Statement by Senator John Bonacic

JOHN J. BONACIC March 28, 2011

ISSUE: BUDGET

March 28, 2011 I am glad that we are headed toward passing an on-time budget. Obviously, we need to reduce spending and regardless of where those cuts come from, they're going to be unpopular with someone. I do expect to vote for the proposed budget. The reality is the deficit left by an all Democratic controlled, NYC based state government left our taxpayers in a dangerous position.

This budget cuts total spending by two percent. The budget eliminates a \$10 billion deficit this year without raising taxes or borrowing. The Senate was pivotal in restoring \$272 million in school aid over the Governor's proposal. Medicaid spending will be reduced by \$2.8 billion; creating a program that taxpayers can better afford.

I must say, however I wish that Governor Cuomo pushed property tax reform. That said, he is only 87 days into a 1400 + day term, so I am hopeful that this is something he will work on as we move forward.

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