

Statement of Support

A common-sense budget invests in New York families.

We believe that there is an alternative to massive cuts in education, health care and human services... and it's NOT bigger tax shifts to local property and sales taxes.

To grow New York's economy we need to invest in New Yorkers.

- Good jobs require educated New Yorkers, safe communities, affordable health care and reliable transportation. We can't grow jobs in New York if we abandon New York's families.

Cuts in education, health care and other essential services hurt us all.

- When the State cuts funding for education, health care, for children and seniors and families and the environment, real people are hurt. Education, health and human services and a healthy environment are essential for our families and communities.

Instead of hiking local property and sales taxes we need a state tax system that's fair to working families.

- When Albany cuts the state budget, local property and sales taxes soar. Cuts in state spending on schools, health care and other essential services are shifted to local taxpayers who can least afford it.

A fair budget invests in New York families. Instead of shifting spending on to local taxpayers, Albany should:

- **Capture a portion of the federal tax windfall.** If you earn \$300,000 a year, you'll be getting a tax break of around \$5,000 from the federal government in 2003. A modest, temporary NY state tax increase on the portions of family incomes above \$100,000 could raise up to \$3 billion to help solve the state's budget crisis and avoid damaging reductions in services. Affected taxpayers would still receive a substantial reduction in their overall tax bill while doing their fair share during these tough times.
- **Close the loopholes that allow big corporations to avoid paying taxes on profits they earn in New York.** Corporate taxes account for only 4% of the state budget, down from 10% in 1977. New York law allows companies to use accounting tricks to avoid paying taxes on what they earn in New York. Closing the loopholes would raise \$1.5 billion.
- **Tell the federal government to help states recover from the recession and September 11th.** The Governor and State Legislature should encourage Washington to increase federal payments for Medicaid and economic recovery.

Stop the tax shift to local taxpayers. Stop the cuts that hurt us all.

A common-sense budget invests in New York's families.

We support this statement and agree to promote its message through our organization's work on the New York State budget in 2003:

Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____ **Fax:** () _____

email: _____

Please return to: email: sense4all@aol.com **Fax:** (518) 432-9073

Or mail to: Invest in New Yorkers, c/o SENSES, 275 State Street, Albany, NY 12210.

Please also fax a copy to Hunger Action Network at (212) 741-7236.