



THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

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CHAIRMAN
Ways and Means Committee

COMMITTEE
Rules

Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic and
Asian Legislative Caucus

February 7, 2011

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to provide you with the Statistical and Narrative Summary of the Executive Budget for the upcoming State Fiscal Year, April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012. The "Yellow Book" is intended to provide the Members of the Committee, the Members of the Assembly, and the public with an overview of the fiscal and policy proposals made by the Governor in the bills submitted as his Executive Budget on February 1, 2011. This publication may also be accessed using the Assembly Website at www.assembly.state.ny.us/Reports/WAM/2011Yellow/.

The "Yellow Book" marks the beginning of the Legislature's public review of the Governor's proposed budget. It is the Assembly's preliminary response to the budget, as required by Section 53 of the Legislative Law. Joint legislative fiscal committee hearings on the budget proposal will be the next step in our efforts to ensure public accessibility and accountability.

Section One, Overview of Executive Budget, provides an executive summary of the Governor's proposal for State Fiscal Year 2011-12 including analysis intended to place the proposed financial plan and spending in major programmatic areas in perspective. The section also includes an analysis of the national economy and the Executive's revenue forecast. The overview also lists the appropriation budget bills and detail on the non-appropriation budget bills.

Section Two, Summary of Recommended Appropriations by Agency, provides an overview of current appropriations and recommendations for the 2011-12 State Fiscal Year for each agency, a presentation of the proposed changes in each agency's budgeted personnel level, and a description of the programmatic and statutory modifications proposed in Article VII legislation included with the Executive Budget submission.

Speaker Silver and I know that you share our goal of meeting the challenges facing this State as we confront the painful reality of the continuing economic crisis. Together, we will continue to strive toward producing an on-time budget that meets the needs of working families across the State. Live coverage of Assembly Sessions and Joint Budget Hearings, as well as a cable television schedule and local system list can be found at <http://www.assembly.state.ny.us/av/>.

As the Legislature begins its work on the State Fiscal Year 2011-12 Budget, I would like to express appreciation to my Assembly colleagues for the time and commitment you will dedicate to the budget process. I would also like to thank the public for their participation as we adopt a State Budget. I would also like to convey to the Ways and Means Committee staff my gratitude for their outstanding efforts to produce this document, which is a tremendous resource for the Members of the Assembly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. D. Farrell, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

HERMAN D. FARRELL, JR.