



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

## Statement from Senator Patty Ritchie

PATTY RITCHIE January 19, 2021



Today, Governor Cuomo presented his Executive Budget and put forth his plan to help New York State close a \$15 billion deficit.

Even before COVID-19 began to wreak havoc, our state struggled financially. The pandemic has merely underscored the need to rein in the trend of using taxpayer dollars wastefully. That said, it has also highlighted the need to provide real relief to struggling residents and small businesses. Day after day we see the headlines—people leaving New York State for places that are much more affordable with lower costs of living and less red tape. It is our job

to stop that unfortunate trend.

The Governor talked a great deal today about New York's budgetary actions being dependent on how much aid the federal government will—or will not—provide for our state. We cannot rely solely on a federal bailout. Immediately, we need to take steps to make responsible financial decisions and deliver a budget that isn't balanced on the backs of already overtaxed New Yorkers.

In the days to come, I look forward to reviewing the details of the Governor's proposal and advocating for a spending plan that is responsible and best serves the needs of New Yorkers who now, more than ever, are in need of relief.