



*New York State Assembly*  
**2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

*committee on*  
**LABOR**

*Keith L.T. Wright*  
*Chair*



*Sheldon Silver*  
*Speaker*

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011

The Honorable Sheldon Silver  
Speaker of the Assembly  
Room 932 – Legislative Office Building  
Albany, New York 12248

Dear Speaker Silver,

I am pleased to submit the 2011 Annual Report of the Assembly Standing Committee on Labor. This year the committee considered a range of issues amending the Labor and Workers' Compensation Laws. The Committee considered and reported 38 bills. Of these, six became law.

One focus of the Labor Committee has been to protect the rights of workers and to secure a safe, productive work environment. At the same time the effects of the state and national recession have not been lost on the Committee. As a result it has considered proposals to deal with rising workers' compensation premiums, unpaid unemployment insurance taxes, and fraud, which raise the cost of business for scrupulous employers. Declining state revenue, however, has limited the programs and initiatives which the Labor Committee ordinarily supports.

In conjunction with the Senate and Governor, this year the Labor Committee succeeded in closing the workers' compensation "Group Self Insurance Trust" (GSIT) model for providing coverage to employees, and implemented the recommendations established by the Task Force on Group Self Insurance which was created in 2008. This legislation will ensure that injured workers continue to receive benefits, while providing employers a way out of the GSIT system by allowing them to settle or transfer their outstanding liabilities without penalty. This legislation will help put to rest a problem which has been plaguing the workers' compensation system and increasing costs to employers since before 2008.

The Committee continued to advocate for policies frequently passed by the People's House, such as equal pay for women and minorities, and the Farmworker's Fair Labor Practices Act, which would extend basic labor rights to this historically neglected group of workers. The Committee also advanced new legislation to encourage a "green job corps," update our state's unemployment insurance system and allow employees to view their personnel files for mistakes.

The last three years have been difficult for New York's working class and for the small businesses that provide jobs for many of our state's workers. Unemployment benefits have helped working families remain solvent. While the weekly benefit remains modest compared to other states in our region, this has not prevented our state from the necessity of borrowing from the federal government to fund the benefits. This year the Department of Labor was obliged by federal law to levy an additional tax against all New York State employers to cover the interest on this borrowing. Unless the system is redesigned, New York's businesses will be forced to pay higher unemployment insurance taxes as a result of further interest assessments and the loss of a federal credit that employers have enjoyed for many years, with no improvement for laid-off workers. As New York climbs out of this recession we have an opportunity to reform the system.

Under your leadership, the Assembly Labor Committee has protected the laboring class as a sluggish economy and unfavorable job market have chafed the rights of working people. I know the committee will continue to advocate for the women and men who are the engines of the Empire State. I thank you for the honor you gave me by granting this assignment to me. I applaud your leadership and all of the members of the Labor Committee for their dedication and hard work during my tenure as Chair of this important committee.

Sincerely,

Keith L. T. Wright  
Chair  
Assembly Labor Committee

**NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLY  
HON. SHELDON SILVER, SPEAKER  
HON. KEITH L. T. WRIGHT, CHAIR  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR  
2011 ANNUAL REPORT**

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Michael Benedetto  
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Barbara M. Clark  
William Colton  
Carl E. Heastie  
Andrew Hevesi  
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Rory I. Lancman  
George S. Latimer  
Margaret M. Markey  
Grace Meng  
Michael Miller  
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N. Nick Perry  
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Clifford Crouch  
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Donald Miller  
Michael Montesano  
Edward Ra  
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**Staff**

Jennifer Best, Assistant Secretary for Program and Policy  
John Svare, Associate Counsel  
Dallas Trombley, Legislative Analyst  
Francisco Polanco, Committee Clerk  
Sarah Conklin, Administrative Assistant

