

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA 2020

CWA DISTRICT 1



TELECOM

Broadband Data Collection & Mapping (A.6679 Ryan / S.5696 Metzger): This legislation would require more accurate data collection to identify specific areas of New York State that are unserved or underserved by broadband as well as customers that face prohibitive costs. The bill is currently in the Senate Energy & Telecommunications Committee (Chair Sen. Parker) and in the Assembly Corporations Committee (Chair AM Paulin)

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Graduate Student Worker Fee Waiver (A. 7241 Pichardo / S.3916 Stavisky): This legislation eliminates fees for full or half time graduate student teaching or research assistants. This bill passed the Senate in 2019, but is now back in the Higher Education Committee (Chair Sen. Stavisky) and is in the Assembly Higher Education Committee (Chair AM Glick). For 2020, we're trying to have this issue included in the budget.

TAP GAP: This budget item would ensure affordable, high-quality education at SUNY and CUNY by closing the growing gap between the state Tuition Assistance Program funding for students and the actual cost of tuition.

LABOR & ORGANIZING

Banning Captive Audience Meetings (S.6603 Ramos): Captive audience meetings are mandatory meetings often used in union-busting campaigns. This legislation would prevent employers from requiring employees to attend any mandatory meetings during work hours.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

PROGRESSIVE REVENUE STREAMS

Extending and expanding the Millionaire's Tax: This would expand income brackets to ensure that high-income New Yorkers pay their "fair share" in taxes and end the sunset for the millionaire's tax.

Pied-a-terre tax (S.44 Hoylman/ A.4540 Glick): This bill would create a progressive tax on absentee owners' second luxury condos in NYC worth \$5 million dollars or more.

PUBLIC SECTOR

Funding for CUNY School of Labor and Urban Studies: CWA is one of the three founding unions of CUNY's School of Labor and Urban Studies and its predecessor, The Murphy Institute. Since 1984, CWA Local 1180 has collaborated with CUNY's labor program to offer higher educational opportunities to its members. The CWA 1180 Urban Leadership program is a special sequence of courses and projects for students in Urban or Labor Studies degree and certificate programs. It offers students opportunities for experiential and applied learning. In 2020, we will continue to fight to secure the necessary funding of \$4.1 million for the hiring of faculty, the development of new programs, and an increase in student enrollment.