



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION  
OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS**

*Leading the Way to Healthier Communities*

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**NYSACHO STATEMENT ON ADOPTED FY2025 STATE BUDGET**

**By Sarah Ravenhall, MHA, CHES, Executive Director**

“The enacted FY2025 budget includes provisions that will advance the interests of public health in New York State. In a challenging year, most allocations for critical public health services were protected, and some, including the Early Intervention program, saw much needed funding increases. We thank the Legislature and Governor for these actions, and we are eager to continue working with state leaders to identify effective, accessible, and sustainable models for children receiving services through the New York State Early Intervention program. Further, we call on state lawmakers to protect counties from increased costs to this program, which is administered largely by local health departments, to ensure our counties have the workforce needed to support families and providers.

“The enacted budget also included positive initial steps necessary to effectively control and penalize illegal cannabis retailers. The growing explosion of illegal cannabis retailers poses a tremendous hazard to the public health of New Yorkers who, due to the rapid proliferation of these establishments, are easily able to access unregulated cannabis products. Post-budget, we look forward to working with the Executive and Legislature to close loopholes in current statute that these same bad-actor retailers are using to sell illegal flavored vape products that are dangerous and targeted to youth.

“We are grateful that the final budget restores funding for rabies and tick-borne disease programming, given the significant threat these diseases continue to pose to all New Yorkers. It is imperative that any money directed to local health departments in the future through state aid or grants increases over time to ensure our emergency public health infrastructure remains strong and protected into the future.”

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