

Spring on the Hill

May 17, 2022



Top of Mind

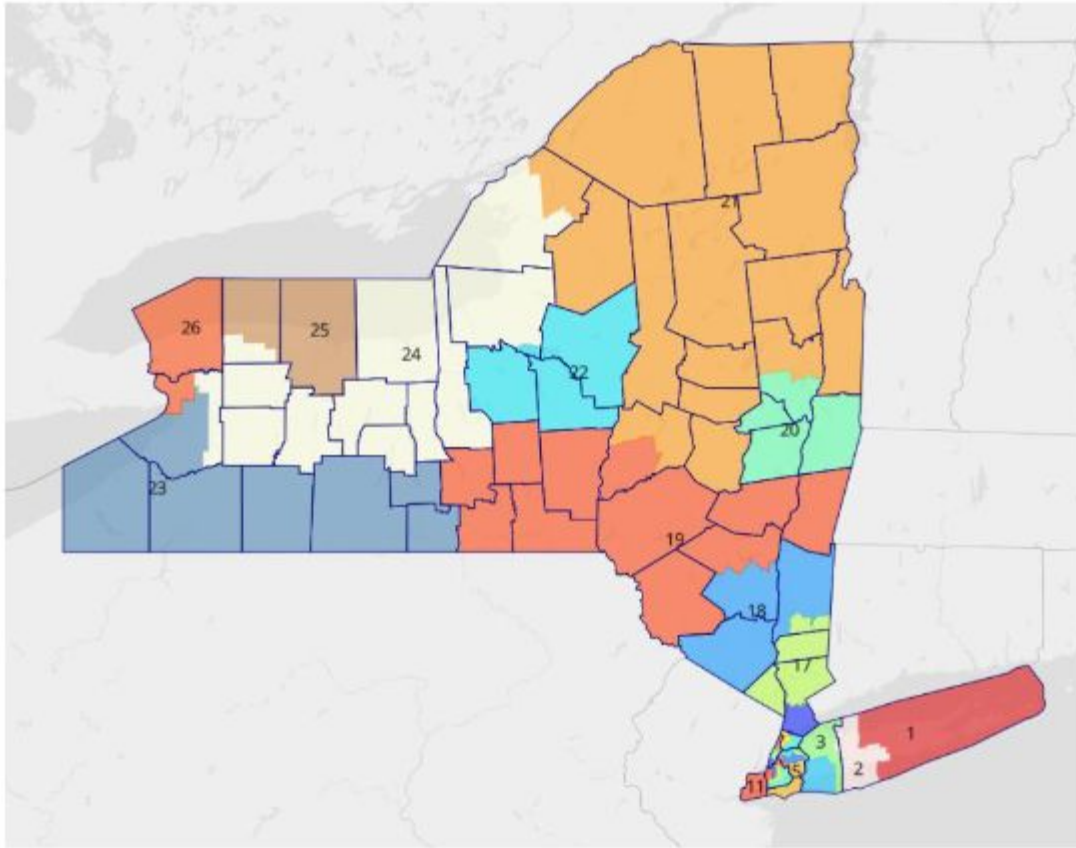
Shake Up at the Capitol

- Former Governor Andrew Cuomo Resigns (August 2021)
 - Then Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul assumed position of Governor (August 2021)
- Governor Kathy Hochul appoints former Senator Brian Benjamin as Lieutenant Governor (August 2021)
 - Former Lieutenant Governor arrested and charged with bribery and related offenses (April 2022)
 - Benjamin resigns immediately following
- Governor Kathy Hochul appoints former Congressman Antonio Delgado as Lieutenant Governor (May 2022)

ReDistricting Headaches

- Five-months of uncertainty beginning in January when the Independent Redistricting Commission failed to come to an agreement.
- New York Senate & Congressional lines deemed unconstitutional.
 - Jonathan Cervas directed to create and submit new maps by May 20.
 - Congressional lines released May 16.
- Assembly lines accepted.