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	3
2.	2011 SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS BY SECTION OF LAW	
	Construction Industry	4
	Occupational Safety and Health	5
	Unemployment Insurance	6
	Workers' Compensation Insurance	7
	Other Significant Legislation of 2011	8
3.	ROUNDTABLES AND HEARINGS.....	9
4.	OUTLOOK FOR 2012.....	11
5.	APPENDIX A: 2011 SUMMARY OF ACTION ON ALL BILLS REFERRED TO THE LABOR COMMITTEE.....	12
6.	APPENDIX B: 2011 ENACTED LABOR LEGISLATION.....	13
7.	APPENDIX C: 2011 LABOR LEGISLATION – PASSED ASSEMBLY ONLY.....	14
8.	APPENDIX D: 2011 BILLS REPORTED BY THE LABOR COMMITTEE.....	16

## INTRODUCTION

Each session the Labor Committee considers legislation relevant to the working people and businesses of New York State. The Committee is responsible for protecting fundamental worker rights, such as the right to a day of rest, a minimum wage, the right to a safe workplace and the ability to organize. Legislation considered by the Committee impacts the lives and livelihood of New York's workers and the overall economy.

The Labor Committee considers bills from sources including Members of the Assembly, the Governor's Program Bills, and "Departmentals" introduced at the request of the Department of Labor, the Workers' Compensation Board, the Attorney General and the State Insurance Fund. Many of these bills address administrative issues which allow these departments and the programs they oversee to run more efficiently. Others allow for stronger regulations and enforcement of current law in order to strengthen protections for workers.

The Committee also generates bills at the request of constituents, collective bargaining organizations, think-tanks and worker advocacy groups. A representative sample of the legislative proposals acted upon this year includes a bill to specify the kinds of deductions an employer may subtract from an employee's wages; a bill granting employers the right to establish a mass transit fringe benefit for their workers; the strengthening of workers' compensation protections for Lyme Disease patients; and a bill granting preference to New York workers on construction projects.

During the budget process the Labor Committee works with the staff of the Ways and Means Committee in order to provide funding for numerous programs and initiatives. This year the Committee successfully restored funding to programs such as the Displaced Homemakers and the Jobs for Youth programs. The Committee restored funding to various programs aimed at helping to retrain unemployed workers in order to bring them back into the workforce with valuable skills. This year the recession, coupled with the expiration of the federal aid from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, decreased State revenues at a time when workers find themselves increasingly obliged to rely on public programs and initiatives. This caused the Committee to strategically appropriate funds to programs which would have the greatest net effect on the quality of life of New York State's workers.

Throughout the year, the Labor Committee works in conjunction with other committees and departments. For example, this year, the Labor Committee and the Local Governments Committee worked to protect labor rights while considering a governor's bill intended to allow more local government discretion and efficiencies. The Labor, Governmental Operations and Judiciary Committees worked together to pass legislation which protected victims of domestic abuse from workplace retaliation.

The Labor Committee holds hearings each year on important issues that affect the state workforce. These hearings serve as a sounding board wherein professionals, academics, workers, businesses and other public constituents provide testimony to Members of the Assembly. This year the Labor Committee participated in hearings on the rights of young workers, ways to address the high unemployment of returning veterans, and equal pay for women and minority workers.

The Labor Committee remains committed to ensuring the rights of working people and streamlining and strengthening government processes and protections.

## SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

### CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

Construction has historically been an economic driver in New York State. Stimuli to this area have helped lead the state out of past recessions. However the current economic situation is different. The stale real estate market has decimated home construction and placed downward pressure on construction wages. When construction workers are improperly classified as independent contractors, it not only deprives those workers of their statutory rights, it also places businesses that follow the laws at a disadvantage and costs taxpayers money. Construction remains a dangerous industry and workers, especially in times of high unemployment, need legislative protections both from on-the-job injuries and infringements on their constitutional right to adequate wages. In 2011 the Labor Committee reported numerous bills designed to protect construction industry workers and protect taxpayers from fraud.

