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<u>Council of Industry Statement on Senate</u> <u>and Assembly Passage of Budget Bills</u>

Recharge New York - a Monumental Victory for State's Manufacturing and Business Community

Newburgh, **New York**- Council of Industry Executive Vice President Harold King today released the following statement on the budget votes and the monumental passage of Recharge New York:

"Any organization's budget is a reflection of its priorities and its responsibilities. This



is especially true for New York State. The passage of this year's budget may well prove to be a turning point for New York State residents and businesses alike as we strive for fiscal soundness. This budget seems well thought out, sufficiently negotiated, and fairly proportioned. With no new taxes and fees imposed on the New York State residents, it appears we are now on the right path to fiscal recovery.

There is much to like in the recently passed New York State budget, however, one particular component is of historic proportions. Both the Assembly and Senate passed budget bills which included New York State's brand new economic development power program, Recharge New York. The high cost of energy in New York is a huge competitive disadvantage for manufacturers. Recharge New York will present hard working manufacturers and businesses vast new opportunities. Under Recharge they now have the ability to know what their energy costs are going to be in the long term, allowing them the opportunity to create long term business plans. They will be able invest in their facilities, capital, and job growth rather than paying exorbitant electricity bills. Manufacturers will, for the first time in a long time, be competitive with other states in terms of energy costs and production. Above all, they will be able to operate and remain competitive, all while remaining in New York State.



On behalf of the state's business and manufacturing community, I would like to thank the New York State Senate, Assembly and Administration for making this long time need a reality. With benefits such as Recharge New York, our manufacturing community can do what it does best: sustain good paying family supporting jobs, create quality products, and become a major contributor and team player in our ongoing efforts to bring New York State back on its financial footing again."

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The Council of Industry, the Manufacturers Association of the Hudson Valley, represents over 160 companies. The 101-year-old organization provides information, services, training, purchasing consortiums, and advocacy support for its members.