

Opinion: New York's Legislature Deserves a Raise

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Managing Partner, Howard Fensterman, contributed an opinion article published on December 22nd in City & State titled [New York's Legislature Deserves a Raise](#).

Opinion: New York's legislature deserves a raise

State legislators should be unapologetic about getting a bump in pay but with an appreciation that they need to engage their constituents regarding the intensity of the job and the limits most have on outside income.



The New York State Capitol. (PHOTO BY MICHAEL M. SANTIAGO/GETTY IMAGES)

By **HOWARD FENSTERMAN**

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New York state legislators have a 24/7 job and, regardless of which side of the political aisle they sit on, should be compensated for their professionalism, commitment, expertise and time. This isn't an ideological debate, but one that needs to recognize the effort it takes to fulfill the role of legislator. As these public servants consider granting themselves a salary increase they should be unapologetic about that proposal but with an appreciation that they need to engage their constituents regarding the intensity of the job and the fact that it ethically precludes the majority of outside income.

About the Author

[Howard Fensterman](#) is the managing partner and co-founder of Abrams Fensterman, LLP, which represents the Kings County Democratic Party. He is a Democratic donor and past Long Island finance chairman for Sen. Chuck Schumer and former Governors David Paterson and Andrew M. Cuomo.

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