

SFY 2012-13 Subcommittee on Human Services

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

From: Senator Joseph E. Robach, Co-Chair
Assemblyman Keith Wright, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Human Services

Subject: Detailed Report of the Subcommittee on Human Services

Date: March 26, 2012

On March 26, 2012, the Human Services Subcommittee completed its work. We are pleased to present this report which provides detail on all the budget changes agreed to by the subcommittee, including the specific allocation of the subcommittee's target of \$50.6 million.

The Subcommittee reached agreement on spending levels and Article VII proposals for the agencies under the jurisdiction of this subcommittee as follows:

Office of Children and Family Services	Division of Human Rights
Office of Welfare Inspector General	Department of Labor
Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance	Division of Veteran's Affairs
Office of Employee Relations	Worker's Compensation Board
Public Employees Relations Board	Department of Civil Service

The Subcommittee allocated the \$50.6 million General Fund target as follows,

- \$16,681,000 for the restoration of various TANF Initiatives;
- \$15,310,000 for restoration of the full 10 percent public assistance grant increase to be implemented in two phases in SFY 2012-13;
- \$2,000,000 for various Department of Labor workforce initiatives;
- \$1,800,000 for the Workforce Development Institute;
- \$1,750,000 for community reinvestment;
- \$1,500,000 for the New York State Supportive Housing Program;
- \$1,500,000 for the New York State Solutions to End Homelessness Program;
- \$1,285,544 for the Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention/Special Delinquency Prevention Program;
- \$1,000,000 for Safe Harbour;
- \$757,200 for the Caseload Ratio program;
- \$750,000 for 2-1-1 New York;
- \$750,000 for Child Advocacy Centers;
- \$750,000 for the New York State Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs;

- \$450,000 for Settlement Houses;
- \$350,000 for NYCOSH;
- \$250,000 for English as a second language/adult basic education classes;
- \$250,000 for the disability advocacy program;
- \$214, 456 for the Runaway and Homeless Youth program;
- \$102,000 for the refugee resettlement program to be transferred to the Office for New Americans in the Department of State.
- \$75,000 for the New York Veterans of Foreign Wars –NY City service office;
- \$50,000 for the New York Veterans of Foreign Wars –Buffalo service office; and
- \$25,000 for the Vietnam Veterans of America –NYS council.

The remaining \$3 million in table target was transferred to the Health Subcommittee.

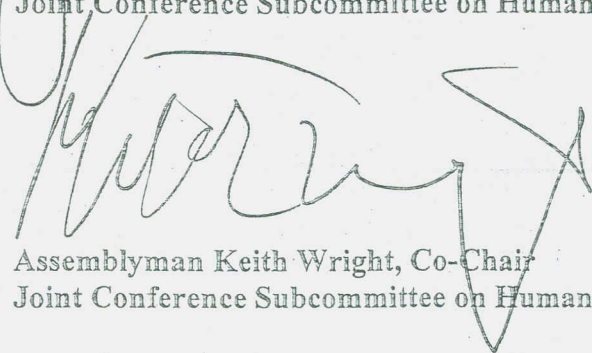
The Subcommittee resolved the following Article VII issues:

- Agreement to reject the Executive proposed changes to the civil service system;
- Agreement to reject the Executive proposal to eliminate the Department of Labor's Child Performer Advisory Board to Prevent Eating Disorders;
- Agreement to postpone for three years, until 2015, the authorization for the Workers' Compensation Board to levy an additional assessment against self insurers (individual and group);
- Agreement to authorize the Division of Veterans' Affairs to pursue a federal grant for the construction of a state veterans cemetery and to contract with the County of Putnam to maintain such cemetery;
- Modification of the Executive proposal that would phase-in the final 10% increase to the public assistance grant. Instead, the Legislature provides for a 5% increase on July 1, 2012 and an additional 5% increase on October 1, 2012 to achieve full implementation of the final 10 percent public assistance grant increase in this fiscal year;
- Agreement to accept the Executive proposal to implement a Social Security Income (SSI) Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) beginning January 1, 2013;
- Agreement to accept the Executive proposal for the State to administer the State Supplementation Program for SSI recipients;
- Agreement to accept the Executive proposal to eliminate the advisory committee on legal advocacy for individuals whose federal disability benefits have been denied or may be discontinued;

- Modification of the Executive proposal to extend Child Welfare Financing to remove all changes to reimbursement from statute;
- Agreement to accept the Executive proposal to repeal a reporting requirement related to the Youth Center Facility Program;
- Modification of the Executive proposal to allow sharing of information related to the detention risk assessment instrument. Changes include enhancing confidentiality of such information, and requiring consultation with experts on the effectiveness of the instrument any disparate impact on certain populations;
- Modification of the Executive proposal to allow OCFS to contract with BOCES to provide services in juvenile justice facilities. Changes include specifying that such contracts may only provide for special education services, and requiring a report detailing the cost effectiveness and programmatic impact of such contracts;
- Modification of the Executive proposed "Close to Home Initiative", to include the following:
 - Require additional public hearings to examine the plan for NYC to operate limited-secure facilities;
 - Prohibit approval of a plan to operate limited-secure facilities prior to April 1, 2013;
 - Require notice of any transfers be provided to the attorney for the respondent and the parent;
 - Retain judicial authority to order specific services upon placing a youth in NYC, and the authority to order specific placements in voluntary agencies outside of NYC;
 - Retain judicial authority to order minimum placements of up to six months for youth placed in non-secure facilities who have committed a felony offense;
 - Limit the time period under which a youth may be placed in a local detention facility pending his or her court proceeding;
 - Require consultation of independent experts in the validation of the risk assessment instrument as well any disparate impact on certain populations, and,
 - Require specific criteria be considered in determining the closure of facilities, and sunset such authorization to close facilities upon sixty days notice on April 1, 2014.

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Senator Joseph E. Robach, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Human Services

Handwritten signature of Keith Wright in cursive.

Assemblyman Keith Wright, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Human Services