FY 2019 NEW YORK STATE EXECUTIVE BUDGET

LIMITS OUTSIDE INCOME OF LEGISLATORS CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT

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A BUDGET BILL submitted by the Governor in Accordance with Article VII of the Constitution

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing an amendment to section 6 of article 3 of the constitution, in relation to limiting the income a member of the legislature may earn for non-governmental services

Purpose:

This bill would limit outside income for legislators to 15 percent of their base salary.

Summary of Provisions and Statement in Support:

The Legislature's part-time structure allows professionals from a variety of backgrounds and experiences to serve the public. However, concerns have been raised about potential conflicts of interests that may arise from income legislators derive from sources other than the State. This bill would amend the New York State Constitution, subject to voter approval, to limit outside income for legislators to 15% of their base salary as fixed by law. This 15% limit is the same limit our federal government places on federal legislators' outside income.

Budget Implications:

Enactment of this bill is necessary to implement the FY 2019 Executive Budget.

Effective Date:

This amendment to the State Constitution would be referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the next succeeding general election of members of the Assembly and Senate. If approved, this amendment would be submitted to voters at the next general election.