

NEW YORK STATE

A GUIDE TO THE CAMPAIGN
END AIDS
REPORT
CARD

GRADE:
A+

EXPANDING AND REFORMING MEDICAID

Governor Paterson wants to put more money into frontline, community-based health care, including paying doctors more for providing community-based services. He also wants to bolster community-based preventive health services and give more money to hospitals that take care of New Yorkers without health insurance. These intelligent reforms would save the state \$2.3 billion.

GRADE:
D

PROVISION OF DISABILITY BENEFITS (SSI) TO POOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

Governor Paterson is relying solely on federal dollars to give SSI recipients a small increase in benefits—but he's doing it by removing the long overdue state increase in funding.

GRADE:
B

PROVISION OF ADEQUATE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Governor Paterson boosted the basic New York State public assistance grant (after nearly two decades without an increase). But instead of giving the poor the increases at the beginning of the fiscal year (April 1), they will have to wait until January 1, 2010.

GRADE:
F

PROVISION OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES TO POOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

Governor Paterson completely cut funding for the substance abuse programs (OASAS) that serve poor people with HIV/AIDS. Substance abuse plays a significant role in people's ability to get and stay in health care, housing and other programs.

GRADE:
F

PROVISION OF JOB-TRAINING FOR POOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

Governor Paterson completely eliminated \$1.4 million dollars for seven HIV welfare-to-work programs across New York State. At a time of economic downturn, the elimination of an effective job-producing program for people living with HIV is unconscionable. Jobs get people off of welfare and Medicaid and into employment with full healthcare

GRADE:
C

USING FORECLOSED HOMES TO CREATE HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS

Governor Paterson refused to add back to the budget \$6.5 million that could be used to buy foreclosed, better-than-shovel-ready properties. These properties could be sold at a reduced costs to not-for-profits to house homeless people in need

GRADE:
F

CAPPING RENTS FOR POOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS IN SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Governor Paterson has refused to tell the Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to cap at 30 percent the rents of people living with HIV who receive both public assistance and rental assistance. Thirty percent is in line with federal standards. Uncapped rents have forced the poor and disabled to spend nearly all their money on rent.

**NEW YORK STATE
OVERALL GRADE: C**