

SFY 2011-2012 Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene

To: Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, Co-Chair
Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Co-Chair
Joint General Conference Committee

From: Senator Roy McDonald, Co-Chair
Member of the Assembly Felix Ortiz, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene

Subject: Detailed Report of the Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene

Date: March 21, 2011

On March 21, 2011, the Mental Hygiene Subcommittee completed the task at hand, and is pleased to present this report that details the budget agreements reached by the subcommittee.

The Subcommittee reached agreement on budget proposals for the following agencies under the jurisdiction of this subcommittee:

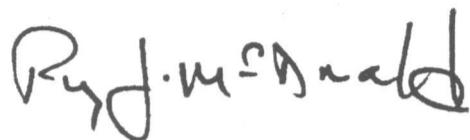
Department of Mental Hygiene
Office of Mental Health
Office for People with Developmental Disabilities
Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse
Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities
Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

The Subcommittee arrived at the following resolutions to Article VII language proposals:

- Medicaid eligibility will be suspended, rather than terminated, for individuals admitted to Institutions for Mental Diseases.
- The Human Services Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) will be eliminated for State Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
- Brooklyn Children's Psychiatric Center will be converted from a children's psychiatric hospital to a community-based program for children with serious emotional disturbances.
- The required 12-month notification for closures, consolidations, and service reductions of mental health facilities and programs operated by the Office of Mental Health will be suspended for State Fiscal Year 2011-2012.
- During State Fiscal Year 2011-2012, the Office of Mental Health will be required to provide notice to the legislature and county chief executive officers, as well as post information on its public website, 30 days prior to anticipated closures, transfers

and other redesign of beds and wards. Closures will be capped at 600 beds during the State Fiscal Year.

- During State Fiscal Year 2011-2012, the Office of Mental Health must provide notice to the legislature and county chief executive officers, as well as post information on its public website, 60 days prior to anticipated facility closures.
- The Office of Mental Health will also be required to consider certain criteria prior to closing wards and facilities such as evaluating the size of and services provided by facilities, the proximity of a facility in relation to other facilities that can accommodate anticipated need, and available community mental health services in the catchment area.



Senator Roy McDonald, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene



Assemblymember Felix Ortiz, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene