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## **MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT**

### **Prevent Child Abuse New York Calls on Legislature to Pass Legislation Reinstating Funding for Children and Families**

Prevent Child Abuse New York strongly supports one of the most important pieces of legislation for children and families, S.7227 (Golden).

S.7227 provides that, for each dollar savings from the closure and/or loss of a residential bed, those savings will be reinvested with 50% of funding to alternatives to incarceration and 50% to home visiting programs.

Each year, children and family programs must fight to sustain access to funding and resources. Yet, as we've seen in this budget, programs are told that there is simply not enough to ensure that families continue receiving the help that they need to succeed.

While investments have been made in education in the amount of \$1.6 billion, but services for children under the age of 4 have been drastically cut by approximately 2%. In some programs, this means a \$500,000 or more cut in services.

Education begins at home, and to ensure that children are ready to learn and perform their best in the classroom, we must invest in providing services for their families beginning prenatally.

Children and family services for zero-to-five are not expendable, and children need a winning beginning to succeed.

To correct these wrongs, we ask the New York State Legislature to pass S.7227 today!

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