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**information on the
2021 legislative session**

From Assemblywoman
Aileen M. Gunther

A message from
**Assemblywoman
Aileen Gunther**

Dear Friend,

This year's legislative session and budget provides tremendous relief for families and small businesses in our district. I wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with more information regarding some of these important programs.

I especially want to highlight that Sullivan County has received new funding to establish a peer support program for veterans, and Orange County has received twice as much as it did last year for its existing program. One of my top priorities is ensuring that our district receives its fair share of resources. Expanding the very successful Dwyer Program in our area will be an asset for all our veterans.

If you have any questions about where to access any of these services, or any other matter where I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office.

Sincerely,



Aileen Gunther



Assemblywoman Aileen M. Gunther Provides Update on the 2021 Legislative Session & Budget

Supporting students and teachers

- ✓ **\$29.1 billion** for public schools and **\$19.8 billion** for Foundation Aid to ensure our schools have the resources they need
- ✓ **\$88 million** to increase the maximum Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) award and rejected proposed tuition increases at public colleges
- ✓ Continued a **multi-year investment in universal prekindergarten** to help our youngest learners start on the right path

Providing relief for families and small businesses

- ✓ **\$2.6 billion** in combined federal and state aid to help tenants and landlords impacted by COVID-19
- ✓ **\$800 million** for the COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program for businesses and for-profit arts organizations
- ✓ **\$540 million** in mortgage assistance to help people stay in their homes
- ✓ Restored **\$69.4 million** in local assistance for child care programs, family and children's programs and youth programs, added **\$50.9 million** in grants and programming and allocated **\$2.4 billion** in federal funding for various child care priorities
- ✓ **Made the Nourish NY Program permanent** to provide healthy food to families in need and an expanded market for New York farmers
- ✓ Continued the phase-in of **middle-class tax cuts** to keep more money in New Yorkers' pockets

Investing in infrastructure

- ✓ **\$350 million** increase for the DOT Capital Plan, including \$100 million more for the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS)
- ✓ **\$100 million** for a new program to reimburse local governments for road and bridge repair
- ✓ **\$500 million** for clean water infrastructure
- ✓ **\$1 million** to study broadband availability and reliability statewide

Expanding support for veterans

- ✓ **\$5 million** for the Joseph P. Dwyer Peer Support Project to help veterans impacted by PTSD, traumatic brain injury or other health issues - including additional funding for Sullivan and Orange counties.
- ✓ **\$4.2 million** for programs that serve veterans statewide
- ✓ **Extended the Hire-a-Vet tax credit** for employers and expanded tuition assistance to disabled veterans and all Gold Star families

