

## **“WHERE FORESIGHT MEETS OVERSIGHT”**

### **THE NYS FEDERAL STIMULUS OMBUDSMAN WOULD BE THE NATION’S FIRST FORWARD-LOOKING STIMULUS MONITOR**

Under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, New York State expects to receive approximately \$27 billion to help invigorate the state’s economy. In order to ensure effective and efficient use of these funds, New York must provide comprehensive oversight of these funds, *as well as exercise foresight*.

#### **Under A8941/S5879, the Ombudsman Evaluates Impacts of the Stimulus**

- The Ombudsman will help New Yorkers understand how the state has used stimulus funds by evaluating project performance.
  - Who are the contractors and sub-contractors?
  - Are the jobs paying decent wages?
  - What positive impacts are felt by New York families and communities?
- Craft ‘metrics for success’ to provide evaluations of the community-level and household-level impact of stimulus funds.
- Identify the state’s ‘best practices’ to ensure the state is not only prepared but well-positioned for future funding opportunities.

#### **Under A8941/S5879, the Ombudsman is Independent**

- A nominating commission presents the Governor with nominees for the head of the Office of the Federal Stimulus Ombudsman. The Governor then selects the Ombudsman, which will serve a fixed term, from among the commission’s list of nominees.

#### **Under A8941/S5879, the Ombudsman is a Valuable National Model**

- New York will lead the country with the most advanced stimulus oversight system. As a leader in oversight, and *the only state with an effective mechanism for foresight*, New York would be in a valuable position should future federal stimulus funding become available.