#### 1. Significant Legislation included:

- (a) **A5786a (Abbate)/S5149b (Bonacic):** Would require the fiscal officer of a municipal district to reject contracts for public work if the officer is unable to determine the classifications of the workers on, or the specific labor cost of, such contract. (Reported to Rules)
- (b) **A6970 (Wright)/S3827 (Maziarz):** Would require utility companies to use competent workers and pay the prevailing wage on projects where a permit to use or open a street is issued. (Passed Assembly)
- (c) **A7375 (Wright):** Would require the payment of prevailing wages for construction work on buildings owned by or leased from a charter school. (Reported to Codes)
- (d) **A7401 (Abbate)/S5659 (Savino):** Would provide that wage violations occurring under federal public works construction projects would be applicable for the purpose of state debarment laws. (Passed Assembly)
- (e) **A8086 (Wright/Bronson):** Would require that local qualified residents be given preference for construction work performed in areas of high unemployment. (Reported to Codes)

## SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

### OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

One goal of the Labor Committee is to consider legislation that will prevent workplace injuries and protect the health of New York's workforce. Such legislation helps protect lives and lowers employers' workers' compensation premiums. Occupational Safety and Health programs offer opportunities for employee-management partnerships wherein both parties benefit from their cooperation to avoid unnecessary injury and expense. Such programs drastically decrease the number of workers who are hurt on the job and the severity of injuries that do occur. The Committee continues to reach out to organized labor in order to address current problems in this area and to expand these programs whenever possible. The Committee considered legislation designed to protect workers and the public from dangerous employment situations. The Labor Committee oversees the Subcommittee on Workplace Safety which focuses on ways to prevent injury and illness on the job. The subcommittee, among other initiatives, studied the issue of workplace violence in public workplaces and compliance with the Workplace Violence Prevention Act, which the Labor Committee championed in 2007 and which became effective in 2010.

#### 1. Significant Legislation included:

- (a) **A2129B (Lancman)/ S5490b (Young):** Would require the development and implementation by schools of a written workplace safety plan to address workplace violence similar to current requirement of local municipalities. (Passed Assembly)
- (b) **A2139 (Benedetto)/ S1517 (Klein):** Would expand anti-retaliation protections for employees who alert authorities to workplace practices which are illegal or pose a significant danger to the public safety or health. (Passed Assembly)
- (c) **A7910b (Lancman):** Would require the provision of push-button emergency notification devices to employees who regularly enter hotel or motel rooms. (Reported to Rules)



## SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

Unemployment insurance (UI) was designed as a safety net for workers who are ready, able and willing to work. Unemployment insurance benefits help workers who have lost employment, through no fault of their own, to meet their basic needs. These benefits are funded through an annual tax, paid exclusively by employers, based on each employee's pay. The economic downturn caused an increase in unemployment leading to the highest rate in decades both state- and nation-wide. The UI system faces two predominant problems. New York Law stipulates that UI benefits must be the exclusive source of income for recipients or the benefit for the individual is reduced, yet the current benefit has not been increased in nine years and currently represents only 26% of the state average weekly wage. At the same time, the mechanism on which the benefit is funded is inadequate and New York has been forced to borrow up to \$90 million per week from the federal government to provide the benefits to New York's unemployed workforce. Federal law requires this borrowed sum to be repaid, with interest, by New York's employers. The Committee stands ready to work with the Senate and Governor's office to address the urgent problems facing this system.

- (a) **Chapter 7:** Adjusted certain definitions under the state unemployment insurance law in order to allow New York to continue to receive federally-funded extended unemployment benefits. **(A6091-Wright/ S3928-Robach)**
- (b) **Chapter 134:** Extended the effectiveness of the Self Employment Assistance Program for two years. **(A7268-Schimminger/ S4953-Alessi)**
- (c) **A6136 (Wright)/ S722 (Peralta):** Would increase the funding cap on the "599 retraining" program designed to provide unemployed workers with new job skills. This bill was reported to Assembly Ways and Means.
- (d) **A6673 (Wright):** Would provide that an offer of employment to a worker at an academic institution which is contingent upon factors such as enrollment and funding would not constitute "reasonable assurance" of continued employment. This bill was reported to Assembly Ways and Means.

## SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

### WORKERS' COMPENSATION INSURANCE

Workers' compensation insurance provides coverage for employees who become disabled as a result of disease or injury connected with their employment, with weekly income payments and the cost of medical treatment, including rehabilitation. It also provides payments for qualified dependents of a worker who dies from a compensable illness or injury. The Labor Committee is committed to making the workers' compensation system more efficient and effective for both employers and employees.

