New York State Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation

Hearing Notice: October 10

Hon. Eugene M. Fahey, Chair (Ret.)
Helene Blank
Theresa Egan
Nadine Fontaine
Victor Kovner
Robert Megna
Hon. Jeremy Weinstein (Ret.)

WHAT: The New York State Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive

Compensation will hold a public hearing on Legislative and Executive

compensation.

WHEN: Thursday, October 10, 2024 B Public Hearing

TIME: 12:00 Noon

WHERE: New York State Bar Association

1 Elk Street

Albany, New York 12207

City View Room

This hearing will be viewable online via a live webcast. Information on remote reviewing will be posted at: http://www.nyscommissiononcompensation.org on the day of the meeting.

If you would like to testify, please contact the Commission in advance by email, at: nyscompensation@gmail.com or by regular mail, at: NYS Commission on Legislative, Judicial and Executive Compensation, 64 Beaver Street, Box 454, New York, NY 10004. Interested parties and members of the public may also submit written submissions to nyscompensation@gmail.com or by regular mail (address above). Written submissions will be posted on the Commission=s website.

In March of 2015, Part E of chapter 60 of the Laws of 2015 was enacted, providing for a quadrennial commission to Aexamine, evaluate and make recommendations with respect to adequate levels of compensation and non-salary benefits@ for judges, members of the Legislature and certain Statewide elected officials and Executive Branch officers named in Executive Law ' 169. The Commission was charged, first, with issuing Afindings, conclusions, determinations and recommendations@ to the Governor, the Legislature and the Chief Judge with regard to judicial compensation. That report was released on December 4, 2023. A separate report, relating to legislative and executive compensation, is due by November 15, 2024. Any recommendations would take effect on January 1, 2025.

Chapter 60 sets forth a number of factors to guide the Commission=s work of determining appropriate salary levels, including, but not limited to, the overall economic climate in New York; rates of inflation; changes in public sector spending; levels of compensation and non-salary benefits received by professionals in government, academia and private and nonprofit enterprise; and the state=s ability to fund increases in compensation.

As prescribed in chapter 60, the Commission consists of seven members appointed by the leaders of all three branches of New York State government. Three members are appointed by the Governor; two (including the Chair) by the Chief Judge; and one each by the President Pro Tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the Assembly. The findings and recommendations require a majority vote but they must also be supported Aby at least one member appointed by each appointing authority.@ The Commission=s Chair shall preside but not vote on matters relating to legislative and executive compensation.

The Commission may recommend up to two adjustments in legislative and executive salary levels, each commencing on January first, following a November general election of members of the Legislature. The Commission is deemed dissolved following issuance of the report due no later than November 15, 2024.