



New York State Association of  
Health Care Providers, Inc.

Representing home and community-based care

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January 31, 2007  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## HCP APPLAUDS SPITZER'S COMMITMENT TO HOME CARE IN EXECUTIVE BUDGET

**ALBANY, NY-** The New York State Association of Health Care Providers, Inc., (HCP) today applauded Governor Spitzer for his continued commitment to home care and the thousands of patients home care programs serve. HCP President Phyllis A. Wang said that at first glance the budget appears to be pro-home care, but the details remain to be reviewed.

“Governor Spitzer laid out an aggressive budget proposal that seeks to reign in health care costs while improving access to more affordable home care services,” said Wang. “I believe a continued emphasis on home care services must be an integral part of the enacted budget to create the cost-savings the Governor needs and to ensure the delivery of appropriate services to patients.”

Wang said she was concerned about the proposed elimination of Personal Care Level I services for home care patients who require certain housekeeping services. Under the proposal patients currently receiving such services would be reassessed to determine if they should be moved to the next level of care which includes hands-on services.

“Home care has received a fair amount of support in the Governor’s budget,” said Wang. “I understand the need for reviewing the current structure of programs but want to ensure that patients receiving personal care services continue to get the help they need to remain in clean and safe home environments.”

Wang reemphasized that home care providers still have many unresolved issues that could actually limit access to home care. She suggested the Medicaid reimbursement methodologies be amended to ensure rates are in line with today’s cost of doing business and feels that more attention needs to be focused on workforce recruitment, retention and training.

“HCP looks forward to working with the Governor and State Legislature to reform the State’s health care system to ensure that patients receive the care they need in a setting they want,” concluded Wang.

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HCP is a statewide trade association representing the full spectrum of home and community-based providers. Through a strong network of regional chapters and an active State office in Albany, HCP is a primary authority of the health care industry.