

The wealthy should  
be shouldering  
more of the weight.



## BALANCE THE BURDEN.

The state's fiscal crisis is a heavy burden. Everyone needs to carry his or her fair share.

But this year's Executive Budget cuts state expenditures and reduces critical public services, while corporate New York and the state's wealthiest taxpayers receive election-year tax cuts.

These shortsighted cuts would compromise vital public services and in the long-run cost taxpayers more.

For example, cuts in model substance-abuse-treatment programs in the state Department of Correctional Services would increase a felon's chances of recidivism, and erode safety in our communities.

Reducing the number of staff who care for people with mental illness and developmental disabilities would compromise quality treatment and create dangerous working conditions for patients and staff.

There are better choices.

New York should take a lesson from other states, such as Florida and North Carolina. They made the hard choices of deferring tax cuts or placing temporary surcharges on their wealthiest citizens. Those states struck the right balance between revenues and expenditures. They chose to share the pain, between service cuts and tax cuts.

Balance the burden.

Vital public services must not bear the brunt of the state's fiscal crisis for the sake of tax cuts for big business and the wealthy.



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Public Employees Federation, AFL-CIO**

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