#### 1. Significant Legislation included:

- (a) **A5923 (Kavanagh)/ S4176 (Savino):** Would stipulate that when the Workers' Compensation Board demands information from a claimant on a disability insurance claim, the request must clearly state the repercussions for not providing the information. This law also requires a reasonable period of time for the claimant to respond. (Passed Assembly)
  
- (b) **A6294 (Wright)/ S3741 (Maziarz):** Would prohibit the retroactive application of medical treatment guidelines to workers with previously established claims and treatments. (Passed Assembly)

## OTHER SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION

### FARMWORKERS

**A1652 (Nolan)/ S1862 (Espaillat):** This bill would enact a comprehensive farmworker reform statute designed to place farmworkers on par with other workers in New York State. The bill would grant farm laborers a day of rest each week, disability insurance coverage, overtime pay, unemployment insurance coverage and the right to collectively bargain. This bill advanced to third reading.

### PAY EQUITY

**A6130 (Wright)/ S2200 (Krueger):** This bill would supplement Federal Law and require the establishment of a job classification system which does not systematically undervalue the work of women and minority workers in order to establish "equivalent jobs" which are dissimilar but require equivalent skills, effort, responsibility and working conditions. It would require employers to pay all employees who have equivalent jobs the same rate, with exceptions for seniority, merit systems, jobs based on the quality or quantity of work produced, and other non-sex or race-based factors. This bill passed the Assembly.

### GREEN JOBS

**A241 (Latimer)/ S5355 (Kennedy):** This bill would establish a subcommittee of the State Workforce Investment Board which would focus on "green jobs" and education. This bill would establish green training programs for workers and a K-12 and university curriculum to educate New York's students on green technology. This bill was vetoed by the Governor in Veto 50/2011.

**A5640 (Weisenberg)/ S535 (Klein):** This bill would establish a transportation fringe benefit for employees who use mass transportation or bicycle to work. Employees would be able to subsidize such transportation costs using pre-tax income. This bill advanced to third reading.

### FREELANCERS

**A6698a (Silver):** This bill would provide certain independent contractors, or "freelance workers" with the wage and hour protections which other employees enjoy, including the ability of the Commissioner of the Department of Labor to bring an action against an employer for the underpayment of a freelancer. This bill passed the Assembly.

## **ROUNDTABLES AND HEARINGS**

### **Veterans Employment**

On September 28, 2011, the Committee on Labor participated in a roundtable discussion in conjunction with the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, the Legislative Commission on Skills Development & Career Education and Subcommittee on Women Veterans to assess how well the workforce development system, education system and employers are providing opportunities for unemployed, not-yet-employed or underemployed women to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to qualify for higher paying careers. Most notably, the committee was interested in identifying barriers to women that prevent them from improving their employment opportunities. The committees received testimony from representatives of the Vietnam Veterans of America New York State Council; AMVETS Department of New York; Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of New York; New York State Department of Labor including the Commissioner of Labor and the Institute for Veterans and Families at Syracuse University. The discussion centered on the need for data regarding unemployed veterans. The New York State Department of Labor claimed it has information on the number of unemployed veterans broken down by gender and service, while the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University stated they have information on the numbers of small business owners who are veterans and/or disabled veterans. The Labor Committee will continue to work with the Committee on Veterans' Affairs as well as the Legislative Commission on Skills Development and Career Education and the Subcommittee on Women Veterans to find ways to provide underemployed women with the skills they need to find employment.

### **Young Worker Safety**

On October 26, 2011 the Committee on Labor, in conjunction with the Subcommittee on Workplace Safety, held a roundtable discussion regarding youth safety in the workplace. Specifically, the discussion was in regard to the high rate of non-fatal job related injuries sustained by young workers. The roundtable was well attended and provided some very useful discussion. Attendees included the Workers' Compensation Board, Department of Labor, NYCOSH, CSEA, The Business Council, Capital Region BOCES, the United Federation of Teachers and the Youth Construction Initiative. Remarks centered on leading causes of young worker injury, occupations most commonly associated with injury and the need for a centralized system that would track working papers and reporting of injury. The Committee on Labor is devoted to working with the Subcommittee on Workplace Safety to educate and protect our young workers across the state and will continue to do so in the upcoming session.

