



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Robert G. Ortt

STATEMENT: Senator Ortt Reacts to State Budget Agreement

ROBERT G. ORTT April 1, 2016

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Senator Rob Ortt (R,C,I – North Tonawanda) today issued the following statement regarding the New York State 2016-2017 Budget agreement.

“While there were certain elements of this budget that I did not support, I ultimately voted for a budget that I believe will help Western New York. We were able to reject the Governor’s proposed \$15 an hour minimum wage increase, because it would have been devastating to our small businesses, family farms, and non-profits. We delivered a record \$25 billion in education funding and eliminated the anti-Upstate Gap Elimination Adjustment – two major

victories that will help our children, schools, and local taxpayers. We also delivered an unprecedented \$4.2 billion middle class tax cut to help families keep more of their hard earned money than ever before. Finally, we ensured Upstate infrastructure received the same treatment – and funding – as downstate. We secured \$27 billion for roads and bridges, because these investments are long overdue, create jobs, improve safety, and enhance the quality of life. Keeping within the two percent spending cap, I believe we passed a fiscally-responsible budget that will help our local schools, families, businesses, and seniors.”