Legislative Hearings on the Executive Budget in NYS

PAD 642

Background

In the last module's budgeting task, you selected a policy area—such as economic development, education, environment, energy and agriculture, healthcare, higher education, human services, mental hygiene, public safety, or transportation—and examined the Governor's budget presentation, the Executive Budget Briefing Book, and agency presentations.

In this module, you will continue that inquiry by moving to the next step in the budgeting process: legislative review of the Executive Budget. In particular, you will examine how the Legislature conducts budget hearings, what concerns legislators raise, what changes they propose, and which programs, projects, or initiatives in the Executive Budget receive particular attention and possible revision. By carefully following a budget hearing session, you can learn a great deal about how the budgeting process works in practice.

Sources:

2026 Joint Legislative Budget Hearings:

https://nyassembly.gov/2026budget/?sec=hearings

Pick one hearing that is relevant to your policy area of interest and watch the hearing video.

Memo

Write your memo as if you are preparing a summary for those who missed the hearing. Your memo should answer all of the following questions:

1. Which parties/entities are involved in the hearing?
2. What questions (main ones) are asked during the hearing?
3. Which programs, initiatives, or projects (main ones) receive the most attention?
4. What other impressions or lessons did you gain from the budget session?

What to submit: A two-page memo that addresses the questions above