

# RAISEtheAGE | NY

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## STATEMENT FROM RAISE THE AGE NY COALITION ON FY2025 BUDGET

NEW YORK—Today, Governor Hochul and the New York State Senate and Assembly finalized a Budget for FY2025 that did not include any structural changes to the State’s Raise the Age law, despite changes being initially proposed in both one-house bills.

**In response, the Raise the Age NY Coalition issued the following statement:**

“In the FY2025 Budget, New York had an opportunity to build on the success of the Raise the Age (RTA) law by establishing a Youth Justice Innovation Fund – which would have enabled community-based organizations to receive funding directly – as well as by removing existing language that excludes New York City from receiving crucial RTA funding. We are disappointed that despite the best efforts of our champions in the Senate and Assembly, these changes were not included in the final Budget.

Since the RTA law went into effect in 2018, it has been a success. Statewide, arrests of youth under 18 for serious and violent offenses are 60% lower than they were a decade ago. However, according to the Office of the New York State Comptroller, only \$440 million of the \$1.25 billion appropriated ahead of this year’s \$250 million has been spent. New York City, which accounts for half of the State’s youth justice system population, has received zero State funding.

The RTA NY Coalition remains committed to urging Albany to ensure the equitable and urgent investments we need to support young people and community safety. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Legislature and the Governor on finding solutions to increase pathways for prevention, healing, and opportunity for justice system-involved youth.”

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