



THE GOVERNOR'S FURLOUGH PROPOSAL WILL RESULT IN THE LOSS OF 17,000 NY STATE JOBS

The Governor's furlough plan will reduce state employees' pay by \$312 million (\$39 million for each furlough day) which will take over a half of billion dollars out of the state's economy and **result in the loss of 17,000 jobs, most of them in the private sector.**

Other states that have implemented state employee furloughs have not realized the savings originally estimated due to the loss of federal and state tax revenues not realized because the employees who generate these revenues for the state are not working.

The Governor's furlough plan will result in the loss of \$2.5 million in federal funding per furlough day as the state will not get reimbursed from the federal government for the days state employees paid with federal funds do not work.

There are better ways to save \$250 million. Last year the state spent over \$2.9 billion on consultants and paid those providing professional services an average annual salary of \$160,719. Even including benefits this is 62% more than what it would cost for state employees to do the same work. The state should reduce the use of high priced consultants before any state employee is furloughed or loses their job or pay. **Replacing half the consultants with state employees will save the state over \$656 million over the next three years.**

State employee compensation is a small part of the budget and is not the cause of the state's current fiscal crisis. The total cost of state employee compensation makes up 15% less of the total state budget than it did in SFY 2000-01; decreasing from 16% of the total state budget to 13.6%. Since 1990 state employee raises have been 18% lower than private sector employees.

State Employee salaries for similar occupations are lower than private sector: for example private sector engineers in New York make an average salary of \$85,654; 26% more than the average state employee engineer's \$67,917 salary.

In constant dollars the State spends almost \$300 million less for employee wages and salaries than it did in 1990.

Since 1990 the state work force has been reduced by over 30,000 positions. Since 2008, 4,500 state employee positions have been eliminated. The number of state workers per capita in NY is 32% lower than the national average.