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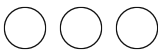


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Read: Agencies must submit transparency improvements



Chris Bragg
Sep. 20, 2021



Gov. Kathy Hochul updates New Yorkers on the state's progress combating COVID-19 and announces a statewide "Vax to School" campaign on Sept. 8, 2021.
Don Pollard / Office of Governor Kathy Hochul

On Monday morning, two senior aides to Gov. Kathy Hochul sent a memo to all state agency heads directing them to submit plans on how to improve their agency's transparency policies.

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Hochul is seeking, among other measures, to speed up agencies' handling of Freedom of Information Law request, which under her predecessor, Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo, could languish for months or years.

FOIL requests seeking unflattering information about Cuomo's administration in particular faced delay and denial, and it remains to be seen how such requests will be handled when directly touching Hochul's administration.

Also notable: The memo asks agencies to comply with the requirements for the state's [Project Sunlight](#) website, which is meant to track interest groups' appearances before state agencies concerning contracts, regulations and other matters. Under Cuomo, state agencies at times

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neglected to file required disclosures of such meetings.

The memo, from Secretary to the Gov. Karen Persichilli Keogh and Counsel Elizabeth Fine, said that agencies' reviews of their transparency policies, and plans to improve them, are due in one month, on October 20.

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Read more about the memo in the Buffalo News, which [broke the story](#).

And here's a copy of Hochul's memo:

09.20.21 Memo - Government ... by Chris Bragg

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BY THE PENNY HOARDER



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