

SFY 2012-2013 Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene

To: Senate Majority Leader Dean Skelos, Co-Chair
Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Co-Chair
Joint General Conference Committee

From: Senator Roy McDonald, Co-Chair
Member of the Assembly Felix Ortiz, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene

Subject: Detailed Report of the Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene

Date: March 26, 2012

On March 26, 2012, the Mental Hygiene Subcommittee completed the task at hand, and is pleased to present this report that details the budget agreements reached by the subcommittee.

The Subcommittee reached agreement on budget proposals for the following agencies under the jurisdiction of this subcommittee:

Department of Mental Hygiene
Office of Mental Health
Office for People with Developmental Disabilities

Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services
Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for
Persons with Disabilities
Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

The Subcommittee allocated its \$5 million table target to:

- Veteran's peer to peer pilot programs

- Demonstration Programs for counties impacted by SFY 2011-12 OMH facility closures
- Veteran's Health Services Initiative sponsored by the NYS Psychiatric Association, the Medical Society for the State of New York, and the National Association of Social Workers
- North Country Behavioral Health Network
- Statewide Regional Centers for Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern New York.
- Various amendments to the Executive's proposal regarding SOMTA and restoration of individuals pursuant to the Criminal Procedure Law.

The Subcommittee arrived at the following resolutions to Article VII language proposals:

- The Office for People With Developmental Disabilities will be administratively reorganized to create Developmental Disabilities Regional Offices and State Operations Offices to oversee service delivery in designated areas around the State, while allowing for the continued operation of existing developmental disability services facilities.
- The Human Services Cost-of-Living Adjustment will be suspended for State Fiscal Year 2012-2013.
- Authorization for the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program will be extended for four years until July 1, 2016.
- Behavioral Health agencies and the Department of Health will be authorized to jointly establish operating, reporting and construction requirements for service and to waive regulatory requirements or upon determination that compliance with another agency's requirements is sufficient in order to avoid duplication.
- Improving the educational services for children who reside in Office of Mental Health hospitals by authorizing an agreement between the Office of Mental Health and the State Education Department to establish pilot programs requiring local educational systems to provide educational programming for such children.
- Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens Children's Centers will be restructured to create a single administrative system, and will be designated as the New York City Children's Center. The locations of these psychiatric centers will not change.
- During State Fiscal Year 2012-2013, the Office of Mental Health will be required to provide notice to the legislature and county chief executive officers, as well as post

information on its public website, 45 days prior to anticipated closures, transfers and other redesign of beds and wards; and 75 day notice prior to anticipated facility closures.

- Modify the Sex Offender Management and Treatment Act (SOMTA) and the Criminal Procedure Law to reduce costs related to the civil confinement of sex offenders.
- The Office of Mental Health will be authorized to continue recoupment of exempt income from community residences and family-based treatment providers licensed by the Office of Mental Health.



Senator Roy McDonald, Co-Chair
Joint Conference Subcommittee on Mental Hygiene



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