



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John J. Bonacic

Statement by Senator John Bonacic

JOHN J. BONACIC January 17, 2012

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On Governor Cuomo's Proposed 2012-2013 State Budget

"This budget reduces costs on property taxpayers, provides some mandate relief, creates greater efficiencies in government, and keeps our promises to education. I am particularly pleased the Governor recognizes the need for additional aid for flood control, and is working to address high need school districts."

"Working to cap Medicaid over the next three years is a positive step. I would like to see more done faster and will urge that be a part of the Senate's budget plan. Likewise, transferring Belleayre to ORDA is a welcome development – clearly – the DEC has no interest in operating Belleayre. I want to work in support of having local representation on ORDA's Board, to ensure the Catskills have a permanent and clear voice at ORDA."

"Creating a new public pension tier will provide long-term savings to localities, and limiting pension benefits long-term will make New York more competitive overall. Lastly, creating more accountability in our classrooms is something I strongly support. We need to reward good teachers, and move those teachers who are not performing, onto different career paths."

"Taxpayers deserve an accountable government that reduces red tape, gives them greater efficiency in State agencies, and meets necessary expenses. The Governor's budget appears to meet those goals and I look forward to working with him and the other members of the State Legislature to adopt an on-time, responsible budget."

"Lastly and most importantly, no new taxes and private sector job creation remain the Governor's priorities, as well as mine."

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