

The logo for the New York City Bar, featuring the text "NEW YORK CITY BAR" in a serif font, centered between two horizontal blue bars.

NEW YORK  
CITY BAR

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**New York City Bar Association Releases  
2022 New York State Legislative Agenda**

New York, January 12, 2022 – As part of its ongoing policy work at the local, state and federal levels, the New York City Bar Association has released its [2022 New York State Legislative Agenda](#). The Agenda is rooted in the City Bar’s mission to equip and mobilize the legal profession to practice with excellence, promote reform of the law, and uphold the rule of law and access to justice in support of a fair society and the public interest. It also draws on the six priorities laid out by City Bar President Sheila S. Boston in her vision for a “Bar of Hope”: COVID-19 Recovery Projects; Criminal Justice Reform; Access to Justice; Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Protection of the Rule of Law; and Mental Health and Wellness.

The following are the Agenda items for 2022:

**THE JUDICIARY, THE PROFESSION AND THE FAIR, EFFECTIVE  
ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE**

- Support Adequate Funding for Civil Legal Services in the Judiciary Budget
- Simplify New York State’s Courts through Restructuring
- Reform and Modernize the Administration of Class Action in New York’s Courts
- Permit Nonresident Attorneys to Practice in New York without Maintaining a Physical Office in the State

**GOOD GOVERNMENT**

- Replace the Joint Commission on Public Ethics (JCOPE)
- Reform the Open Meetings Law to Permit Hybrid Format
- Build upon Reforms to Further Modernize and Secure New York’s Voting System and Election Law

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM**

- Advance Policies to Address Mass Incarceration
- Enact the Second Chance Amendment
- Create the First-time Felony Diversion Court

- Clarify Registration Requirements for Individuals Convicted of Level One Sex Offenses from Out of State

### **HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS**

- Expand the Right to Counsel for Tenants Facing Eviction Statewide
- Provide Internet Access to Individuals Living in Temporary Housing throughout New York State
- Increase Needs Allowance for Residents Living in Shelters Serving Meals

### **BUSINESS AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

- Regulate the Use of Noncompete Agreements for Lower-Salary Employees
- Support Long-Established Practices of Business-to-Business Arbitration Proceedings
- Combat Cruel Commercial Companion Animal Breeding
- Enact the Consumer and Small Business Protection Act

The agenda focuses on positions relevant to the current legislative debate or of particular importance to the City Bar, as well as legislative proposals drafted by our committees. The City Bar's committees generate dozens of reports over the course of each legislative session and this agenda represents only a portion of those positions. For a full directory of City Bar reports, including positions on regulatory changes and our federal and international work, please [visit our website](#).

Access the Legislative Agenda here: <http://bit.ly/2lVpjWf>

#### **About the Association**

*The mission of the New York City Bar Association, which was founded in 1870 and has approximately 24,000 members, is to equip and mobilize a diverse legal profession to practice with excellence, promote reform of the law, and uphold the rule of law and access to justice in support of a fair society and the public interest in our community, our nation, and throughout the world. [www.nycbar.org](http://www.nycbar.org)*