### **Equal Pay**

The Labor Committee participated in two public discussions on equal pay for women and minority workers this year. On October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2011 the Assembly Committee on Labor and the Assembly Task Force on Women's Issues participated in a roundtable discussion on the use of workforce retraining money to close the pay gap in New York State at

Rockland Community College. On December 12<sup>th</sup> the Assembly Committees on Labor, Government Employees, Governmental Operations, Oversight, Analysis, and Investigation and the Task Force on Women's Issues held a hearing to address the impact of pay inequity in New York. During both meetings the Assembly received testimony and oral feedback from dozens of concerned organizations, including labor unions and business groups, the New York State Pay Equity Coalition, the National Organization for Women, university organizations, and municipal officials. The testimony helped to inform the committee about the continued and evolving causes and impact of pay inequity on women and minority workers. This information will be used by Members as the Assembly continues to lead the charge against pay inequality in New York State.

## OUTLOOK FOR 2012

In 2012 the Labor Committee will continue its obligation to protect the rights of workers while promoting policies that provide incentives to hire. The Committee remains dedicated to expanding basic workers' rights to the underprivileged and addressing the needs of workers and businesses around the state. In addition to many other issues, the Labor Committee faces the following specific challenges in 2012:

**Unemployment Insurance Reform:** New York's Unemployment Insurance system became insolvent in early 2009 and has only remained able to pay UI benefits by borrowing from the federal government. Unemployment is likely to remain high for the foreseeable future; it is likely that it will take years for the unemployment rate to return below 2008 levels. The chronic underfunding of this program has begun to trigger federally-mandated assessments to bring the Unemployment Insurance Fund back to solvency, and to repay the funds which New York has been obliged to borrow from the federal government to cover claims, including a \$150 million interest assessment against all New York employers, in total, this year. In 2012 employers will receive increased assessments due for the payment of the principal on the borrowing and because of a reduction in a credit which usually subsidizes employers' federal unemployment insurance taxes, but which USDOL deletes for employers in states with insolvent unemployment insurance funds. While employers will experience increased unemployment insurance assessments in 2012, unemployed workers will continue to receive one of the lowest weekly benefits in the region. The Labor Committee stands ready to address this urgent problem.

**Minimum Wage:** In 2012 the Committee will continue to advocate raising the minimum wage. The cost of living in New York is higher than many other states in the nation, and the current minimum wage is inadequate to meet the basic needs of workers in New York. Raising the minimum wage helps the economy by providing those who are most likely to spend money with more money. It also functions as a safety net which saves government tax dollars by keeping individuals off of public assistance. However, this safety net only functions if the minimum wage is sufficient to allow a worker to purchase food, utilities, health care, gas and rent.

**Pay Equality:** While the Assembly passed numerous pieces of legislation aimed at pay equality—for instance **A6130 (Wright)**, **A1780 (Rosenthal)**, **A3690 (Lifton)** and **A6448 (Jaffee)**—these bills did not pass the Senate. The Labor Committee will continue to fight for equal pay for jobs that are fundamentally the same.

APPENDIX A

2011 SUMMARY OF ACTION ON ALL BILLS REFERRED TO THE LABOR COMMITTEE

<u>FINAL ACTION</u>	<u>ASSEMBLY BILLS</u>	<u>SENATE BILLS</u>	<u>TOTAL BILLS</u>
<b>BILLS REPORTED WITH OR WITHOUT AMENDMENT</b>			
TO FLOOR; NOT RETURNING TO COMMITTEE	6	0	6
TO WAYS AND MEANS	9	0	9
TO CODES	17	0	17
TO RULES	6	0	6
TO JUDICIARY	0	0	0
TOTAL	38	0	38
<b>BILLS HAVING COMMITTEE REFERENCE CHANGED</b>			
TO		0	0
TO _____ COMMITTEE	0	0	1
TO _____ COMMITTEE	0	0	0
TO _____ COMMITTEE	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	0	1
<b>SENATE BILLS SUBSTITUTED OR RECALLED</b>			
SUBSTITUTED			
RECALLED		6	6
TOTAL		6	6
<b>BILLS DEFEATED IN COMMITTEE</b>	0	0	0
<b>BILLS NEVER REPORTED, HELD IN COMMITTEE</b>	136	0	136
<b>BILLS HAVING ENACTING CLAUSES STRICKEN</b>	12	0	12
<b>MOTIONS TO DISCHARGE LOST</b>	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL BILLS IN COMMITTEE</b>	168	6	174
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS HELD</b>	6		

