SFY 2007-2008 Subcommittee on General Government

To: Senate Majority Leader Joseph L. Bruno, Co-Chair

Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Co-Chair

Joint General Conference Committee

From: Senator Hugh Farley, Co-Chair

Member of Assembly James Brennan, Co-Chair

Joint Conference Subcommittee on General Government/ Local Assistance

Subject: Detailed Report of the Subcommittee on General Government/ Local Assistance

Date: 3/29/07

On March 29, 2006, the General Government and Local Assistance Subcommittee completed its work. We are pleased to present this report which provides detail on all the budget changes agreed to by the subcommittee, including the specific allocation of the subcommittee's target of \$32 million.

The Subcommittee reached agreement on spending levels and Article VII proposals for the agencies under the jurisdiction of this subcommittee as follows:

Consumer Protection Board Office of Real Property Services
Temporary State Commission on Lobbying Office of the State Inspector General
Department of Audit and Control Division of Tax Appeals
Office of General Services Banking Department
Executive Chamber Office of Regulatory Reform

The Subcommittee allocated the \$32 million General Fund target as follows:

- \$20,000,000 for a partial restoration of AIM funding for New York City;
- \$4.600,911 for Civil Legal Services;
- \$2.084,452 for AIM funding for 81 towns and villages eliminated in the Executive Budget;
- \$1,349,637 related to the Big 4 cities parking surcharge revenue currently retained by the State;
- \$1,000,000 for the Interstate Travel Safety Program;
- \$1,050,000 for rehabilitation of LOB Hearing Room A;
- \$700,000 for new investigators in the Alcoholic Beverage Control Agency to support the efforts
 of the problem premises task force created last year;
- \$685,000 for Settlement Houses;
- \$505,000 for the Public Utility Law Project; and,
- \$25,000 for the CPR Anytime Program administered by FDNY.

The Subcommittee resolved the following Article VII issues:

- The Executive's entire Mandate Relief proposal has been deferred for discussion post budget;
- The Civil Service Commission NYSHIP initiative within the Shared Municipal Services Initiative has been rejected, and the Department of State is required to promulgate rules and regulations for the program;
- The Community Services Block grant was extended for one year at the current formula;
- Provisions related to the Department of State expedited services program were extended for one year, until March 31, 2008;
- The Procurement Stewardship Act was extended until June 30, 2008;
- The proposal in General State Charges to allow the State to self insure was rejected; and,
- There was agreement to add language to create a Commission on Health Insurance Quality and Cost Containment.

The parties recommend that capital funding of \$1.3 million be provided for improvements to Hearing Rooms B and C. The Subcommittee is reviewing the request for \$2.7 million for school auditors in the Office of the State Comptroller.

The Subcommittee expressed support for providing funding for flooding relief. Funding was provided at the Public Protection subcommittee.

The Subcommittee advanced a request to the General Conference Committee for an additional \$20 million in funding for municipal aid.

Senator Hugh Farley, Co-Chair

Joint Conference Subcommittee on General Government/Local Assistance

Assembly Member James Brennan, Co-Chair

Clare F. Brenon

Joint Conference Subcommittee on General Government/ Local Assistance