



ACTION ALERT

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A non-profit tax-exempt organization representing New York City's community-based mental health sector.

VETOED!!

Governor Pataki announced yesterday that he has line-item vetoed nearly \$1.6 billion in spending approved by the Legislature. The vetoes bring the budget down to \$71.4 billion, \$200 million less than the final Executive Budget's proposal of \$71.6 billion. Included in these vetoes is nearly everything that we have fought for over the past months. New York/New York II is the only mental health appropriation added by the Legislature that survived the veto pen. Vetoes to the legislature's OMH and OASAS budgets include:

OMH:

- \$10.36 million 2.5% COLA for Employees of Non-Profit Providers
- \$700,000 Children's Residential
- \$646,000 Family Support Services
- \$500,000 Supported Employment
- \$965,000 Various Community Mental Health Legislative Items
- \$1 million Fiscal Incentives for Provider Agency Mergers
- \$2 million Home and Community Based Waiver Slots
- \$1 million Staff at Psychiatric Centers
- \$1.142 million Research Institute Staff and Expenses

OASAS:

- \$4.755 million 2.5% COLA for Employees of Non-Profit Providers
- \$1.6 million New Adolescent Treatment Programs
- \$5 million 1,500 Additional Outpatient Treatment Slots
- \$2 million Additional NYC Board of Education Prevention Programs

Other Vetoes:

- \$8.351 million 2.5% COLA for OMRDD and Office of Children and Family Services
- \$2 million Supplemental Payments to Community-Based Providers for Transition to Managed Care Agencies

All is not yet lost. Although for weeks Senate Majority Leader Bruno has said that the Senate will not even attempt to override a veto, upon hearing news of the dramatic slashes that the Governor had made to the budget (including member items) Bruno suggested that the Senate would review the vetoes and "make our judgement accordingly."

The Coalition will keep you informed about events as they continue to unfold and appropriate actions when necessary.