2008-09 Executive Budget 21-Day AMENDMENTS February 12, 2008

Amendments to Senate 6807; Assembly 9807 (Education, Labor and Family Assistance Article VII Bill)

Part A, relating to regents' standards and academic performance, is amended to:

- Require school districts that have at least one school in a deficiency status during the previous two years to file a Contract for Excellence, and to require an update from all districts that filed a Contract for Excellence in 2007-2008.
- Subject annual assessments of performance outcomes to approval by the Board of Regents.
- Make a technical correction to clarify plan submission requirements for Contract for Excellence systemwide initiatives.
- Amend qualification requirements for a college financial assistance demonstration program in Syracuse, and require that HESC prepare for implementation.

Part B, relating to the apportionment of public moneys to certain school districts; prescribed payments for the STAR program; and county contributions for preschool special education, is amended to:

- Modify proposed Special Services Aid enhancements to provide for the increase in aid to be available for general operating support.
- Change the calculation of the proposed preschool special education cap so that the annual inflation factor will not be compounded.
- Make a technical correction to conform the effective dates in the proposed building aid modifications.
- Make a technical correction to clarify the calculation of monthly STAR payments to school districts.
- Make a technical correction to clarify that school districts are authorized to conduct preschool special education evaluations.

Part D, relating to contracts and purchases made by the state university of New York and the city university of New York; in relation to approval by the state comptroller of certain contracts, is amended to:

- Exempt SUNY Construction Fund contracts from prior approval; to conform provision with exemptions provided for contracts entered into by SUNY and CUNY.
- Make a technical correction by correcting a statutory crossreference.

Part I, relating to regents scholarships in certain professions, regents professional and regents health care professional opportunity scholarships, is amended to:

• Make a technical correction to Education Law to ensure that students enrolled in two-year schools with trimester terms do not lose TAP eligibility at the beginning of the sixth term in the second year of enrollment.

Part Q, relating to allowing offsets taken from "Middle Class STAR" rebates, is amended to:

• Correct a reference in order to prevent the application of the joint spouse rules.

Part V, relating to the wage reporting system, is amended to:

• Make technical corrections.

Part Y, relating to reimbursement and advances by the state, is amended to:

• Exclude child welfare services from the public assistance share shift proposal.