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**Subject:** **Prepping for the Legislature's Budget Hearings -- & "Blowing the Whistle" on the Legislature's OWN budget**

**Attachments:** [cja-testimony-for-feb-7-2023-public-protection-budget-hearing.pdf](#)

**TO: GANNETT/USA TODAY**

[Journal News](#)

Carrie Yale, Executive Editor; Asher Stocker, Government Accountability Reporter;  
David McKay Wilson, Tax Watch Columnist; Thomas C. Zambito, Investigative Reporter;  
Chris McKenna, Reporter

[Democrat & Chronicle](#)

Michael Kilian, Executive Editor; Matthew Leonard, Watchdog Editor; Scott Norris, News  
Director;  
Sarah Taddeo/NYS Team Editor-Albany Bureau; Adria Walker/Albany Bureau

[Press & Sun Bulletin](#)

Kevin Hogan, Southern Tier Executive Editor

[Poughkeepsie Journal](#)

Mike Benischek, News Director

[Times Herald Record](#)

Erin Nolan/Investigative Reporter;

[Ithaca Journal](#)

Matt Steecker/Reporter

[Utica Observer-Dispatch](#)

Rob Booth, Digital & Print Editor/Producer

Shouldn't the press be inquiring about [the Legislature's structuring of its budget hearings, by "programmatic area\[s\]", not bills](#) – concealing [violations of Article VII, §§2, 3, and 4 of the New York State Constitution?](#)

Above-attached is my already-submitted written testimony addressed to that subject, at the outset. CJA's EVIDENTIARY webpage posting it is [here](#).

I am available to answer questions – and to provide important scoops on the [Legislature's own budget](#), expanded in [Legislative/Judiciary budget bill #S.4001/A.3001](#). How about asking Temporary Senate President Stewart-Cousins and Assembly Speaker Heastie why they are NOT testifying on behalf of their budget and the legislative portion of the combined Legislative/Judiciary budget bill at any legislative budget hearing? Or are they?

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