



New York State Association of  
Health Care Providers, Inc.

*Representing home and community-based care*

99 Troy Road, Suite 200  
East Greenbush, NY 12061  
hcp@nyshcp.org  
518/463-1118  
fax 518/463-1606  
www.nyshcp.org

Phyllis A. Wang, *President*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Contact: Richard Landers  
518/463-1118, ext. 812  
landers@nyshcp.org

## **HOME CARE PROMOTED IN SPITZER'S HEALTH CARE AGENDA**

*HCP President in attendance for invite-only sneak peek at  
Spitzer health care proposal*

ALBANY, NY- Governor Eliot Spitzer today addressed leaders of New York's health care industry in a sneak peek at what will be included in his executive budget scheduled to be released next week. New York State Association of Health Care Providers, Inc. (HCP) President Phyllis Wang and Executive Vice President Christy Johnston were in attendance and report that while there are many home care issues that remain to be addressed, they are pleased that the Governor is sticking to his commitment to home care.

"I left the Governor's health care speech hopeful that home care will be in good hands under his watch," said Wang. "I am especially pleased that the Governor will not propose a freeze on home care rates. I applaud Governor Spitzer's willingness to address reform and policy changes to home care and am optimistic that he will continue to recognize the value, importance and cost-effectiveness of home care."

Wang said that before the home care industry can most effectively assist in the Governor's vision for health care, serious policy issues that might limit access to home care services must be addressed. She said home care providers are operating at reimbursement rates that reflect the cost of doing business from two years ago – a burden no industry should be asked to carry. She also noted that with an increased reliance on home care, a greater investment in workforce retention, training and home care technology is needed.

"On behalf of HCP's growing membership, I applaud Governor Spitzer for taking this first step toward investing in home care and recognizing that it is a cost-efficient alternative to institutional care. We are excited to work with the Governor to ensure that home care has the resources needed to serve New York families," 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.*