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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK



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April 6, 2023

Honorable Kathy Hochul New York State Governor NYS State Capitol

Albany, New York 12224

Honorable Andrea Stewart Cousins Senate Majority Leader 907 LOB Albany, New York 12247

Honorable Carl Heastie Speaker of the Assembly 932 LOB Albany, New York 12248

Dear Colleagues:

We are writing to express our continued concern that there is no state budget in place at this late date. With a short-term state budget extender to keep state government operating in place through Monday, April 10th, and passage of another budget extender likely in lieu of a deal on a complete state budget, we are urging you to release the budget extender bill text by 11:59 p.m., Friday, April 7th.

Releasing a budget extender bill tomorrow would avoid issuing a message of necessity and ensure full transparency by giving lawmakers, the public and media the constitutionally required three days to review the legislation prior to debating and voting on it.

Only in circumstances when we truly have a genuine emergency, such as a security threat, natural disaster, or dire fiscal situation, should a message of necessity be considered by the Governor and Legislature, as you well know. A message of necessity should not be used as a message of political convenience. New Yorkers deserve full transparency from their state government.

Therefore, we are calling for the New York State budget extender to be released by 11:59 p.m., Friday, April 7th so that the full Legislature can constitutionally use the required three days to review the measure.

Sincerely,

James N. Tedisco

44th Senatorial District

Steve Rhoads

5th Senatorial District