## APPENDIX B

### 2011 ENACTED LABOR LEGISLATION

Chapter 7	Relates to modifications made to unemployment insurance extended benefits.	A.6091 (Wright)
Chapter 134	Extends to December 7, 2013 certain provisions relating to the establishment and operation of the state's Self-Employment Assistance Program (SEAP).	A.7268 (Schimminger)
Chapter 172	Expands the effective period for child performer employment permits granted by the Commissioner of Labor from six months to one year.	A.7630 (Wright)
Chapter 504	Enacts the juvenile justice worker protection act relating to the definition of public employers.	A.2129-B (Lancman)
Chapter 517	Relates to the rates of payment for the treatment and care of injured employees.	A.6686-B (Wright)
Chapter 540	Extends the effectiveness of the toll plaza air quality task force through April 1, 2012	A.8283 (Abbate)



## APPENDIX C

### 2011 BILLS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE AND PASSED BY ASSEMBLY

A.241 (Latimer)	Relates to the establishment of the green jobs workforce subcommittee of the state workforce investment board.
A.1485-A (Rosenthal)	Relates to the requirement of notice when monitoring employees with electronic devices.
A.2129-B (Lancman)	Includes not for profit juvenile justice facilities in New York State in the definition of public employers in the Juvenile Justice Worker Protection Act.
A.2139 (Benedetto)	Enacts provisions providing protection to employees from retaliatory actions by employers where employees report violations of law, rules or regulations.
A.5183-B (Simotas)	Relates to the restoration of the ability of a claimant, in a workers' compensation case, to choose a pharmacy to provide medication for his or her injuries.
A.5923 (Kavanagh)	Relates to the requirement that injured workers receiving benefits under the workers' compensation law be given reasonable time to respond to any inquiry that requires timely response in order to avoid a disruption in benefits.
A.6091 (Wright)	Relates to modifications made to unemployment insurance extended benefits.
A.6130 (Wright)	Enacts the New York State Fair Pay Act.
A.6294 (Wright)	Ensures that medical treatment guidelines adopted by the Workers' Compensation Board in 2010 will no longer be applied retroactively.
A.6686-B (Wright)	Relates to the continuation of reimbursement for the treatment of certain back injuries in the event the federal government changes the codes associated with such treatments.
A.6698-A (Silver)	Grants independent contractors similar guarantees and compensation that traditional employees have in employment contracts.
A.6970 (Wright)	Enacts the "Roadway Excavation Quality Assurance Act."
A.7268 (Schimminger)	Extends the self-employment assistance program.
A.7356 (Canestrari)	Relates to the requirement of the Workers' Compensation Board to biennially establish a rate schedule for health care under the workers' compensation system.

A.7401 (Abbate)	Relates to the reciprocity of debarments imposed under the federal Davis-Bacon Act.
A.7508 (Wright)	Requires that testimony given in workers' compensation cases must be recorded by a stenographer.
A.7630 (Wright)	Extends the validity of child performer work permits to one year.
A.8195-A (Rosenthal)	Requires that all hotel and motel employees receive sexual harassment training.
A.8283 (Abbate)	Extends the toll plaza air quality task force through April 1, 2012.
A.8465 (Morelle)	Relates to the purposes for which employers may deduct money from an employee's wages.

