



**NYSAC**  
NEW YORK STATE  
ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

540 Broadway, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Albany, New York 12207

Phone: (518) 465-1473

Fax: (518) 465-0506

[www.nysac.org](http://www.nysac.org)

President: Hon. William Cherry, Schoharie County

Executive Director: Stephen J. Acquario, Esq.

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Alphonso David, Esq.  
Counsel to the Governor  
Executive Chamber  
State Capitol  
Albany, New York 12224  
[legislative.secretary@exec.ny.gov](mailto:legislative.secretary@exec.ny.gov)

Re: Legislation before the Governor

S.2691 (Golden)/ A.10506 (Lupardo)

Dear Mr. David,

The above referenced legislation is currently before the Governor for his consideration, and the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) opposes the legislation as drafted. While the New York State Association of Counties supports the goals of the above referenced legislation, it provides arbitrary caseload caps on local social service districts without providing any new state fiscal assistance, therefore, we believe the bill would dramatically increase costs in most counties.

In addition to fiscal concerns, the one-size-fits all caseload cap does not recognize that child protective cases fall along a wide spectrum of required response intensity by caseworkers. Cases vary dramatically in severity and related intensity of supervision and family involvement, based on many different factors. It also does not account for the difficulty many areas of the state have in recruiting, training and retaining caseworkers. This bill does not take into consideration the experience of child protective workers and their ability to provide thorough and intensive services as case circumstances direct.

Finally, counties are operating under very tight property tax and revenue limits. The state has made it clear their top priority is that local governments adhere to the State's property tax cap. Counties could support this legislation only if all new and increased costs associated with this proposal are paid for 100 percent by the state. NYSAC also encourages the bill's sponsors to convene with the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS), the Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance (OTDA) and county officials to develop consensus on addressing the important needs advanced in this legislation.

It is for the above stated reasons that NYSAC opposes the enactment of this bill as presented to the Governor and urges an executive veto.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen J. Acquario  
Executive Director

**Committed to counties since 1925**

*Albany, Allegany, Bronx, Broome, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Clinton, Columbia, Cortland, Delaware, Dutchess, Erie, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Genesee, Greene, Hamilton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Kings, Lewis, Livingston, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Nassau, New York, Niagara, Oneida, Onondaga, Ontario, Orange, Orleans, Oswego, Otsego, Putnam, Rensselaer, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, St. Lawrence, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Suffolk, Sullivan, Tioga, Tompkins, Ulster, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Westchester, Wyoming, Yates*