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**STATEMENT FROM TOM MCALVANA, PRESIDENT, NEW YORK DISABILITY
ADVOCATES ON THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE’S ONE HOUSE
BUDGETS**

“New York Disability Advocates (NYDA) applauds the New York State Senate and Assembly’s decision to prioritize services for New Yorkers with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) in their respective one house budgets. We have long advocated alongside families and self-advocates for increased state investment in care, not cuts to the I/DD service sector, which is a critical component of our state’s health care system.

The legislature’s move to eliminate rate reductions, restore the COLA deferral, and provide reimbursements for COVID-related costs will help sustain essential services for tens of thousands of New Yorkers with I/DD.

NYDA now calls on the Governor’s Office to prioritize the I/DD community by advancing these budget provisions and releasing the funding that the sector so desperately needs.”