

## Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA)

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Sunday, May 3, 2020 8:15 AM  
**To:** 'dstanglin@usatoday.com'; 'jcampbell1@gannett.com'  
**Subject:** Only 1 Question Remains --FACT CHECKING your "Fact Check: New York legislators did not just vote a pay raise during the coronavirus shutdown" (USA Today, May 1, 2020)

**TO: Reporters Doug Stanglin & Jon Campbell**

I have received no response to my below e-mail – and have, in the meantime, found the “measure” to which your May 1<sup>st</sup> article refers.

It is Part WW of Governor Cuomo’s misnomered “Article VII” bill on “Public Protection and General Government”, which was the SOLE new Part that he added to that bill, when he introduced his “30-day amendments”. He furnished no memorandum in support of the new Part. Six weeks later – at the height of the coronavirus crisis -- when the bill emerged from the behind-closed-doors deal-making of the “three-men-in-a-room”, it had been “amended”, again -- with Part WW retained, unchanged. For your convenience here are pdfs for the 3 iterations of the Governor’s so-called “Article VII” bill on “Public Protection and General Government” and their dates of introduction: [S.7505/A.9505](#) (Jan. 22, 2020); [S.7505-A/A.9505-A](#) (February 22, 2020); [S.7505-B/A.9505-B](#) (March 31, 2020). Here, additionally, are the [Senate webpage](#) and the [Assembly webpage](#) for the bill, as well as the Governor’s [Division of the Budget webpage](#) for the “30-day amendments”

**That essentially leaves only one question for you to answer: “In which of your listed ‘fact-check sources’ – all media – was [the ‘measure] reported?”**

As this should be an easy question for you to answer, I trust there will be no undue delay in e-mailing me your response.

Thank you.

Elena Sassower, Director  
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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability, Inc. (CJA) <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Saturday, May 2, 2020 9:17 AM  
**To:** 'dstanglin@usatoday.com' <dstanglin@usatoday.com>; 'jcampbell1@gannett.com' <jcampbell1@gannett.com>

**Subject:** FACT CHECKING your "Fact Check: New York legislators did not just vote a pay raise during the coronavirus shutdown" (USA Today, May 1, 2020)

**TO: Reporters Doug Stanglin & Jon Campbell**

Your yesterday’s article [“Fact Check: New York legislators did not just vote a pay raise during the coronavirus shutdown”](#) (USA Today, May 1, 2020) states:

“On April 3, during the coronavirus crisis, the Legislature approved a \$177 billion budget that included a measure allowing the committee to also consider judicial salaries this year, but that did not involve legislative raises.”

The referred-to “measure” is not identified in the hyperlinked New York Times article “*We Can’t Spend What We Don’t Have’: Virus Strikes N.Y. Budget*”, by Jesse McKinley and Luis Ferre-Sadurni. In which of your listed “fact-check sources” – all media – was it reported? And did you examine the “measure” yourselves? In which budget bill is it?

Please advise, as immediately as possible.

Thank you.

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