

2024 TOURISM ADVOCACY DAY



SEE ISSUES ON BACK SIDE

TOURISM PAYS DIVIDENDS

NYS HOSTS **291 MILLION** VISITORS ANNUALLY

They spend **\$79 billion** at NYS businesses, generating **\$10 billion** in NYS tax revenues, and creating **\$123 billion** in total economic impact.

- ▶ **NEW YORK STATE'S THIRD LARGEST INDUSTRY SUSTAINS NEARLY...**

1 MILLION NYS JOBS

- ▶ **TOURISM IS NOT A BUDGET EXPENSE, IT IS AN **INVESTMENT** IN ECONOMIC GROWTH**

Tourism generates **\$10 BILLION** in state and local tax revenues.



DATA UTILIZED FROM TOURISM ECONOMICS' ECONOMIC IMPACT OF VISITORS IN NEW YORK IN 2022.

ABOUT New York State Hospitality & Tourism Association (NYSHTA)

As America's **oldest state lodging association**, we offer programs and services to bring value to over **1,000 members** in the industry. NYSHTA protects its members' interests by representing them as their legislative voice before state government.

OUR MISSION

Lead and protect the New York State hospitality and tourism industry by providing advocacy, education, and resources.

ENGAGING
YOUR LAWMAKERS

PROTECTING
YOUR INDUSTRY

INFLUENCING
CHANGE

2024 PRIORITY ADVOCACY ISSUES



NEW YORK STATE HOSPITALITY & TOURISM ASSOCIATION (NYSHTA) | [NYSHTA.ORG](https://www.nyshta.org)

BUDGET

Collection of Sales Tax on Short-Term Rentals

The FY 2025 Executive Budget contains a proposal to require the collection of sales tax on vacation rentals. Importantly, the provisions do not include the registration requirement contained in existing legislation. NYSHTA strongly supports the collection of taxes on short-term rental units.

Tourism Promotion Matching Grants

The Executive Budget reduces funding for the Tourism Promotion Matching Grant Program by \$1 million, to \$2.45 million. The enacted 2023 Budget funded this program at \$3.45 million. Lobby efforts have begun to restore to \$3.45 million.

Sunset the COVID Sick Leave Law

Current law requires employers to provide sick leave benefits, paid family leave, and disability-related benefits for employees subject to a quarantine due to COVID. As a result of the expiration of both State and Federal emergency orders, the Governor is proposing to sunset the State's COVID-19 Sick Leave Law as of July 31, 2024.

LEGISLATIVE

Short-Term Rental Legislation S885B (Hinchey) / A4130A (Fahy)

S885B/A4130A requires short-term rental units located outside of New York City to register with the Department of State. It also requires the collection of both sales and occupancy taxes on those units. NYSHTA strongly supports this legislation and has been working with our partners in both the Senate and the Assembly to advance the Bill this session.

NY Junk Fee Prevention Act S7783B (Gianaris)

The Senate introduced a bill that seeks to clarify conspicuous pricing practices regarding mandatory "junk fees." This has also been a hot-button issue at the national level. This Bill would mandate all fees be disclosed prior to purchase (booking the room). NYSHTA, along with its national hotel partners, met with the bill sponsor and offered some amendments that would eliminate the Private Right of Action. TIDs and BIDs would also be disclosed prior to purchase.

Air Conditioner Default S6222 (May) / A4095 (Epstein)

This legislation states that a keeper of a lodging facility shall not set the default temperature setting on any air conditioner located in any room or common area lower than 75 degrees between the months of May through October and/or higher than 64 degrees Fahrenheit between the months of November through April.

ADA Website Legislation S920 (Cooney) / A1684 (Woerner)

This legislation would provide places of accommodation, resort, or amusement with a time to cure provisions of a website or mobile application, related to allegations of unlawful discriminatory practices with respect to visually and hearing-impaired individuals.

Parks Seeking Age Reduction for Ride Operators

NYSHTA is developing bill language and securing sponsors for a bill that would lower the age to operate any ride at an Amusement Park in New York State to 16. Many surrounding states already have a law in place to allow for 16-year-olds to operate any ride, and with worker shortages continuing to be a challenge, this will allow for parks to be able to have more rides open to enhance the guest experience.