

CENTER *for* JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY, INC.

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January 23, 2026

TO: Records Access Officers
for the Governor, for the Division of the Budget, for the Senate, for the Assembly,
for the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission

FROM: Elena Sassower, Director/Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

RE: FOIL: FY 2026-27 State Budget – for records reflecting: (1) how Governor Hochul’s five **proposed** “Article VII Bills” each became **actual** bills, allegedly submitted by her “pursuant to article seven of the Constitution”; (2) why these actual bills are not posted on her Division of the Budget’s website; and (3) findings of fact and conclusions of law made with respect to CJA’s March 18, 2020 letter to Governor Cuomo

Pursuant to FOIL,¹ this is to request:

(1) records reflecting how Governor Hochul’s five so-called “FY 2027 Article VII Bills”, requiring Senate and Assembly sponsors – and so-posted on her [Division of the Budget webpage of “FY2027 Executive Budget Legislation”](#) as **proposed bills** of the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission, accompanied by supporting memoranda and preceded by a “Summary”, *to wit*,

[“Summary of Article VII Legislation Required For the Budget”](#)

- [Education, Labor and Family Assistance \(ELFA\) Bill](#)
& [Memorandum in Support](#)
- [Health and Mental Hygiene \(HMH\) Bill](#)
& [Memorandum in Support](#)
- [Public Protection and General Government \(PPGG\) Bill](#)
& [Memorandum in Support](#)
- [Transportation, Economic Development and Environmental Conservation \(TED\) Bill](#) & [Memorandum in Support](#)

¹

[Public Officers Law Article VI](#), [Senate Rule XIV](#), [Assembly Rule VIII](#).

- [Revenue \(REV\) Bill](#) & [Memorandum in Support](#) –

became five **actual** bills without Senate and Assembly sponsors, bearing combined Senate-Assembly bill numbers S.9005/A.10005 to S.9009/A.10009, January 21, 2026 dates of introduction, and purporting to be “submitted by the Governor pursuant to article seven of the Constitution”;

(2) records reflecting why Governor Hochul’s Division of the Budget website does NOT post these five **actual** bills, *to wit*:

- [Public Protection & General Government Budget Bill #S.9005/A.10005](#)
- [Education, Labor & Family Assistance Budget Bill #S.9006/A.10006](#)
- [Health & Mental Hygiene Budget Bill #S.9007/A.10007](#)
- [Transportation, Economic Development & Environmental Conservation Budget Bill #S.9008/A.10008](#)
- [Revenue Budget Bill #S.9009/A.10009](#).

(3) records reflecting findings of fact and conclusions of law made with respect to [CJA’s March 18, 2020 letter to then Governor Cuomo](#), entitled:

“...GOOD NEWS DURING THIS CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY – You Can Chuck Six of Your Seven ‘Article VII Bills’ Because They are Unconstitutional. Here’s why based on the Court of Appeals’ 2004 plurality, concurring, and dissenting opinions in *Pataki v. Assembly/Silver v. Pataki*, 4 N.Y.3d 75.” –

a letter CJA [simultaneously sent](#) to Governor Cuomo’s budget director, the Legislative Bill Drafting Commission, and Senate and Assembly leadership – and thereafter furnished, repeatedly, to legislators, including on [June 23, 2022](#) in serving Governor Hochul, legislative leaders, and the Senate and Assembly, with the [June 6, 2022 verified petition](#) in the lawsuit [CJA v. JCOPE, et. al.](#), to which they are respondents. The letter was [Exhibit A-5](#).

Thank you.

s/Elena Sassower