



Editorials Call for Clean Contracting, Database of Deals in Budget

With two days left to finalize the state's budget, editorial boards are again amplifying [the call by watchdogs for Governor Cuomo and the legislature to restore integrity to the state's contracting process.](#)

We call on the Governor and legislature, all of whom supported Clean Contracting in their preliminary budgets, [to fully restore the Comptroller's pre-audit authority and create a statutorily defined Database of Deals to make business subsidies transparent.](#)

Daily Gazette

[Editorial: Get corruption out of state contracts](#)

March 29, 2019

Of all the legislation being bandied about as state lawmakers put the final touches in the \$175 billion state budget this weekend, one package of bills could not only save taxpayers millions each year, but also improve government transparency and take a major bite out of the fraud, corruption and influence-peddling that pervades state government.

*Before they sign off on this year's spending plan, lawmakers need to pass the **Database of Deals** relating to government contracts, restore to the greatest degree possible the **state comptroller's authority to review state contracts** prior to approval, and apply the state's transparency laws to economic development entities and their board members.*

Times Union

[Editorial: A budget must-do list](#)

March 27, 2019

*The Legislature and Gov. Andrew Cuomo should also take a key step to improving ethics and transparency by enacting "clean contracting" rules, including **restoring the state comptroller's authority to pre-audit contracts** — including noncompetitive ones and those issued by quasi-state entities. They should also ban*

*political contributions to the governor and political committees he or she controls by vendors and would-be vendors with state agencies, and create a "**database of deals**" that would provide the public with information on all state contracts.*

New York Daily News

[Slash the cash: There's way too much money sloshing around New York politics; Gov. Cuomo and legislators must lower limits](#)

March 29, 2019

*While the Daily News backs a public finance system, if they can't agree on the details, why in God's name can't they start by slashing the ridiculously high caps on contributions, creating a **database of deals** and **giving the state controller pre-audit power** on big contracts? Isn't that better than nothing?*

Auburn Citizen

[Our view: Tighten rules on economic development spending in New York](#)

March 28, 2019

Proposals to increase oversight of state spending are close to becoming law in New York, and we urge the Legislature and Gov. Andrew Cuomo's office to iron out the details before the completion of the state budget.

*At stake is the **Database of Deals**, which would show the details of companies getting state subsidies for economic development and track the number of jobs they create. A second proposal would **restore the authority of the state comptroller's office to review pending contracts** to make sure the state is hiring reputable contractors at the best possible prices.*

It's important to have checks and balances in place to safeguard state funds, and recent scandals involving bid-rigging of upstate economic development projects underscores that necessity.