

NASW-NYS Political Post
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And Now A Word From Our Sponsor - Senate Majority Conference Leader, John Sampson's remarks on the recently passed Senate Budget Resolution... "New York is in trouble. But for years, this Chamber talked about the problem and did nothing to fix it. They spent more than they had and stuck the people with the bill. Now, that debt is due. And a fair, responsible, and bipartisan budget is the only thing that will get the job done. Our budget resolution makes the smart cuts and tough choices New York can afford. It reduces the growth of spending in a responsible manner. It holds spending under the rate of inflation for just the 3rd time in 30 years. It creates good-paying jobs and attracts business through sound economic development. It provides tax relief to overburdened seniors who are being taxed out of their homes. It consolidates government to reduce costs, and make it more efficient and effective. It protects our seniors, children, the disabled and most vulnerable residents who are disproportionately affected by the economic crisis. And it rejects the use of any new taxes to close the budget gap! Let me say that again: we rejected \$1.1 billion in new taxes." To view a copy of the full resolution, log onto <http://www.nysenate.gov/press-release/majority-resolution-fair-and-responsible-sfv10-11-budget>

And Weighing in on the other side - The Assembly also released and passed its budget resolution this week and as expected, it differs greatly from the Senate's version. As reported by the Albany Times Union, Sheldon Silver, Speaker of the House noted..."This is not a budget anybody is thrilled to be supporting. The cuts contained in this proposal are painful and a reflection of the weakened state of our economy." The Assembly plan calls for \$4.3 billion in cuts as opposed to the Governor's suggested \$4.9 billion. The sum total of the Assembly's budget proposal is \$136.7 billion, the Senate's proposal is \$136.2 billion and the Governor's proposal comes in at \$134 billion. School aid is a major sticking point between the three...while the Governor and the Senate are each calling for \$1.4 billion in cuts to education, however, the Assembly proposal slates the cuts at little more than half that, allowing for "only" \$800 million in reductions. Word from the Capitol last night was that the Governor is not happy about either proposal and criticized each house for their rejection of various tax hikes while offering no revenue solutions in many instances. "It's great to say we're restoring the cuts, and wave and take a bow and go back to tell the constituency what a wonderful job you've done, but that's gone on for years around here," Paterson said.

Houston we have a Problem - The Governor's proposal includes a four year extension of the state agency licensure exemption (as per our request) the Senate includes the extension but adds compliance language (also as per our request), however, the Assembly pulled the extension language from their resolution. We are and will continue to work on this and keep you apprised of developments. In the meantime, please see our website for updates and alerts.