

DRAFT LBDC

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

AN ACT establishing a commission to ensure the replacement of the
statue of Robert R. Livingston in the National Statuary
Hall of the United States Capitol with a statue of Harriet
Tubman (Part);

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-
bly, do enact as follows:

1 PART ____

2 Section 1. Legislative intent. Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 2131, every
3 state is invited to provide and furnish to the United States Capitol two
4 statues, in marble or bronze, of deceased persons who were distinguished
5 and prominent citizens of the state for placement in the National Statu-
6 ary Hall Collection. New York is currently represented in the National
7 Statuary Hall Collection at the United States Capitol by Robert R.
8 Livingston and George Clinton, statues which were placed there in the
9 1870s.

10 Pursuant to 2 U.S.C. § 2132, a state has the option to replace statues
11 in the National Statuary Hall, that have been displayed for at least 10
12 years, by making a request to the Joint Committee on the Library of
13 Congress.

14 The Legislature recognizes that Harriet Tubman was a distinguished and
15 prominent New Yorker who meets the high standards required to represent
16 the great state of New York in the United States Capitol. One of Ameri-
17 ca's most famous abolitionists, Harriet Tubman was born enslaved in
18 Maryland in 1822 before escaping to freedom. She became a leading figure

1 of the Underground Railroad and she risked her life to help free dozens
2 of enslaved people. During the Civil War she became one of the first
3 African American woman to serve in the military. In 1859, Harriet Tubman
4 purchased property in Auburn, NY, where she would live until her death
5 in 1913.

6 § 2. Commission. (a) A commission is hereby established to replace the
7 statue of Robert R. Livingston with a statue of Harriet Tubman in the
8 National Statuary Hall of the United States Capitol. The commission
9 shall consist of the following appointees: the Governor, or a designee,
10 the Temporary President of the Senate, or a designee, the Speaker of the
11 Assembly, or a designee, the Executive director of the council on the
12 arts, or a designee, and the Commissioner of the office of general
13 services, or a designee.

14 (b) The commission shall be responsible for selecting the design of
15 the statue of Harriet Tubman. The statue shall be designed and created
16 in accordance with the published guidelines set forth by the Architect
17 of the United States Capitol.

18 (c) The Governor, along with the commission, shall submit an official,
19 written request, along with a copy of this act to the Joint Committee on
20 the Library of Congress, the Architect of the Capitol, the Speaker of
21 the United States House of Representatives, and the Presiding Officer of
22 the United States Senate. The request shall include a description of the
23 location in the state where the replaced statue of Robert R. Livingston
24 will be displayed after it is transferred.

25 (d) Upon approval for replacement of the statue of Robert R. Living-
26 ston by the Architect of the Capitol with a statue of Harriet Tubman,
27 the Governor shall formalize an agreement between the Architect of the
28 Capitol and the State of New York to complete the process.

1 § 3. This act shall take effect September 1, 2025.