News Release

Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 16, 2015

Legislature Announces Joint Budget Hearing Schedule

Assembly Ways and Means Committee Chair Herman D. Farrell, Jr. and Senate Finance Committee Chair John A. DeFrancisco today announced the <u>Joint Legislative Hearing Schedule</u> on the 2015-2016 Executive Budget proposal.

These hearings, each of which focuses on a programmatic area, are intended to provide the appropriate legislative committees with public input on the executive budget proposal. The hearings will be available for viewing on the Senate and <u>Assembly</u> websites. The Legislative Channel (on <u>cable systems</u> throughout the state) also will carry the proceedings, which will be preempted when the houses are in session. At the conclusion of the legislative deliberations, the channel will resume televised coverage of the hearings.

In accordance with the schedule, the hearings will commence on Tuesday, January 27, and continue through Thursday, February 26, 2015. The respective state agency or department heads will begin testimony each day, followed by witnesses who have signed up to testify on that area of the budget. Those testifying must limit comments to no more than 10 minutes.

Time constraints limit the number of witnesses that can be accommodated at any given hearing. As a result, people interested in testifying must contact the appropriate person listed on the schedule no later than the close of business, two business days prior to the respective hearing. For each individual testifying before the committees, it is required that 40 copies of their written testimony be provided to the registration desk at each respective hearing.

The agency and the departmental portion of the hearings are provided for in Article 7, Section 3 of the Constitution and Article 2, Section 31 of the Legislative Law. The state Legislature is also soliciting public comment on the proposed budget pursuant to Article 2, Section 32-a of the Legislative Law.

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Schedule Of Joint Legislative Public Hearings On the 2015-2016 Executive Budget Proposal

(Click here to view the Joint Press Release)

Wednesday January 28	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Environmental Conservation	Senate Dottie Pohlid (518)455-3511
Thursday January 29	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Transportation	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
Monday February 2	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	10:00AM	Health/Medicaid	Senate Dottie Pohlid (518)455-3511
Tuesday February 3	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Elementary & Secondary Education	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
Wednesday February 4	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Human Services	Senate Dottie Pohlid (518)455-3511
Thursday February 5	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Housing	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
Monday February 9	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Taxes	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
		1:00PM	Economic Development	Senate Dottie Pohlid (518)455-3511
Tuesday February 10	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Higher Education	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
* Wednesday February 25	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Local Government Officials/ General Government	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
Thursday February 26	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	10:00AM	Public Protection	Senate Dottie Pohlid (518)455-3511
* Friday February 27	Hearing Room B Legislative Office Building	9:30AM	Mental Hygiene	Assembly Clinton Freeman (518)455-5491
		1:00PM	Workforce Development	Senate Dottie Pohlid (518)455-3511

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