

Urging The State Legislature To Oppose The Proposed Shift Of The State's Historic Share Of Public Assistance To Counties

The Human Development Committee (Chairman Gregorius and Legislators Loughran, Provenzano, Stoeckeler, Hansut, Noonan and Terrizzi) offers the following:

WHEREAS, the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) believes that the 2008-09 Executive Budget has broken a historic, fundamental state/local partnership by proposing to increase the county share of public assistance by two percent, while simultaneously decreasing the state share by two percent, and

WHEREAS, this shift in cost sets a policy from the Governor that mandates local property taxpayers increase their taxes for public assistance, while the State saves itself \$40.5 million per year, and

WHEREAS, since 1938, counties and New York State have equally shared in the cost of public assistance at a 50 percent state, 50 percent local split for this program, and

WHEREAS, the 2008-09 Executive Budget proposes to break this historic state/local fiscal partnership by shifting a portion of the State's cost for the Family Assistance and the Safety Net program, and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed budget includes another serious impact to counties by implementing a local share for the cost of carving out two-parent families from the federal work participation rates, by removing the local district hold-harmless provision, and

WHEREAS, this carve-out of the two parent families will save the state approximately \$7.5 million per year, but directly, negatively impact county budgets, and

WHEREAS, the Human Development Committee has met and reviewed this legislative initiative with a majority of members voting approval, and

WHEREAS, the Ways and Means Committee has met and reviewed this legislative initiative with a majority of members voting approval.

RESOLVED, that NYSAC opposes any policy or fiscal initiative like this proposed increase in the local share for public assistance and "two-parent carve-out" that changes the fundamental promise Governor Spitzer made to the counties of New York State about ongoing, historic state and local partnerships, and

Resolution No. 125 April 9, 2008

**Urging The State Legislature To Oppose The Proposed Shift Of
The State's Historic Share Of Public Assistance To Counties**

FURTHER RESOLVED, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor David Paterson, the New York State Legislature and all others deemed necessary and proper,

and moves its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE

AYES:

NOES:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
UNKNOWN

0416

WITHDRAWN BY SPONSOR