

To Whom It May Concern:

The priority must be fiscal restraint and elimination of the \$60 billion on long term debt. The \$60 billion long term debt is a NOOSE around the taxpayer/citizens of NYS.

NYS is faced with \$4.3 billion budget gap for 2008-09. This will continue to grow and must also be eliminated.

NYS for long term benefits to the citizen/taxpayer MUST cut back on expenditures. The state continues to spend above and beyond fiscal resources, resulting in loss of population, tax base, jobs and the young wage earners who are entering the labor market and have no choice but to move out of NY to find employment.

Some suggestions which must be implemented mainly in the area of non personnel costs for 2008-09 and beyond.

Cut the 2008-09 budget by \$5-7 billion and use the savings to pay off the \$60 billion in long term debt. Continue on an annual basis to accelerate the pay down of long term debt. Once paid off the \$6 billion becomes available. NYS now has \$6 billion to further reduce taxes (sales, business, additional reimbursements to local school districts).

NYS can not continue to spend money it does not have and expect to be viable and compete with other states for economic growth.

NS must sober up to fiscal reality. Some areas for cost savings to be implemented: member items (pork) should be reduced by 50%. You will have to get the costs for the following non personnel items: pens and pencils (I estimate \$200,000 per year savings), furniture (office, chairs, desks, partitions), cut the cost by 50%, storage contracts for new/used furniture needs to be reduced.

There must be fiscal prudence, accountability and transparency on the part of elected officials, agency heads at all levels for the taxpayers/citizens of NYS.

As per the article in the Rochester D&C of 11/18/07, Ideas for spending abound--Local section page 3B, everyone wants to spend money. My suggestions are to save it first and then spend it for worth while projects.

On behalf of the over burden taxpayers, citizens and business owners in NYS, I would appreciate a response to my thoughts!

Dave

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