

Grim news for Snug Harbor, state workers, drivers

Carey: Get set for cuts, new

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ALBANY — Gov. Carey today proposed \$360 million in new taxes and fees, the elimination of 3,800 state jobs and a \$150 hike in City University tuition to balance his record \$27.71 billion

budget proposal.

"It is not a political budget. It is not a partisan budget," said Carey, adding that he hopes his withdrawal Friday from the gubernatorial race will allow the politically divided Legislature to approve what he concedes are "difficult" measures for an election year.

Hardest hit by the job reductions, which hits virtually every state agency including the governor's executive staff, is the Staten Island Developmental Center, Willowbrook. The retardation center is scheduled to lose 1,119 workers, or nearly half of its work force, during the next 15 months.

The Carey budget would also eliminate all funding for the Snug Harbor Cultural Center, Livingston, which is allocated \$300,000 in the current state budget.

S. Meyer Frucher, Carey's labor relations chief, said he hopes many of the "displaced" Willowbrook workers will find employment at both state and privately run community residences. But another Carey aide said some layoffs are "inevitable" as the state moves to comply with a court decree requiring the near emptying of the developmental center.

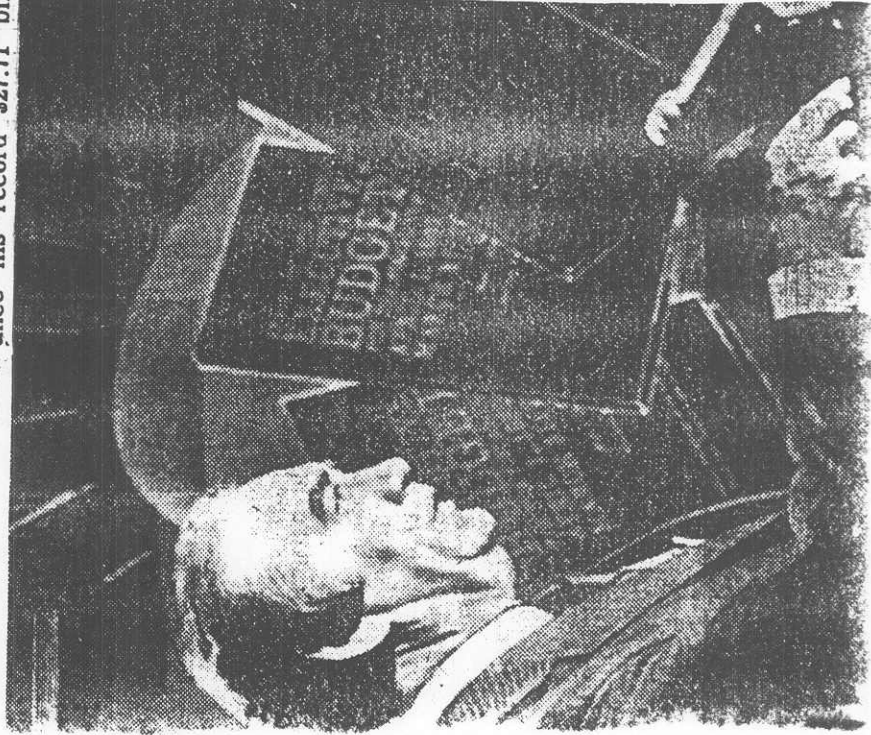
Among the new fees and taxes proposed by Carey is an increase in the gasoline tax from 8 cents a gallon to 8 percent, a move that would hike the cost of a gallon of gas by between 1.5 and 3.5 cents.

Motorists will be hit even harder by a Carey proposal to increase automobile registration fees from the current levy based on a vehicle's weight to a fee of \$8 plus one percent of a vehicle's value. A 3,500-pound car valued at \$10,000 would cost its owner \$108 under the new proposal, up from the current \$26.25.

The automobile measures, Carey said, should raise about \$210 million, all of which would be earmarked for improvements at state bridges and highways, including East River bridges and the Henry Hudson Parkway.

Carey would generate another \$34 million for criminal justice programs — including a special subway police task force — by imposing a 4 percent surcharge on alcohol sales and charging a penalty fee for those convicted of felony and misdemeanor charges.

"We not only want to put them in jail, we want to hit them in the pocket as well," said Carey of his proposal to add unspecified penalties for those convicted



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