



PRESS RELEASE

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Date: February 3, 2012
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMHERST, NY- The Amherst Chamber of Commerce is greatly encouraged by Governor Andrew Cuomo's 2012-2013 budget proposal. Today's plan is a positive second step following first year's successful budget proposal and passage.

The Chamber is especially pleased by the governor's inclusion of mandate relief measures for county costs on Medicaid. The organization today also announced its support of Senate Bill 5889 sponsored by Senators Gallivan and McDonald.

"The Senators' efforts to freeze local contributions to Medicaid, followed by a gradual state assumption of all non-federal Medicaid costs, is applauded," said Colleen DiPirro and Earl Wells, III, President of the Amherst Chamber and Chair of the Chamber's Public Affairs Council, respectively. Continued DiPirro, "the Governor's inclusion of this important cost saving measure in his 2012 – 2013 budget plan shows that he intends to continue a productive and prosperous relationship with the State's Legislature. I am confident that the important items contained in the Executive Budget will be given their due diligence by both houses of the legislature."

Regarding other aspects of the Executive Budget, the Amherst Chamber of Commerce is particularly pleased by the blueprint for economic development contained within it. The Western New York Regional Economic Development Council, of which DiPirro is a member, created a comprehensive strategic plan for development in this area. The governor's continued commitment to funding projects and proposals throughout the State is a welcome addition to the State's budget.

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It is the mission of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce to create and maintain a positive economic, political and social climate in Amherst, thereby making it possible for members of the community to grow and prosper. The Chamber seeks to advance human progress by fostering a climate that emphasizes individual freedom, incentive and responsibility. Working in conjunction with the more than 2,500 businesses associated with the organization, we are committed to making Amherst a better place to live and work.