

## CONFERENCE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

**SUBCOMMITTEE:** Public Protection

**DATE:** Monday, March 20, 2017

**PLACE:** Hearing Room A, Legislative Office Building

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

#### *ASSEMBLY*

Joseph R. Lentol (Co-Chair)  
Helene E. Weinstein  
Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes  
David I. Weprin  
Latrice Walker (Alt.)  
Joseph M. Giglio  
Al Graf (Alt.)

#### *SENATE*

Andrew J. Lanza (Co-Chair)  
Thomas D. Croci  
Patrick M. Gallivan  
John J. Bonacic (Alt.)  
Brad Hoylman  
Leroy Comrie (Alt.)

### **DISCUSSION:**

The subcommittee was called to order at 5:20 P.M. Assemblyman Lentol and Senator Lanza made introductions and brief opening remarks. Senator Lanza reviewed the joint budget conference committee guidelines and he and Assemblyman Lentol designated recording secretaries from each respective house to keep minutes.

Assemblyman Lentol discussed the issues this subcommittee will review during budget negotiations, including funding for alternatives to incarceration programs and criminal and civil legal services. Assemblyman Lentol listed the agencies that are covered by this subcommittee. Senator Lanza reviewed the areas of agreement between the Assembly and Senate, including funding for the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Interest on Lawyer Account, State Commission of Correction, and the Department of Law. Assemblyman Lentol stated that agreement exists between the Assembly and Senate regarding parts G and H in the Public Protection and General Government Article VII legislation concerning expanding eligibility for victim status and reimbursements for lost savings belonging to a vulnerable elderly person or an incompetent or physically disabled person.

Assemblyman Giglio discussed funding for indigent legal services and providing mandate relief to localities. Senator Hoylman discussed the importance of enacting legislation that would "raise the age" of criminal responsibility, expand indigent legal services, and increase funding for various community-based criminal justice programs. Assembly Members Peoples-Stokes and Walker voiced their support of enacting criminal justice reforms, including "raise the age," in this budget. Assemblyman Weprin voiced his support for making restorations to Executive cuts that would limit visitation at correctional facilities and thanked Senator Gallivan for his partnership in this endeavor.

The Co-Chairs made brief closing remarks and instructed staff to continue to negotiate outstanding issues with direction from and in consultation with the members of this subcommittee. The subcommittee was adjourned at 5:35 P.M. The next meeting of this subcommittee will be held at a date and time to be decided by the Co-Chairs.

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Nathaniel Jenkins, P&C