

NEW LAWS TAKING EFFECT – MAY 2026

| Effective Date | Chapter | Summary |
|----------------|---|---|
| 5/4/2026 | Ch. 491 of 2025 A8476/S8150 | Enacts the Governing Unaccredited Representatives Defrauding (GUARD) VA Benefits Act, which protects veterans from fraud by making unaccredited representation of a veteran a class A misdemeanor and creating a dedicated Veterans' Services Fund. |
| 5/9/2026 | Ch. 55 of 2025 Part HH A3005-C/S3005-C Ch. 707 of 2025 Part H A8871/S8415 Ch. 36 of 2026 Part H A9516/S8825 | Expands the membership and functions of the State Commission of Correction to provide for enhanced oversight of correctional facilities through visits and interviews with staff and incarcerated individuals as well as facilitating the submission of written complaints via mail and the internet. |
| 5/9/2026 | Ch. 56 of 2025 Part P A3006-C/S3006-C | Allows certified child care support centers to place substitute caregivers in licensed and registered child care programs, helping providers maintain staffing and continuity of care. |
| 5/11/2026 | Ch. 495 of 2025 A6768/S5509 | Requires businesses that lease excavation equipment to provide notice to lessees of their responsibility to protect underground utilities by calling the 811 telephone number for the UDig NY system. |
| 5/20/2026 | Ch. 506 of 2025 A1395/S3360 Ch. 40 of 2026 A9488/S8756 | Permits a close friend to make an anatomical gift of a decedent's body. |
| 5/22/2026 | Ch. 491 of 2024 A9729/S9186 | Authorizes and sets parameters for pharmacists and pharmacies engaged in shared pharmacy services. |