



New York State Coalition for the Aging, Inc.

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**LEGISLATURE REJECTS GOVERNOR’S CUTS TO AGING –
RESTORES FUNDING
APRIL 30, 2003**

On Tuesday, April 29th, the Legislature released their joint budget proposal that seeks to restore many of the cuts to the budget that the Governor proposed in January. The Governor has vowed to veto the legislation and the legislature seems to be poised, for the first time since 1982, to override the veto. Yesterday, the legislature voted to override the Governor’s veto that would delay school balloting in most districts from May 20 to June 3rd, so the school districts will have time to determine how much state aid they will receive.

On the aging front – the legislature *rejected* the proposal to consolidate and cut CSE and EISEP. Specifically, they felt it important, as NYSCA did – to keep the EISEP language in state statute. NYSCA applauds the legislature for their understanding of this issue and for the commitment they have shown to aging by making these restorations.

Program	FY 2002/03	Governors Proposal	Legislatures Proposal – April 30, 03
Community Services The Elderly (CSE)	\$16,573,215	\$38,573,000	\$16,573,215
EISEP	\$25,500,030	Consolidated and cut	\$25,500,030
Congregate Services Initiative (CSI)	\$980,000	\$0	\$866,000 (-\$114,000)
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	\$17,209,000	\$17,209,000	\$17,209,000
Long-term Care Ombudsman	\$804,365	\$804,400	\$804,400
RSVP	\$500,000	\$0	\$442,000 (- \$58,000)
Respite	\$562,000	\$479,000	\$562,000
Social Model Adult Day	\$946,276	\$805,000	\$946,300

Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities	\$1,200,000	\$0	\$1,200,000
Foster Grandparent	\$300,000	\$0	\$200,000 (- \$100,000)

SSI COLA – governor proposed to reduce the state share of SSI in the amount of the federal COLA (\$14) – this was rejected.

It is not over yet. The bill should be passed sometime this week. If the Governor vetoes the bill, it will most likely be early next week. We need to keep the pressure on. Keep contacting your legislators and urge them to pass A.2104-B/S.1404-B that contain the restorations to senior services funding.