
Corporate Legal Alert: Governor Kathy Hochul Proposed Changes to the New York State Liquor Authority

On March 2, 2022, Governor Kathy Hochul emphasized her commitment to supporting New York's hospitality industry with proposed changes to the New York State Liquor Authority (the "SLA"). Governor Hochul's plan for revitalizing the industry includes:

- Adding \$2 million to the SLA's budget to hire at least 30 full-time employees, with the goal of decreasing the processing time for applications;
- Attempting to streamline and modernize the application process by cutting down on the number of requirements and moving toward electronic submission of applications; and
- Including in her most recent budget proposal to-go alcohol for restaurants and bars, "under proper limitations."

According to Governor Hochul's office, "To ensure SLA's policies are as smart, efficient, and effective as possible, Governor Hochul additionally directed SLA to consult with industry representatives and stakeholders to review existing laws and identify red tape."

Our attorneys at Hancock Estabrook, LLP will continue to monitor the implementation of these changes in order to provide our clients with the best counsel to help them achieve their business goals.