

**NASW-NYS Political Post**  
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**Banana Kick** – The bill seeking to resolve the corporate practice issue related to the provision of social work services in many non-for-profit settings and extend and expand the exemption for social workers employed by certain state agencies was banana kicked (aka rainbow kicked) around dramatic opposition from Senate Republicans earlier in the week when the measure passed by the skin of its teeth in the upper house. For a complete update on the measure, log onto <http://www.naswnys.org/alert61610.html>

**Sudden Death** – Governor Paterson threw down the gauntlet earlier in the week when he issued an ultimatum in a leaders meeting...If the final 2010-2011 budget isn't hammered out in the next week, he'll load it with the remainder of his executive budget proposal. "This process has got to end, and it's time to set a deadline, and I'm going to set it. This budget will be passed by June 28. If this budget is not agreed upon by June 28, I'll put the rest of the savings and the budget plan in the emergency appropriation. So we will be out of here — you can plan your schedules. Local government and not-for-profits and school districts will know exactly where they stand by June 28. It is important that we move in this direction. I'm not threatening anyone; I'm just making a promise" said Paterson. Reaction from legislative leaders was a mix of optimism and skepticism. While Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver and Senate Leader John Sampson both suggested it could be wrapped up even sooner than the 28<sup>th</sup>, some members were unsure given the governor's reluctance to raise taxes...except on cigarette's...hmm, sounds a bit hazy to me.

**Side lined** – In an interview this week, Governor Paterson implied LT. Governor Richard Ravitch's budget plan which included a sizable borrowing component, was not even a consideration. "My budget plan was released Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> and his savings plan was released in the end of February, so at the time he wrote it, he knew that I had made it clear that I didn't want to borrow." Paterson told WOR's John Gambling when asked about the plan. Ravitch has consistently argued that the state cannot close the 9.2 billion budget gap without some form of borrowing. "My recommendations are absolutely as important in my mind as they were when I made the recommendations four months ago," he said. "I'm not the budget director; I'm not the counsel. I'm fully aware of that, and I'm not complaining about it. All I can do is offer advice" said Ravitch.