



New York State Association of
Health Care Providers, Inc.

Representing home and community-based care

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New York's Elderly and Disabled At Risk Under Spitzer Budget Plan

The New York State Association of Health Care Providers, Inc., (HCP) today expressed concern that Governor Spitzer's Executive Budget will hinder the ability of New York's elderly and disabled to access home and community-based care services as a result of proposed home care cuts.

"I'm disappointed that the Governor appears to have shifted course in his attempt to refine New York's health care system," said HCP president Phyllis A. Wang. "Painful cuts to home care do not support the Governor's goals of transforming the State's health care system to one that is patient-centered."

Since taking office, and until last week during the State of the State Address, the Governor expressed a desire to create a patient-centered system of care that provides "the right care in the right setting at the right price." Wang believes patient-preferred, cost-efficient home care should be a fundamental component of the Governor's vision.

"I am sensitive to the difficulties of proposing a tight budget when revenues fall short," Wang said, "however, considering the lower cost of home and community-based care compared to other sources of care, the focus should be on investing in patients wishing to remain in their homes at a much lower cost than in institutional settings."

HCP looks forward to working with the Administration and State Legislature during budget negotiations to eliminate the proposed cuts and expand access to patient-centered, cost-saving home care.

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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.

Home care. Health care. Your care . . . *for life.* SM