## APPENDIX D

### 2011 BILLS REPORTED BY THE LABOR COMMITTEE

A.100 (Latimer)	Relates to the establishment of fines, for failure to post a statement of wages and supplements on a construction site, a misdemeanor penalty and allow a civil penalty.
A.241 (Latimer)	Establishes the subcommittee on green jobs to expand green jobs opportunities and training.
A.367 (Cusick)	Relates to the allowance certified lifeguards age 16-17 years old to work for up to five hours on any day preceding a school day other than a Sunday or holiday.
A.1485-A (Rosenthal)	Relates to the requirement of notice when monitoring employees with electronic devices.
A.1652 (Nolan)	Enacts the Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Act in which farmworkers are granted bargaining rights, workers' compensation and unemployment benefits.
A.2129-B (Lancman)	Includes not for profit juvenile justice facilities in New York State in the definition of public employers in the Juvenile Justice Worker Protection Act.
A.2139 (Benedetto)	Protects employees from retaliatory actions from their employer if the employee reports violations of law, rules or regulations.
A.2314 (Heastie)	Provides public and private employees the right to review their personnel file.
A.2947 (Glick)	Allow employees to utilize sick leave to care for family, household members and domestic partners.
A.5183-B (Simotas)	Relates to the restoration of the ability of a claimant, in a workers' compensation case, to choose a pharmacy to provide medication for his or her injuries.
A.5361-A (Hoyt)	Allows for the treatment of injured workers by licensed massage therapists.
A.5422-A (Castelli)	Allows the town of New Castle to include CERT teams as employees for purposes of coverage.
A.5448 (Morelle)	Authorizes employers to make deductions from an employee's wages if such deduction is authorized by the employee and is for the convenience of the employee.
A.5640 (Weisenberg)	Requires certain employers shall establish qualified transportation fringe benefit programs for employees.
A.5786-A (Abbate)	Prohibits the practice of job order contracting in relation to public work projects.

A.5923 (Kavanagh)	Relates to the requirement that injured workers receiving benefits under the workers' compensation law be given reasonable time to respond to any inquiry that requires timely response in order to avoid a disruption in benefits.
A.6091 (Wright)	Relates to modifications made to unemployment insurance extended benefits.
A.6130 (Wright)	Enacts the New York State Fair Pay Act.
A.6136 (Wright)	Expands access of unemployment benefits for jobless workers while they are in approved training programs.
A.6294 (Wright)	Ensures that medical treatment guidelines adopted by the Workers' Compensation Board in 2010 will no longer be applied retroactively.
A.6673 (Wright)	Enacts the "Higher Education Employment Protection Act."
A.6686-B (Wright)	Relates to the continuation of reimbursement for the treatment of certain back injuries in the event the federal government changes the codes associated with such treatments.
A.6698-A (Silver)	Grants independent contractors similar guarantees and compensation that traditional employees have in employment contracts.
A.6970 (Wright)	Enacts the "Roadway Excavation Quality Assurance Act."
A.7268 (Schimminger)	Extends the self-employment assistance program.
A.7356 (Canestrari)	Relates to the requirement of the Workers' Compensation Board to biennially establish a rate schedule for health care under the workers' compensation system.
A.7375-A (Wright)	Relates to agreements to which the state, a public benefit corporation, a municipal corporation or a commission appointed pursuant to law is a party, including agreements relating to charter school construction.
A.7401 (Abbate)	Relates to the reciprocity between NYS and US public works contract violations which trigger debarment.
A.7508 (Wright)	Requires that testimony given in workers' compensation cases must be recorded by a stenographer.
A.7630 (Wright)	Extends the validity of child performer work permits to one year.
A.7910-B (Lancman)	Enacts the Hotel Worker Protection Act to promote the well being of hotel workers.

A.8008 (Wright)	Relates to the powers of the Public Employment Relations Board to treat cases arising under the State Employment Relations Act in the same manner it treats cases arising under the Public Employment Labor Relations Act.
A.8086 (Wright)	Enacts the Regional Labor Protection Act of 2011 in order to promote the use of local laborers on public works projects during periods of high unemployment.
A.8195-A (Rosenthal)	Requires that all hotel and motel employees receive sexual harassment training.
A.8283 (Abbate)	Extends the toll plaza air quality task force through April 1, 2012.
A.8287 (Pretlow)	Relates to the prohibition of workers' compensation insurance carriers from forcing employers to add persons to their policy whom they do not employ.
A.8465 (Morelle)	Relates to the purposes for which employers may deduct money from an employee's wages.