

SFY 2011-12 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 28, 2011

On March 28, 2011, 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 \$91 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

The Subcommittee allocated the \$91 million General Fund target as follows,

- \$34,600,000 for State support of CSE placements;
- \$22,400,000 for the restoration of discretionary Title XX funding;
- \$15,500,000 for the Summer Youth Employment Program;
- \$15,000,000 for a new program to serve homeless individuals and families in New York City;
- \$9,400,000 for the restoration of various TANF Initiatives;
- \$8,700,000 for various preventive programs;
- \$7,400,000 for the rejection of Full Family Sanctions;
- \$2,300,000 to support Employment and Training Programs; and,
- \$500,000 for services and expenses related to a State Veteran's Cemetery.

The \$115 million in restorations are offset by \$9 million reduction to the Flexible Fund for Family Services and \$15 million in savings related to further reducing the State share of Safety Net Assistance expenditures.

The Legislature provides \$3.9 million to restore prior year funding for Employment and Training Programs that were added by the Legislature.

The Legislature also provides \$7.1 million for modification of the Executive proposal that would increase the fee for the State Central Registry (SCR) Background Check from \$5 to \$60. This restoration allows for a more modest fee increase, from \$5 to \$25.

The Subcommittee resolved the following Article VII issues:

- Rejection of the Executive proposed Primary Prevention Incentive Program;
- Rejection of the Executive proposal that would allow for Full Family Sanctions;
- Agreement to provide 18.4 percent State support for Committee on Special Education placements;
- Agreement to accept the Executive proposal that would delay implementation of the third phase of the public assistance grant increase to July 1, 2012;
- Modification of the SCR fee increase from the Executive proposed \$60 to \$25;
- Modification of the various juvenile justice reform proposals including the following:
 - Agreement to reject the Executive proposal that would permanently repeal the 12 month notification requirement prior to the closure of OCFS operated facilities. The Assembly and Senate agree to notwithstanding the 12 month notification requirement for this fiscal year only, and provide language that would require 60 days notice prior to facility closure. The Legislature also provides a list of criteria that must be considered by OCFS in determining facility closures.
 - Modification of the Executive proposed capped appropriation for detention expenditures; and,
 - Rejection of the Executive proposed language that would exclude PINS youth from eligibility for State reimbursement for detention and the Supervision and Treatment Services Program.
 - Agreement to expand detention placement options for PINS youth to include foster care when appropriate;
 - Agreement to provide language that would require OCFS to issue an annual report on the total cost of facility operations on a calendar year basis.
- Agreement to extend until 2013 the authority of the Commissioner of the Department of Labor to assess an unemployment insurance interest surcharge for the payment of interest on loans borrowed from the federal government for the

payment of state unemployment insurance claims.

- Agreement to amend the Governor's language relating to the closure of most Workers' Compensation Group Self-Insured Trusts, to relieve fully and partially funded trusts from administrative assessments until 2016; to lessen the "exit fee" for closed groups executing a "loss portfolio transfer"; and to increase the security requirements for remaining trusts to more closely match the security requirements of individual self-insurers. The agreement further requires the Worker's Compensation Board to report every six months to the Executive and the Legislature the status of all group self-insured trust liabilities held by the board and the actions taken by the board to reduce those liabilities.



Senator Joseph E. Robach, Co-Chair
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