

Legislature Releases Budget Bills

The New York State Legislature voted to restore a small portion of the \$1.5 billion reduction in state aid to schools called for as part of Governor Andrew Cuomo's \$132.5 billion state budget proposal.

In separate budget resolutions adopted March 15, the Senate voted to add back \$280 million in school aid while the Assembly opted for a \$200 million restoration.

Fortunately, both houses rejected much of the Governor's plan to shift costs for such things as summer school for special education students to school districts. We can only hope that this is evidence that they see the push to shift the costs of many things from the state level to the local level with little or no support.

At this point, with only nine days before a budget should be passed we can only hope the legislature will somehow be successful in their efforts to restore the disastrous cuts that have been recommended. The cuts here at school will be in programs that impact children. We have been fortunate in our efforts to avoid the kinds of problems other districts have been faced with but our turn has finally come.

As always we will do the best we can to continue to provide the best possible education to children