

## Center for Judicial Accountability

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**From:** Center for Judicial Accountability <elena@judgewatch.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 15, 2014 11:45 AM  
**To:** Joseph F. Zimmerman (zimmer@albany.edu)  
**Subject:** Article VII, Sec. 1: the unambiguous certification requirement & the implicit role of "appropriate committees" vis-a-vis the Legislature's proposed budget

Dear Professor Zimmerman,

Thank you, genuinely, for your return call – and your willingness to examine the constitutional arguments we have made to the Governor & Legislature with respect to the Legislature's proposed budget and that of the Judiciary.

Let's start with the Legislature's proposed budget for fiscal year 2014-2015 – which is not certified and is not represented as being "itemized estimates" of the Legislature's "financial needs". This is the subject of our December 30<sup>th</sup> letter to Governor Cuomo, which argues that such proposed budget does not satisfy the conditions precedent of Article VII, Sec. 1 for inclusion in the state budget.

Rather than attaching our December 30<sup>th</sup> letter, here's our webpage for it: <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget-2014-2015/dec-30-2013-letter.htm>, as it not only posts the letter, but all the substantiating evidence to which it refers.

Additionally, kindly review our January 14<sup>th</sup> letter to "the appropriate committees of the legislature" – as to their role, implicit in Article VII, Sec. 1, in compiling the "itemized estimates" of the Legislature's "financial needs" that is to be "certified by the presiding officer of each house". That letter is posted on our menu page for "NYS Budget Reform": <http://www.judgewatch.org/web-pages/searching-nys/budget-2014-2015/menu-budget-reform.htm>

I look forward to your scholarly opinion of this correspondence – and to the powerful contribution you can make to the Governor, to the Legislature, and to the People of New York by so doing.

Again, sincerest thanks.

Elena Sassower, Director  
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