



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Daniel G. Stec

## Stec criticizes reckless spending in new state budget

DANIEL G. STEC April 7, 2021

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“New York’s budget has ballooned to a whopping \$217 billion, which is an astonishing increase of more than \$41 billion in just two years. Despite the billions and billions of federal dollars to plug the state’s budget hole, this year’s budget includes more than \$4 billion in new taxes to fund more spending.

“High taxes and a very challenging business environment, not the weather, has chased a lot of people out of New York State. Rather than improve our competitiveness, this budget will likely hasten the exodus of residents, particularly professionals who have found this past year that they can do business in New York, but remotely and much more affordably.

“The \$2.1 billion so-called ‘excluded worker’ fund to provide financial benefits of up to \$27,900 for ‘off-the-books’ workers, including illegal aliens, held up budget negotiations for days as far-left New York City senators battled with more moderate fellow members. At a time when businesses – many of them ‘mom and pop’ small businesses – are financially devastated and in need of help, the ‘excluded worker’ fund became the focal point.

“While I am very pleased funding and language for a comprehensive broadband study is in the budget, they also put in the budget a laudable but costly and unfunded mandate for low-cost broadband that may put small providers of broadband services out of business.

"Finally, while some might call this budget transformative, it has been far from transparent. The 'messages of necessity' and rush to pass bills late at night continues to reflect badly on a budget process that is anything but 'good government'."