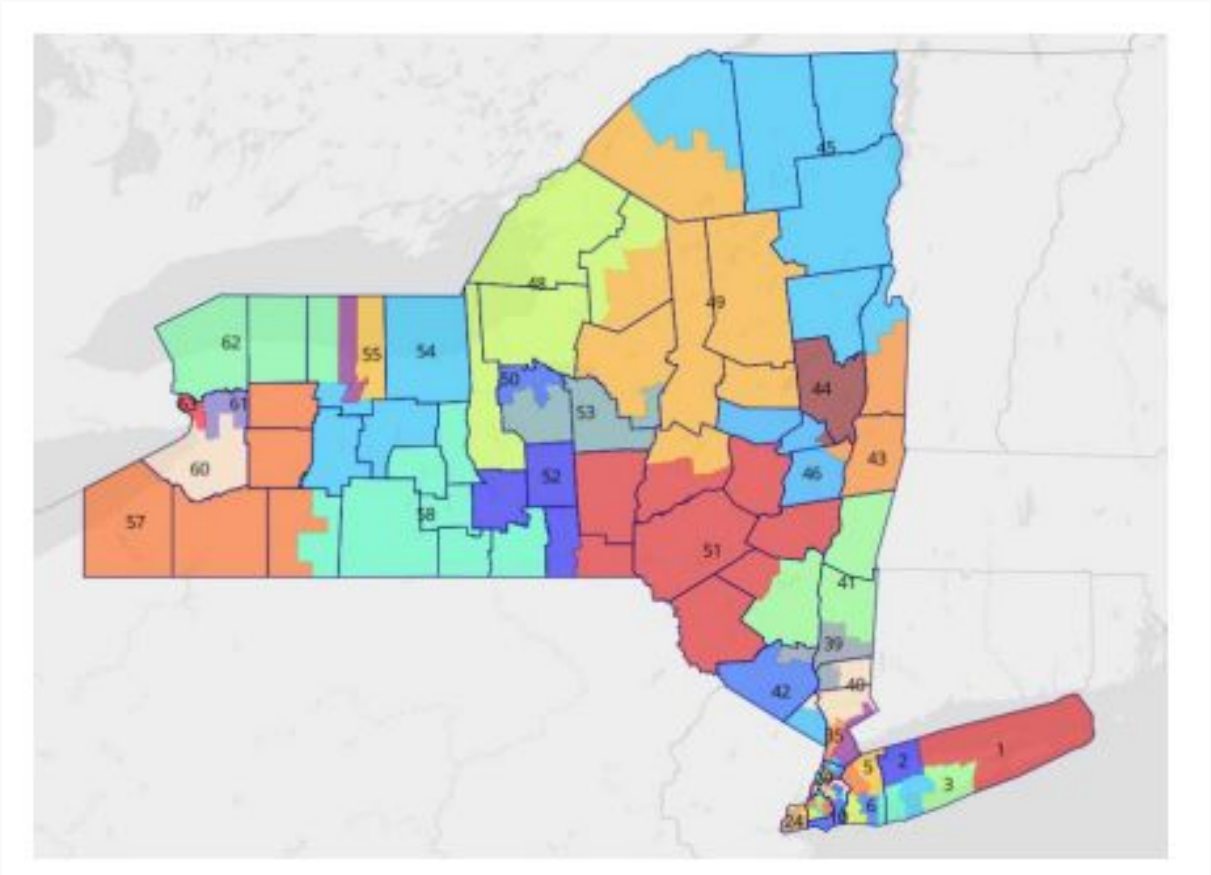
<https://www.cityandstateny.com/politics/2022/05/timeline-new-yorks-chaotic-redistricting-process/366934/>



Special Master Proposed NY Congressional Map

	Special Master Proposal	Legislative Proposal
Number of Counties Split	15	34
Total Number of County Splits	26	56
Reock Compactness	40	32
Polsby-Popper Compactness	34	25
Competitive Districts ¹	8	3

For splits, lower is better. For compactness and competitive districts, higher numbers are better.



