

From: elena@judgewatch.org
Sent: Friday, May 29, 2026 8:46 AM
To: 'foil@nysenate.gov'; 'publicinfo@nyassembly.gov'

Subject: FOIL/Records Request -- The Legislature's General Budget Conference Committee & Subcommittees for FY2026-2027

TO: Senate Records Access Officer/Secretary of the Senate Alejandra Paulino, ESQ.
Assembly Records Access Officer Amanda Contompasis

[Permanent Senate and Assembly Joint Rule III](#) reads as follows:

“Section 1. Budget Consideration Schedule. In accordance with [section 54-a of the Legislative Law](#), within ten days of the submission of the budget by the Governor pursuant to article VII of the Constitution, the Temporary President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall promulgate a schedule of dates for considering and acting upon such submission. Such schedule shall include the dates for those actions required to be taken by the legislature pursuant to section 53 of the Legislative Law, dates for the convening of a joint budget conference committee or committees as provided herein, and a date by which such committee or committees shall issue a final report or reports.”

Section 2. Joint Budget Conference Committee. In accordance with [section 54-a of the Legislative Law](#), within ten days of the submission of the budget by the Governor pursuant to article VII of the Constitution, the Temporary President of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly shall jointly establish a Joint Budget Conference Committee and, as they deem necessary, any number of subcommittees subordinate to such Joint Budget Conference Committee, to consider and reconcile such budget resolutions or bills passed by, or as may be passed by, the Senate and Assembly. Such Joint Budget Conference Committee shall be constituted and conducted as prescribed in [Joint Rule II](#) and shall file its written report in accord with the schedule established pursuant to section 1 of this rule.” (underlining added).

Pursuant to [Senate Rule XIV “Freedom of Information”](#) and [Assembly Rule VIII, “Public Access to Records”](#), request is made for:

- (1) the “joint certificate” executed by the Senate and Assembly “beginning the conference committee process in an effort to reconcile variations in the budget proposals passed by each house”, so-stated (at 16:46 mins) by Assembly Speaker

Heastie at the [first meeting of the 2026 Joint Budget Conference Committee](#) on March 16, 2026;

- (2) any report of the Joint Budget Conference Committee filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the Assembly pursuant to [Senate and Assembly Joint Rules II and III](#) and/or any written extension notice(s) signed by Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie;
- (3) any records of meetings of the Joint Budget Conference Committee subsequent to March 16, 2026;
- (4) the “joint certificates” appointing the ten budget conference subcommittees;
- (5) any records of meetings of the ten budget conference subcommittees subsequent to the first meetings of each on March 17, 2026 or March 18, 2026 – and any reports rendered by them.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director
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