, all members previously, plus Philip Palmesano and Mark Walczyk – and whose sole activity in 2019 was on September 17, 2019 on "Rural Broadband", was with Senator Rachel Ray, Chair of the Commission on Rural Resources; and Assemblyman Fred Thiele, as chair of the Assembly Committee on Local Governments: <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=47&sec=hearings>;
7. Legislative Commission on Science and Technology, whose homepage: <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=51>, reflects no members other than its new Assembly chair Latrice Walker (removing the name of its former Assembly chair Patricia Fahy) – and no activity for 5-1/2 years (May 2014);
8. Legislative Commission on Skills Development and Career Education, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=52>, reflects no members other than its Assembly chair Walter Mosley



(removing the name of its former Assembly chair Harry Bronson) – and no activity since an October 2017 posting of a legislative report;

9. Legislative Commission on Solid Waste Management, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=53>, reflects no members, including no chair – and no activity since a Feb. 2016 hearing;
10. Legislative Commission on State-Local Relations, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=54&sec=hearings>, reflects no members other than its Assembly chair Victor Pichardo – and no activity since a Nov. 2016 posting of a notice of roundtable;
11. Legislative Commission on Tax Study, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=55>, reflects no members, including no chair – and no activity whatever;
12. Legislative Commission on Toxic Substances and Hazardous Wastes, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=56>, reflects no members, including no chair (removing the name of its former Assembly chair Christine Pellegrino) – and no activity since a Jan. 2018 posted notice of hearing;
13. Legislative Commission on Water Resource Needs of New York State, whose homepage, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=57>, reflects no members, including no chair – and no activity for more than six years (Oct. 2013).

Only 2 of these “Legislative Commissions” are posted on the Senate’s webpage for “Senators & Committees”: <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators-committees> – and this is what I discovered in examining them, also today, January 28, 2020:

- the Legislative Administrative Regulations Review Commission, whose homepage, <https://www.nysenate.gov/committees/administrative-regulations-review-commission-arrc>, reflects NO chair, NO members, and no activity since January 4, 2018 hearing and little before that;
- the Legislative Commission on Rural Resources, whose homepage: <https://www.nysenate.gov/committees/legislative-commission-rural-resources>, reflects five Senate members: its Senate chair Rachel Ray, its Senate ranking member Pamela Helming, and Patty Ritchie, Neil Breslin, Jen Metzger – and, in 2019, a September 17, 2019 hearing on “Rural Broadband: <https://www.nysenate.gov/calendar/public-hearings/september-17-2019/public-hearing-identify-current-broadband-needs-rural-new> – and, a winter 2020 newsletter “Rural Future”: <https://www.nysenate.gov/newsroom/articles/2020/rachel-may/winter-2020-edition-rural-futures>.

Additionally, the Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment is no longer accessible from the Senate’s webpage for “Senators & Committees” – and when the previously posted link is utilized: <https://www.nysenate.gov/committees/task-force-demographic-research-and-reapportionment>, the Task Force comes up “INACTIVE”, with no activity, ever, and no members. As for the Assembly’s webpage for the Legislative Task Force on Demographic Research and Reapportionment, <https://nyassembly.gov/comm/?id=60>, accessible from its webpage for “Committees, Commissions & Task Forces”, it shows no activity for the Task Force since 2012 and that it has a single member, its Assembly chair, Robert Rodriguez.

Pursuant to Senate Rule XIV [“Freedom of Information”] and Assembly Rule VIII [“Public Access to Records”], request is made for ALL records reflecting the appointment of Senate and Assembly members and chairs of the above 14 entities since November 30, 2018.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director



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