Special Master Proposed Senate District Map

	Special Master Proposal	Legislative Proposal
Number of Counties Split	25	30
Total Number of County Splits	66	71
Reock Compactness	38.9	34.8
Polsby-Popper Compactness	34	27.7
Competitive Districts ¹	15	6

For splits, lower is better. For compactness and competitive districts, higher numbers are better.

Senate district numbers are provisional and based on an attempt to match the 2012-2020 map numbering as closely as possible. Because of relative population loss, two districts have been shifted and there are necessary changes throughout the state to reflect the population changes.

ReDistricting Continued...

- Voters will head to the polls twice this summer.
- On June 28, they will vote in primaries for:
 - Governor
 - Lieutenant Governor
 - Assembly Members
 - U.S. Senate
- On August 23, they will vote in primaries for:
 - State Senate
 - Congress

2022 State Budget

The final budget passed the Legislature over 7 days late on Saturday, April 9, 2022. It included:

- Library Aid \$99.6M
- Library Construction \$34M
- Digital Inclusion \$10M
- Release of \$150K Love Your Library Fund
- Schomburg Research Center \$375K
- Langston Hughes Community Library \$112K
- Establishment of the Working to Implement Reliable and Equitable Deployment of Broadband Act (WIRED)
- Modifications to Open Meetings Law
 - Memo from [Committee on Open Government](#)

2022 Policy Initiatives

Media Literacy in New York

These proposals address access, delivery, and development

- S8213 (Ryan)/A6153A (Rosenthal)
 - Media Literacy Professional Development
- S8212 (Ryan)/A6225A(Rosenthal)
 - Library Media Specialist K-12 Requirement
- S8214A/A6142B(Rosenthal)
 - Media Literacy Advisory Group Formation
- S8215(Ryan)/A8222(Rosenthal)
 - Creation of Media Literacy Standards in K-12

School Library Facility Modernization

S6053 (Kaplan) / A6339 (Jensen)

This proposal would address the antiquated metrics within NY-CRR 91.1 and insert characteristics associated with a successful, 21st century school library.

Construction Project Extension

S8429 (Ryan)/A9487(Jean Pierre)

This bill would provide libraries that have been impacted by COVID-19 and supply chain issues an additional two years (total of 6) to complete their construction projects while maintaining their eligibility for state aid.

Book Fair Tax Exemption

A861 (Cahill)

This bill would make books, magazines, pamphlets and other items sold at school sponsored book fairs exempt from sales tax.

Association Retirement Option

S5179 (Palumbo)/A5824A (Thiele)

This bill would allow association libraries that meet certain criteria the ability to join the New York State Retirement System upon approval of their board.

Double Taxation Survey

S7857A (Skoufis) / A9448A (Stirpe)

Requires two state agencies with the assistance of the library community to conduct a survey on the prevalence and fiscal impact of double taxation due to overlapping library districts.

Gold Coast Library Elections

S7611 (Gaughran) / A8110 (Lavine)

Amends the Chapter for Gold Coast Library by extending when petitions are due from 13 days to 30 days.

Right to Repair Act

S4104 (Breslin) / A7006A (Fahy)

If implemented, the Fair Repair Act would allow libraries to identify a local service representative who could return the product in a shorter-time frame and/or at a lesser cost.

For patrons who frequent their library, this means access to their desired content and information.

In the Works

Other Post Employment Benefits

NYLA is seeking eligibility for library systems and certain libraries within the State to create and contribute to a reserve fund for other post-employment benefits.

Permanent Reduction in Petition Signature Requirements

NYLA is seeking a decrease in the number of signatures needed for 259 and school district library elections.

Modernization of Civil Service Process

Working with the Civil Service Committee, legislative partners and allies at external organizations, we are seeking amendments to processes and protocols within Civil Service for the field of librarianship.

Looking Ahead

- New Two-Year Session (2023-2024)
 - New Cohort
 - New Committee Compositions
- Building Momentum on Recent Budgetary Gains
 - State Fiscal Health
 - Increased Understanding of Community Needs
 - Dedicated Committee Members

- Settling of the Second Floor
 - Leadership in Executive Chambers & “Power Positions”
- Acceptance of Hybrid or All-Remote Options

Questions?