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For Immediate Release

STATEMENT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF NEW YORK STATE'S PRISON
CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS UNION ON THE NEW YORK STATE BUDGET

March 28, 2011 (Albany, NY) – The following is a statement from Donn Rowe, President of NYSCOPBA, a 23,000-member union representing the State Security Services Unit including New York State's prison correctional officers, on the passage of the New York State budget.

“We are obviously very disappointed and frankly disturbed that the leaders in Albany have chosen to make drastic and unnecessary cuts to our prison system, rather than seeking to cut the ever-growing and costly bureaucracy that is the Department of Corrections.

The announced cuts will have very serious impacts on the safety of our jails - putting more lives at risk and jeopardizing the structure of the entire New York State prison system. With this budget, the leaders in Albany have stated unequivocally: we care about numbers on a spreadsheet more than people's lives and safety.”

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