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STATEMENT FROM SENATOR OBERACKER

ALBANY, 01/11/21 -- State Senator Peter Oberacker (R/C – Schenevus) today commented on Governor Cuomo's State of the State address:

"New York State is faced with a substantial budget deficit, upwards of \$15 billion according to the governor. Certainly, the COVID pandemic has played a major role, but our fiscal problems run much deeper and started before the virus ever reached our borders.

"We need to take real steps to reset our economy, assist our small businesses, and ensure our local governments and schools are able to provide needed services without raising taxes.

"I was glad to hear the governor express support for reopening the economy. Unfortunately, it is too late for many that have been devastated over the past ten months and are either fleeing New York State or struggling to stay afloat. Immediate action is needed to help our communities bounce back.

"One claim made by the governor that really caught my attention – '98 percent of the state has access to broadband'. I would invite the governor to visit the 51^{st} Senate District and see for himself just how out of touch that statement is. I will continue to point out the need for real broadband access to move our communities forward.

"I came to Albany to work for the people of my district and fight for our shared values. Today was just the start of the process, and I look forward to vigilantly reviewing the full details of the governor's plan. I will support proposals that help those I represent and oppose those that fail."