GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

In my State of the State address last week, I made a commitment. Together, we will build a state where housing is more affordable, where our streets and subways are safer, and where rising costs are brought under control. As I told hardworking New Yorkers: "Your family is my fight."

I encourage you to read my Budget proposal in depth. You will see that my administration is focused on common sense solutions that create opportunity for millions of families—while maintaining a balanced budget without cuts to essential services or added burdens on taxpayers.

Bolstered by increased revenues, New York is in a strong financial position. This enables us to sustain vital services while delivering billions in middle class tax cuts, inflation relief, and a tripled child tax credit. The impact of these policies will be simple—New Yorkers will have more money in their pockets and less worry in their lives. We're also helping growing families get ahead as we provide free breakfast and lunch for students and take the first steps towards universal childcare.

Public safety remains the cornerstone of our agenda. We will continue to embrace proven strategies to tackle crime, from expanding police presence in our subways to attacking the root causes of gun violence to strengthening drug interdiction efforts on our Northern Border. We will build a brighter tomorrow for our youngest New Yorkers by freeing them from the oppressive influence of cell phones in schools and by investing in playgrounds, youth programs, and community organizations.

We're making it easier for New Yorkers to explore every corner of our beautiful State with historic investments in transportation infrastructure and grand public works. Our housing initiatives will expand supply and limit private equity from buying up single family homes, making home ownership attainable for hundreds of thousands of families.

Together, my State of the State and Budget offer a vision for New York where every family has a chance to get ahead—and where building a life in our great State feels doable, not daunting.

When New Yorkers review this budget, I want them to feel that their leaders understand their struggles and are fighting hard to deliver the support they need. I hope they'll see their own priorities reflected in our efforts to build a greener economy, modernize our mental healthcare system, and make everyday life more affordable.

My pledge to New Yorkers is this: your family is my fight. With this budget, we'll put more money in your pocket and make every community even safer.

KATHY HOCHUL GOVERNOR