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To: NYSAAAA Members  
From: Laura A. Cameron and Beth Mahar  
Date: September 20, 2001  
Re: 2001-02 State Budget Update

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This memo pulls together all action relating to the current State Fiscal Year 2001-02 (March 31, 2001 to April 1, 2002), in terms of the effect on AAAs and aging network programs. You can reference previous NYSAAAA budget alerts for more detailed information.

**Special Legislative Session to Pass Anti-Terrorism Legislation (September 17<sup>th</sup>)**

In the wake of the tragic attack on the World Trade Center, Governor George E. Pataki joined NYPD Police Commissioner Bernard B. Kerik and other law enforcement officials at a bill signing ceremony on September 17<sup>th</sup> to mark the passage by the State Legislature of the toughest and most comprehensive package of anti-terrorism laws in the nation. The Governor called a Special Session of the Legislature in Albany on September 17th to enact the legislation. (For more information, reference the 9-17-01 e-mail sent to all AAAs by Laurie Ann Sprague at NYSOFA.)

**Authorization for Reappropriations and OAA Funds (September)**

Last week, a special session of the Legislature reappropriated \$51 billion in state and federal money committed in previous budgets. This includes recurring member items, such as respite in some counties. Although New York has used almost all of its Federal appropriation dollars, those counties with unexpended funds will be allowed to carry it over. Legislation was also passed to authorize the spending of up to \$8 billion from federal, state, city and other funds to support the ongoing relief efforts from terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and to provide assistance to victims and families.

In terms of new and existing Older Americans Act funds, there will be no issue in the distribution of this money. New York has established authority for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2001 Federal appropriations as well as 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2002.

September 20, 2001

### **“Austerity Budget” Passed by the Legislature (August 3<sup>rd</sup>)**

On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Legislature completed voting on what has been referred to as an “Austerity Budget” of \$76 billion, in a gambit to force the governor to negotiate a supplemental budget ultimately exceeding spending levels he set forth in his \$83.7 billion Executive budget.

The “Austerity Budget” was anticipated to be followed by a “supplemental budget” providing additional funding, but that budget was not approved prior to the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedies, and therefore leaves many agencies and departments with reduced or eliminated funds for some programs.

### **Supplemental Budget Passage Delayed**

Regarding the “supplemental budget,” it will be awhile before we see any action on this front. Last Tuesday’s horrific events have created an uncertain climate on Wall Street, therefore income projections may have to be recalculated before the Legislature reaches any supplemental funding decisions.

### **What does this mean to the Aging Network?**

Essentially, some aging programs (Social Adult Day Services, CSI, Capital Grants, Elder Abuse and Respite) that were funded in the last fiscal year (2000-01) were either reduced or cut out entirely in the August “Austerity Budget” (see attached chart for details). Prior to the September 11<sup>th</sup> tragedies, it was anticipated that a portion of these programs would be reinstated when the supplemental budget was passed.

The largest funding streams of EISEP, CSE and SNAP remain at last year’s (2000-01) levels. Note that the anticipated \$1.5 million increase for CSE proposed in the Governor’s Budget was NOT included in the “Austerity” budget.

Many senior programs rely on member items, and this funding is also on hold while the Division of the Budget revisits revenue projections and the Legislature debates the supplemental budget.

### **Reallocation Schedule to be Distributed to AAAs by NYSOFA**

Within the next couple of weeks, NYSOFA will be transmitting to all AAAs a reallocation schedule for the funding set aside for the potential computerization position, as well as a small AoA grant, awarded yesterday.

### **Disaster Relief Information**

[www.sba.gov/disaster](http://www.sba.gov/disaster)

[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

[www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov)

[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)

### **Attachment:**

Chart Outlining Austerity Budget 2001-02